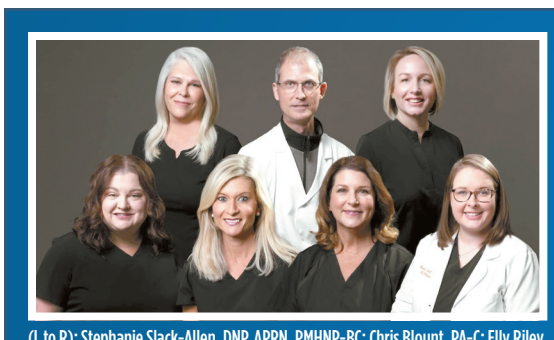


(L to R): Stephanie Slack-Allen, DNP, APRN, PMHNP-BC; Chris Blount, PA-C; Elly Riley, DO; Lori Holladay, NP; Jill Bennett, NP; Katharine Bullock, FNP; and Emily Ezell, DO.

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Happy Mother's Day
Sunday, May 11

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West Carroll Approves Renovation of Primary School



ATWOOD (May 1) — Renovations at the West Carroll Primary School in McLemoresville are set to begin this summer. The Board of Education approved a construction budget of $794,615 during a meeting on May 1.

Preston Caldwell, Director of Schools, announced that the price

See PRIMARY on Page 3

SUNDAY BLAZE RESULTS IN TOTAL LOSS



Rural Fire Destroys Log Cabin

McKENZIE (May 4) — A log cabin, used as a hunting lodge, was completely destroyed Sunday evening on Seaboard Lane, McKenzie.

Located along a gravel road between McKenzie and Trezevant, the structure fire started in the chimney of the fireplace, said Jonathan Gaskins, Carroll County Fire Chief.

Carroll County Rural Fire Brigades from Stations 21, 16, 11, and 10 with mutual aid from McKenzie responded to the fire at 7:33 p.m. and remained on the scene for approximately two hours.

Chief Gaskins said the structure belonged to the Shoaf family.

Carroll County Sports Hall of Fame Inducts 23rd Class of Members

CARROLL COUNTY (May 3) — The Carroll County Sports Hall of Fame enshrined its 23rd annual members during a banquet at the Carroll County Civic Center on May 3.

Lex Suite, Carroll County Hall of Fame President, served as master of ceremonies.

Each year, the HOF Committee selects outstanding alumni from each of the five high schools as inductees. The Committee also recognizes an outstanding senior male and female athlete to honor for their outstanding contribution at the high school level.

See FAME on Page 3



(L to R) Standing: James Morrissett, Donnie Hall and Dale Strickland. Seated: Joel Washburn, Robin Smothers Markham, Anna Trull, Mike Limbaugh and Josh Wolfe. *Photo by Brittany Martin/The Banner*

CARROLL COUNTY

2 Charged With Meth, Firearms

CARROLL COUNTY — An ongoing investigation by special agents assigned to TBI's Drug Investigation Division and the Huntingdon Police Department has led to multiple drug-related charges for a Carroll County man and McNairy County woman.

On April 28, while pursuing leads in an ongoing case, investigators found methamphetamine, drug paraphernalia, and multiple firearms at a home in the 900 block

See DRUG on Page 3

REAL ID Effective May 7

The REAL ID Act of 2005 established minimum security standards for license issuance and production. These standards provide an additional level of security to protect your identity. It also prohibits Federal agencies from accepting driver licenses and ID cards from states that do not meet the Act's minimum standards.

Beginning May 7, 2025, everyone must have a REAL ID or another approved Federally-issued ID, such as a passport, to enter certain Federal buildings, military bases and nuclear power plants or board commercial flights within the United States.

See REAL ID on Page 3

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MFD Investigates Report of Smoke



McKenzie Fire Department personnel were on the scene of a report of smoke escaping from Smoke Shack on Cedar Street, McKenzie, Sunday, May 4, 2025 at approximately 11:45 a.m. Firefighters were on the roof and inside the building searching for the source of smoke. Fortunately, firefighters found no fire and they cleared the scene at 12:10 p.m. One firefighter said the smoke might have originated from one of two restaurants' kitchen ventilation.

County Commission Meets Monday

The Carroll County Commission meets Monday, May 12 at 7 p.m. On the agenda are three resolutions. Resolution 5-01-2025 – Amends the text of the Carroll County Lake Zoning Resolution to revise the definition of "Accessory Structure." The revision will read, "A subordinate building, the use of which is incidental to that of a principal building on the same lot. Swimming pools, satellite antennas, subterranean storm shelters and portable prefabricated storage sheds shall be considered as accessory structures to residential uses. Structures originally designed as tractor trailer containers and buildings originally constructed for dwelling purposes, such as mobile homes, manufactured homes, modular homes, and travel trailers, would not be considered accessory structures to residential uses."

Resolution 5-02-2025 – Authorizes the County Mayor to sign a project proposal with the Tennessee Department of Transportation. The Department of Transportation of the State of Tennessee has proposed to construct a project in the County of Carroll, with the project described as "from near Old Loop 22/Thorne Lane to South of SR-124 Old McKenzie Road Route: SR-22" for improvements to State Route 22, including miscellaneous safety improvements and j-turn intersection, with the project being federally funded through the Highway Safety Improvement Program, and designated as State Project No. 09006-2219-94.

Resolution 5-03-2025 – Amends the General Fund Budget for the Airport $15,705 by through line item adjustments.

The Commission will hear an update from LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee) Chairman Dan Willman.

Centennial Bank to Acquire Bank of Jackson

TREZEVANT (April 25) — Centennial Bank, Trezevant, reached an agreement to acquire The Bank of Jackson.

The resulting organization will hold approximately $1 billion in assets and operate fourteen full-service locations and three electronic branches. The transaction is subject to regulatory approval and is expected to close by year-end 2025. The headquarters for the combined bank will remain in Trezevant, Tenn.

The boards of directors of both organizations approved the transaction. The purchase price was not disclosed.

Centennial Bank Chairman, George Atwood, stated, "This acquisition represents an important step in filling out our geographical footprint across West Tennessee. By welcoming The Bank of Jackson into the Centennial Bank family, we're deepening our roots in the communities we care about most. It's a natural fit that enhances our ability to deliver strong, relationship-based banking to more individuals and businesses throughout the region."

"We're honored to welcome The Bank of Jackson into the Centennial Bank family," said Andrea Browning, CEO of Centennial Bank. "For years, they've served their community with care and commitment, and we're grateful for the opportunity to build on that legacy. Our focus moving forward is to listen, learn, and serve the people of Jackson with the same respect and dedication they've come to expect."

Centennial Bank President Greg Parsons stated, "The merger represents a pivotal moment for us. As a member of this community myself, I know how important it is to keep banking local – and this merger allows us to do just that, with even greater resources and support for our customers."

Harbert Alexander, Jr., President of The Bank of Jackson, stated, "Centennial Bank is a true community bank, and we are pleased to find a partner that shares the same vision, values, and relationship banking model that aligns with The Bank of Jackson's core values. We look forward to continuing to be involved in the Jackson community."

About Centennial Bank

With approximately $797 million in assets and over a 100-year history as a family-owned institution, Centennial Bank currently operates in Trezevant, Adamsville, Bolivar, Henderson, Humboldt, McKenzie, Medina, Middleton, Rutherford, Three Way, and Trenton. For more information, please visit the bank's website at www.mycentennial.bank. Centennial Bank, Member FDIC and an Equal Housing Lender.

Unemployment Rate Decreases in Tri-Counties

TENNESSEE (March) — The unemployment rates in Carroll, Henry, and Weakley counties decreased in March compared to the previous month.

According to the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development (TDLWD), the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in March was 3.6%, down from 3.7% the month before. The rate had remained at 3.7% for six consecutive months. In March 2024, the rate was 3.1%.

Tennessee's unemployment rate was six-tenths of a percentage point lower than the national rate of 4.2%. The U.S. rate was 4.1% in February and 3.9% one year ago.

In Carroll County, the unemployment rate for March was 3.8%, a decrease from 3.9% the previous month, but up from 3.6% a year earlier. Out of a labor force of 12,178, there were 11,716 employed and 462 unemployed.

In Henry County, the unemployment rate for March was 3.9%, down from 4.1% one month earlier and slightly up from 3.8% one year earlier. From a labor force of 12,961, there were 12,453 employed and 508 unemployed.

In Weakley County, the unemployment rate dropped to 3.5%, down from 3.7% the previous month but slightly up from 3.4% one year earlier. With a labor force of 13,083, there were 13,592 employed and 491 unemployed.

Williamson County recorded the lowest unemployment rate at 2.4%, followed by Cheatham at 2.6% and Rutherford at 2.7%.

Pickett County had the highest unemployment rate at 5.7%, followed by Hardeman County at 5.2%.

Overall, unemployment decreased in 70 counties, increased in eight, and remained the same in 17 counties compared to the February rate. Ninety-one counties had an unemployment rate of less than 5%, with four counties reporting rates between 5% and 5.7%.

High School Graduation in Carroll County

The five high schools in Carroll County will graduate next week. Below is the graduation times. Each graduation is at each school.

Clarksburg, Friday, May 16, 7 p.m.

Hollow Rock-Bruceton, Sunday, May 18, 7 p.m.

Huntingdon, Saturday, May 17, 6 p.m.

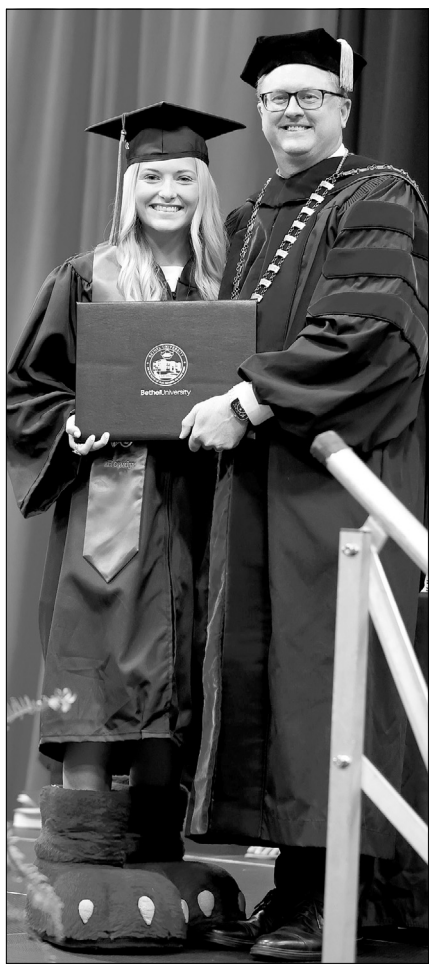
McKenzie, Sunday, May 18, 2 p.m.

West Carroll, Thursday, May 15, 7 p.m.

McCadams to be Named McKenzie City Judge

The McKenzie City Council meets Thursday, May 8 at 6 p.m. On the agenda is the approval of former District Attorney Hansel McCadams as the McKenzie City Judge.

Also on the agenda is the discussion / approval of an ordinance for Food Trucks along with approving an estimate for thermocasting for a sewer line located behind Save A Lot.





Left, Allie Chappell from McKenzie graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education. Allie wears the feet of Claws, the school mascot. Allie secretly served as the Wildcat mascot. Above, Jenna Tucker of McKenzie graduated with a BS degree. Below, Carson Warman of Huntingdon graduated with a BS degree.







Left, Karli Brown of McKenzie graduated with a BS in Nursing. She received her diploma from BU President Dr. Perry Moulds. Above, Susannah B. Lewis was the speaker during the Spring 2025 commencement.



Faculty retirees honored during graduation: Sharon Scruton, Dr. Jim Scruton, and Malissa L. Vaughn were presented framed resolutions honoring their service at Bethel University by Cindy Mallard, Academic Dean. *Photos by Joel Washburn/The Banner*

Bethel University Confers Degrees During Spring Commencement

McKENZIE (May 3) — Bethel University celebrated the achievements of approximately 300 graduates during its Spring Commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 3, 2025, at 10 a.m. in Crisp Arena. A total of 322 candidates for degrees were listed in the commencement program.

This year's keynote speaker was Susannah B. Lewis, a celebrated humorist, best-selling author, and alumna of Bethel University, graduating in 2007. Lewis is recognized as a nationally prominent voice in Christian literature and entertainment, having authored multiple USA Today best-selling books, including two works of Christian nonfiction and four fiction titles. Her candid, faith-driven reflections on life and motherhood have garnered her a devoted following, with her work featured in notable publications such as Parents Magazine, Reader's Digest, and The Bible App. In addition to her writing, Lewis hosts the "Moral of the Story" podcast, produced by K-LOVE, where she shares heartfelt and humorous insights grounded in Christian faith.

During the ceremony, three faculty members were honored for their extensive service at Bethel University:

Dr. James Scruton was recognized upon his retirement after 34 years at Bethel. He started his career as an Assistant Professor of English at Bethel College in 1990 and was subsequently promoted to Associate Professor in 1994 and Professor in 1999. Dr. Scruton served as Associate Academic Dean in 2016 and received the Mary B. Holmes Professor of Literature award. Throughout his tenure, he published six books of poetry and participated in various faculty committees, including division chair and faculty representative to the Board of Trustees. He has been appointed Faculty Emeritus of Bethel University by the Board of Trustees.

Sharon Scruton was also honored as Faculty Emeritus of Bethel University. She began her career as a part-time special services tutor at Bethel College in 1990, was appointed as an Adjunct Instructor in 1995, and later became an Assistant Professor in 1999, an Associate Professor in 2002, and a Professor in 2024. Mrs. Scruton received the Roy and Mary Shelton Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership Award. During her time at Bethel, she served on various faculty committees, including as the advisor for the Gamma Beta Phi Honor Society. She is retiring after 28 years of service.

Ms. Malissa L. Vaughn was honored with the distinction of Faculty Emeritus. She joined Bethel College as an Instructor in 2000, became the Head Volleyball Coach in 2002, and was promoted to Assistant Professor in 2003. Ms. Vaughn served as Faculty Athletic Representative beginning in 2004 and was promoted to Associate Professor in 2008. She received the Roy and Mary Shelton Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership Award in 2011 and was honored as the Southern States Athletic Conference Faculty Athletic Representative of the Year in 2019. In 2022, she was appointed Senior Women's Leader. Ms. Vaughn was promoted to Professor in 2024 and is retiring after 24 years of service at Bethel.

For more information about commencement events or to view the livestream link, please visit www.bethelu.edu/commencement.

South Carroll Launches Two State-Approved Virtual Schools to Expand Educational Reach

CLARKSBURG — In a strategic move to broaden educational access and remain competitive in Tennessee's evolving academic landscape, the South Carroll County Special School District (SCCSSD) has received official approval from the Tennessee Department of Education to launch two new virtual schools: Clarksburg Virtual Academy (Grades 6–12) and Clarksburg Adult Virtual High School, which will serve learners aged 17 and older.

The newly approved schools will serve students across the state, offering flexible, high-quality academic experience that meets Tennessee's educational standards. Applications will open soon, with virtual instruction scheduled to begin on July 1, 2025.

Dr. Lisa Norris, Director of Schools and Principal of the new virtual programs, stated:

"South Carroll is expanding to ensure we remain competitive in a rapidly changing education market. The Education Freedom Act has challenged us to engage in a statewide academic environment, and these virtual options allow us to do just that—while continuing to meet the diverse needs of today's learners."



Dr. Lisa Norris

Both virtual schools will maintain the same academic rigor and expectations as SCCSSD's traditional in-person programs. Clarksburg School, the district's longstanding PK–12 campus, will continue operations and enhance its curriculum through targeted ACT preparation and advanced coursework opportunities.

SCCSSD has partnered with Grade Results, a nationally recognized virtual education provider, to supply the learning management system and certified instructional staff - leveraging years of success in supporting student achievement in online learning environments.

This expansion reflects the district's continued commitment to innovation and preparing students for college, careers, and lifelong learning. It also aligns with strategic goals to increase student enrollment and provide statewide access to high-quality public education.

About South Carroll County Special School District (SCCSSD)

The South Carroll County Special School District serves the rural Delta region of northwest Tennessee, including the Clarksburg community. Known for small-school innovation and high academic standards, the district provides comprehensive educational services from preschool through adult learning.





Left, April Gonzales, a teacher of Special Education-Inclusion, was granted tenure by the West Carroll School Board of Education. West Carroll Director of Schools Preston Caldwell presented the certificate to Mrs. Gonzales. Right, Carson Cooper and Hannah Fowler were recognized for their awards at the state FFA Convention.

Primary

...From Front Page

proposed by Lashlee-Rich, the construction managers, had risen from $556,491 to a new guaranteed maximum price of $794,615, reflecting a $238,124 increase. Caldwell explained that the original estimate did not account for asbestos abatement and noted that the price of steel had increased by 15 percent since the previous semester.

The majority of the planned upgrades will focus on safety improvements, including a new vestibule, as well as new windows and doors.

Board Chairman William Robinson stated that these upgrades are critically needed and emphasized that the total cost is significantly lower than the estimated $30 million required for a new building. He pointed out that both the aging Primary and Elementary schools are in urgent need of safety updates.

Board member Betty Wallace raised concerns about whether the school system had adequate funding for the project. Caldwell reassured the board that there are $6 million in reserves, with $1 million initially earmarked for renovations across all three school sites. A $499,499 renovation bid for the Elementary School in Trezevant was not approved at this meeting.

Mark Wright, maintenance supervisor, mentioned that some of the older interior doors might not need replacement; however, Robinson expressed a preference for completing all planned upgrades rather than mixing old and new materials.

The renovations are expected to be completed during the summer holiday.

Pricing Increases by 41 Percent for Steel and Asbestos.

Additionally, a remodeling project at the West Carroll Junior/Senior High School was approved at a cost of $44,800. The bid was awarded to Graves and Graves to merge two classrooms into a career lab, funded by the Innovative School Model grant.

The Board approved the purchase of a composter for $25,060 to process food waste. The resulting compost will be added to soil in the FFA greenhouse to grow food for the school cafeteria. A Perkins Reserve Grant will fund the purchase.

The Board also adopted the science textbooks offered by Savvas, which follow a scheduled replacement rotation established by the Tennessee Department of Education.

The West Carroll Student Government, led by Coach Lynsey Doles, completed its first year. The students are working on projects such as a hygiene closet for those in need and a clothes closet where students can shop for free clothing, jackets, shoes, and more. Coach Doles noted that any student arriving at school with dress code violations can select items from the clothes closet as substitutes.

WCHS FFA students were recognized for their achievements at the state convention. FFA teacher Noah Rogers reported that the annual live plant sale was a tremendous success.

Individually, senior Hannah Fowler was recognized as one of the top three students in Tennessee for her Beef Cattle Production Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). Freshman Carson Cooper was named a top three finalist statewide for his Forage Production SAE. Both were recognized as regional champions in their respective categories.

April Gonzales was granted tenure after five years of service as a special education inclusion teacher at West Carroll Elementary School. Director Caldwell explained that tenure is awarded after five years of teaching, contingent on necessary reviews and performance scores.

Director Caldwell also announced that the starting salary for beginning teachers will be $50,000 for the 2025-26 school year. Furthermore, all teachers and staff are proposed to receive a five percent raise once the budget is approved.

The Board has approved a one-time state grant of $2,000 for each certified teacher for the concluded 2024-25 school year, as part of the state's Education Freedom Act.

The Board acknowledged the resignations of Adam Dowland, Elziabeth Clark, Kristen McCadams and Colton Pickard.

Graduation is scheduled for May 15 at 7 p.m. at the high school. The next Board meeting will take place on June 5.

Drug

...From Front Page

of Enoch Cemetery Road in Huntingdon. As a result, agents arrested the home's occupant, Bobby Johnson, and a woman later identified as Nykole Hineline.

Bobby Johnson (DOB 01-18-1969) and Nykole Hineline (DOB 04/27/1988) were each charged with one count of Possession of Schedule II with Intent to Distribute (Methamphetamine), three counts of Possession of a Firearm in the Commission of a Dangerous Felony, three counts of a Felon in Possession of a Firearm, and one count of Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Both were booked into the Carroll County Jail, each on a $91,000 bond.

The charges and allegations referenced in this release are merely accusations of criminal conduct and not evidence. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt and convicted through due process of law.



High School Seniors Recognized During the Banquet as Outstanding Student-Athletes — (L to R) Front Row: Jayden Milton, West Carroll; Allie Walker, McKenzie; Keely Williams, Hollow Rock-Bruceton; and Delaney Byars, Huntingdon. Back Row: Nate Ward, Clarksburg; Tate Surber, McKenzie; Caden Dean, Hollow Rock-Bruceton; and Gray Eubanks, Huntingdon. Not Pictured: Libby Autry, Clarksburg and Karma Wilkey, West Carroll. *Photo by Brittany Martin/The Banner*

Fame

...From Front Page

Russell Bush was honored as the former president of the Hall of Fame Committee. Lex Suite presented a plaque to honor Bush's service.

The 2025 high school honorees are: Clarksburg — Libby Autry and Nate Ward; Hollow Rock-Bruceton Central — Keely Williams and Caden Dean; Huntingdon High School — Delaney Byars and Gray Eubanks; McKenzie High School — Allie Walker and Tate Surber; and West Carroll High School — Jayden Milton and Karma Wilkey.

The alumni honorees were Donnie Hall, Mike Limbaugh, Robin Smothers Markham, James Morrissett, Anna Trull Riggins, Dale Strickland, Joel Washburn, and Josh Wolfe.

Dale Strickland is a 1965 graduate of Huntingdon High School. His football career was shortened by injuries his sophomore and junior years. However, he had an incredible impact on the Mustang program his senior year. He played tight end and defensive end and was selected All-Volunteer Conference and All-West Tennessee. He was also selected Honorable Mention All-State. His senior year Huntingdon was Volunteer Conference Champions and were undefeated in the regular season.

Donnie Hall is a 1965 graduate of Huntingdon High School. Selected as Best Blocker by Coach Paul Ward his Junior Year, Donnie was named Co-Captain his senior year. He was also selected to the All-Volunteer Conference and All-West Tennessee Teams. Donnie started on offense at guard and on defense at linebacker for 3 straight years. As a starter, the Mustangs were two time Volunteer Conference Champion and had 2 undefeated regular seasons.

Josh Wolfe was a three-sport athlete at West Carroll who has had arguably the most noted football career in school history. Josh was an All-District player in both basketball and baseball.

In football, he led the team in tackles three years. three-time All-Region, two-time All-West, and Honorable Mention All-State. He was a four year starter at Lambuth University, Team Captain, 1st Team All-Mid-South, and Honorable Mention All-American. He was the head coach at West Carroll where he secured the most playoff wins in school history. Josh is presently the head coach at Henry County High School.

Anna Trull was a groundbreaking basketball player at McKenzie High School. She set the school's Single Game, Single Season, and Career Scoring records. A member of the 2,000-Point Club, she was an All-District Team selection all four years. She was a multiple All-Region pick, two-time District MVP, and won the Wendy's Heisman award.

She took advantage of a full scholarship to Bethel University where she became a member of their 1,000 Point Club and was Trans-South Defensive Player of the Year. She later coached at West Carroll where she had an undefeated regular season.

Robin Smothers Markham was an outstanding softball and basketball player at Bruceton Hollow Rock Central. In softball she was a multiple selection on All-District, All-Region, All West TN, and Best of the West Teams. She was also named Best of the West Athlete of the Year as well as District 13-A Player of the Year. Her career batting average was .470, with 13 home runs, and a pitching record of 39-14. She signed a softball scholarship with UT Martin.

In basketball, she holds the single season scoring record, is the all-time free throws leader, as is the school's second leading scorer All-Time. A four-year starter, Robin was selected to multiple All-District and All-Region teams.

Mike Limbaugh is the winningest Boy's Basketball coach in the history of Clarksburg School. He won over 300 games in his 27 years at the helm. He won numerous district championships and qualified for Region play 18 consecutive years. Mike was a three-sport athlete at Moore County High School. He excelled in baseball at Bethel University starting 112 consecutive games at second base . Mike, his wife, Carol, and their family reside in Clarksburg.

James Morrissett is a 1966 graduate of Huntingdon High School, where he played football four years on the offensive and defensive lines. He was selected Alll-Volunteer Conference and All-West Tennessee his senior year. He was also Honorable Mention All-State. He was voted the Most Outstanding Lineman in the 1965 Jaycee Bowl against Lake County.

Joel Washburn is the second inductee in the category of Contributor. He started covering sports as a photojournalist for The McKenzie Banner while a sophomore at McKenzie High School in 1972. He has covered 52 years as a photojournalist as the editor and publisher of The McKenzie Banner. He is now semi-retired and travels globally and volunteers locally.

REAL ID

...From Front Page

A REAL ID will cost the same as current a Tennessee driver license or photo ID. If it is time to renew your license, the cost to obtain a REAL ID driver license or photo ID will be the standard renewal fee of an 8-year credential. However, if you are not within your renewal period and you wish to obtain a REAL ID compliant credential, you will be charged a duplicate fee.

Common Myths About REAL ID:

Myth: Everyone must get a REAL ID.

Fact: A REAL ID is optional unless you plan to fly domestically or access certain federal facilities after May 7.

Myth: You must apply by May 7th.

Fact: You can apply for a REAL ID at any time — before or after May 7th.

Myth: You cannot travel without a REAL ID after May 7th.

Fact: You can still use a valid U.S. passport or other federally approved identification to fly.

Myth: You must have the new card design to have a REAL ID.



Fact: Both the new black-star and older gold-star REAL IDs are valid until their expiration dates.

Myth: Getting a REAL ID is complicated or expensive.

Fact: The cost for a REAL ID is the same as a standard driver license if you are renewing — $28. If you obtain a REAL ID outside of your renewal period, a small duplication fee applies ($8 or $12, depending on license class). Pre-approving your documents online can save time during your visit.

"Our teams across the state are hearing a lot of questions and seeing a lot of people who aren't sure if they even need a REAL ID," said Assistant Commissioner Russell Shoup, who oversees Driver Services. "We want Tennesseans to know that if you don't plan to fly or visit certain federal buildings, your current license is still perfectly valid. We're here to help answer questions and make this process as smooth as possible."

Helpful Tips:

If you need a REAL ID, consider visiting a neighboring Driver Services Center that may have shorter wait times.

Pre-approve your required documents at tnrealid.gov before your visit to speed up processing and avoid multiple trips.

For reliable information and to start the pre-approval process, visit tnrealid.gov.



Living at Lakeside News

BY: SHEILA WILLIS

Greetings! As the saying goes, "April showers bring May flowers," and if this month's rainfall is any indication, our flower beds are going to be stunning. Residents are already preparing by gathering pots, soil, and bird feeders for some delightful afternoons of sitting on the front porch. Despite the storms, we managed to get out and about.

We attended the Macedonia Community Center's Cake Walk and Cookout, enjoyed a fantastic band, and brought home eight delicious desserts that were won by our residents to share at our next meal. Phyllis Maddox was the big winner that night, taking home three prizes. We also celebrated National Beer Day in the best way we could with frothy cold root beer floats. Our Senior Movie featured "Last Breath", and if you're a senior, you should take advantage of this deal: a movie, drink, and popcorn for just $5! The next showing will be on May 7th with *Working Man*.

We visited Sunrise Café for breakfast and saw their generosity to the Senior Citizens Center when they donated a new TV. We wanted to show our support in return. The residents were touched when McKenzie first- and second-graders sent us Valentine's cards, so we decided to reciprocate by making them Easter cards, which were delivered to Principal Tonya Brown for distribution. We also made cards for the residents of Huntingdon Health and Rehab.

The Legacy Players, visitors from Bethel University, performed for us. This event occurs once or twice a year and is always a treat, featuring improv skits and beautiful songs. Students Avery Brown and Kason Brown partnered with residents for a baking session, preparing five desserts for a cancer bake auction. We bid with great interest the next day as the cakes were auctioned. Staff member Lisa Griffin was the highest bidder on our Tiger Paw Coconut Pecan Bundt Cake with a Chocolate Cream Cheese Drizzle, while resident Maxine Garner won our Banana Cake. We also made a Peach Cobbler, Ugly Duckling Apple Crumb Topping Cake, and an Old Fashioned Coca-Cola Cake.

Speaking of Lisa Griffin, residents gathered to sing "For She's a Jolly Good Fellow" and surprised her for Administrative Professionals Day. We showered her with a card, her favorite candy, and some wish-listed beauty products. She has been a dedicated employee for 15 years and always goes above and beyond for residents, families, and the Lakeside team.

We also enjoyed many "Hippity Hoppity" events this month, including an "Orange You Glad It's Carrot Day" game, filling and donating 300 candy eggs for The Waters Easter Egg Hunt, a Bunny (Banana) Split Social, a Punch Board Easter Egg Hunt, and an Easter Holiday Feast for residents and their families.

We always appreciate our volunteers at Lakeside, but during National Volunteer Month, we decided to enhance our efforts with a "Thanks for Making the Time" themed brunch. Residents created and mailed clock-inspired invitations, made beautiful spring wreaths designed as clocks for decoration, and gifted each volunteer a wall clock. The kitchen staff served fruit, pastries, sausage balls, and juice. We hope our volunteers know how much we appreciate their time.

Residents attended The World's Largest Fish Fry Parade and eagerly awaited the passing of the Lakeside Sweetheart King (alternate) Harry Walsh and Queen Peggy Work. We extend our gratitude to Gentiva Hospice for welcoming us to their office and to Lynn Brandon for chauffeuring us.

We celebrated four birthdays this month: Peggy Cole, Trudy Bateman, Lance Kee, and Nancy Page. We also welcomed new resident Joan Brown to our Lakeside family and bid farewell to our dear friends Alberta McCulley and Faye Jones.

Until next time...

Baptist Carroll County Awarded with 'Straight A' Hospital Safety Grade

HUNTINGDON (May 1) — Baptist Memorial Hospital-Carroll County received a "Straight A" Hospital Safety Grade from The Leapfrog Group, a designation awarded to hospitals that maintain an "A" grade for five or more consecutive grading cycles.

"Earning the 'Straight A' Hospital Safety Grade from the Leapfrog Group is the highest honor and confirms the excellent care provided at Baptist Carroll County," said Susan Breeden, chief executive officer and administrator of Baptist Carroll County. "Our physicians, nurses and staff work hard every day to provide safe, high-quality care, and this recognition is important to them and the patients they serve."

Leapfrog assigns letter grades from A to F to general hospitals nationwide based on more than 30 measures of patient safety. The group updates grades twice a year, in the spring and fall.

"Achieving an 'A' Hospital Safety Grade reflects enormous dedication to patient safety," said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. "I extend my congratulations to Baptist Carroll County's leadership, clinicians, staff and volunteers for creating a culture where patients come first."

To view Baptist Carroll County's full grade details and learn how to stay safe in the hospital, visit HospitalSafetyGrade.org.

Founded in 2000 by large employers and other purchasers, The Leapfrog Group is a national nonprofit organization driving a movement for giant leaps for patient safety. The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade, Leapfrog's other main initiative, assigns letter grades to hospitals based on their record of patient safety, helping consumers protect themselves and their families from errors, injuries, accidents and infections.

Baptist Memorial Hospital-Carroll County provides comprehensive inpatient and outpatient medical care to West Tennessee in a variety of specialized areas, including cardiac care, pediatrics, general surgery, physical therapy and palliative care, among others.

The 70-bed facility is located in Huntingdon, Tennessee, and offers advanced medical technology, such as 3D mammography, and the Baptist TeleHealth Center, which uses TeleGuardian. Baptist Carroll County is the recipient of many awards and accolades, including the Tennessee Quality Award, Premier Inc.'s QUEST Award for High-Valued Healthcare, the Quest Hero Award, Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval in 2015 and top grades from the Leapfrog Group for hospital safety.

For more information, visit baptistonline.org/carrollcounty or follow us on Facebook at @BaptistCarrollCounty.

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THE WIT AND WISDOM OF DAVID JOHNSON

Where Are You From?

Where I live, one of the first questions you're going to ask a person you've just met is, "Where are you from?" sometimes shortened to, "Where you from?"

Where you're from will give us an inkling into what kind of person you are. If you're local, say within a twenty-five mile radius, like Big Buck, Skullbone, or Skunk Holler, you're quickly accepted as being "one of us." But the closer you get to the Mason-Dixon Line (if you're not familiar with where that is, then you are hopelessly lost and disconnected from the history we were taught in grade school), and especially if you're from north of that line, then you will have to work harder at proving yourself to be trustworthy.

For me, it's one of the harder questions to answer because my family crisscrossed America while I was growing up, starting in Michigan, to Alabama, to North Carolina, back to Alabama, and then to Tennessee where I finished high school and have lived ever since.

But I'll tell you where I'm from:

I'm from the 50s & 60s, where father always knew best and every kid wanted to live in Mayberry...where we practiced bomb raids by getting under our desks or walking to the local bomb shelter in order to survive what we were told was the certain chance of a nuclear bomb launched by Russia...

We played outside until dark, then returned to our yards to catch fireflies in mason jars...we listened to Elvis, the birth of rock and roll, Johnny Cash, Jimi Hendrix, and Janis Joplin...

The President of the United States was assassinated in broad daylight in front of hundreds of people...U. S. soldiers massacred nearly 500 unarmed civilians in a place called My Lai, Vietnam...

Everyone went roller skating on weekends and couldn't wait until the announcer said, "Couples only for the next song." Unless, of course, your girlfriend could skate better than you and you were afraid of making a fool of yourself in front of her and everyone watching...Gas was twenty-five cents a gallon...

Anti-war protesters took over university buildings, throwing desks and papers out the windows... one protester was shot and killed by a National Guardsman...black Americans were controlled by water cannons, billy clubs, and police on horseback, and vigilantes...

The Beatles...

You mowed your lawn with a push mower and trimmed it with scissors... hot rods were raced on backroads...and your girlfriend wore your athletic jacket...

Yeah, that's where I'm from...so, don't be offended if I don't join you in getting upset about the current condition of the world and your pronouncement that "it's the worst it's ever been."

The world has always been chaotic and always will be because it's inhabited by humans...there is good and there is bad... light and darkness...good vs evil...

My advice when you start feeling panicky about the state of things is to remember you're not the only one who has felt that way about our world...but yet we're still here...for the time being.

I like the line from an old Negro Spiritual: "There's a better day a' comin'."

** Taken from The Wit and Wisdom of David Johnson, Volume I1: The Hairy Catfish Caper.*

HUNKER DOWN WITH KES

It's The Opposite of Counting Sheep

I don't know about you, but there are great universal mysteries that keep me up at night. It can be baffling for sure. And the loss of sleep can wreak havoc on your charming disposition as the sun welcomes the following day.

This phenomenon didn't start with old age and acid reflux.

I blame it on Leon. He grew up out in left field. We'd be at supper, discussing the Easter hats that Mrs. Ethel Mitchum and Aline Brashear wore to church. You remember these, they were wide brimmed and had wild flowers and bird nests growing in them. We'd move on to hog prices or the St. Louis Cardinals' chances in the upcoming baseball season. Dad would be complaining about gas prices rising to 23 cents a gallon....

Just normal stuff. Another regular evening. Right in the middle of the mundane family meal, Leon would insert, "Do y'all ever wonder which one of those Iroquois Indians had the guts to first cut his hair in that mohawk style?"

Well, you can just imagine the absolute cold stone silence! Mom, who always kept the conversation flowing, couldn't flow through that.

And before any of us could recover, he added, "Do you reckon they shaved the sides of their heads, or plucked out each individual hair?"

People, I didn't hardly sleep for a week and a half. I read "The Deerslayer" and "The Last of the Mohicans" hoping to catch a clue.

Maybe that was the beginning....

Or it might have gone back to the second grade. Miss Booth read us that story about Yankee Doodle. Remember him? He "went to town riding on a pony, stuck a feather in his cap and called it macaroni." I couldn't sleep trying to figure out if he was calling the town macaroni. Or was he referring to his cap? Or the pony? Maybe he was naming the feather....

Hostess Cupcakes cost me some snoozing time, back then, and later in life. I would lay awake and wonder how they got the cream filling right in the middle of the chocolate part. And I wasn't sure if the squiggly lines across the top were done by a machine or hand "squeezed on" by men and women wearing hairnets.

Sadly, recently I've pondered, when I should have been sleeping, as to why the reproduction Hostess Cupcakes today don't taste half as good as they did in 1955.

I can't remember if it was Miss Mary Ann in the sixth grade or Coach Givens in junior high science that first introduced me to the quandary of the tree falling in the woods. If no one was around to hear it, would it make any noise? I've lost sleep on that one, and I still don't know the correct answer.

I've never not heard a tree falling in the woods. But if nobody was there....?

Speaking of junior high, it was along about that time that I stared wide awake at the ceiling, wondering why none of the pretty girls ever talked to me. But all of the less than pretty ones were "up close and personal," telling me way more than I wanted to hear.

Leon was the first to tell me that a cat, no matter how close to the ground you drop it, always lands on its feet. I near 'bout wore Mittens out, holding her upside down at different heights off the floor, and dropping her. Danged if she didn't land on her feet every time. She was the quickest thing I've ever seen getting herself right-side-up.

I still lay away over this deal to this day, wondering if every cat in the world is as fast and balanced as Mittens.

When I was a boy, Pluto was a planet. No one questioned that. I slept like a baby. In our high school science class, we had an oversized schematic showing how all nine planets revolved around the sun. Pluto was the farthest out but it was DEFINITELY on the chart!

I woke up one morning to headlines screaming that Pluto was not a planet. There is somebody messing with the intergalactic cosmos here. Mr. Berry would not have hung up a chart that was lying to us.

It is an international conspiracy! I know they're wrong, but I can't sleep anyway. I'm searching Einstein's notes with every spare moment of my life. I watching old Star Wars movies. Captain Kirk would know the truth....

Listen, I'm not the only Colbert boy who has laid awake deep into the night. I got a call a few years ago. It was way past midnight. I was peacefully asleep, dreaming I was playing the 13th hole at the Augusta National Golf Course.

I jumped out of bed, banging a toe on the nearby dresser. I hopped on one foot down the hall to the phone, and answered with a sleepy, and a bit worried, "Hello."

"Hey," Leon, of course, "Have you ever wondered what happened to all the people who tested Preparation A though G."

Respectfully,
Kes

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Education Freedom Scholarship Application Launches May 15

NASHVILLE — The Tennessee Department of Education announced the Education Freedom Scholarship (EFS) Program application will launch on Thursday, May 15, 2025, at 12 p.m. CT/1 p.m. ET for all Tennessee families to submit an eligible student application.

"A quality education has the power to change the trajectory of a child's life, and for the first time, families across Tennessee have the opportunity to choose the best school for their child," said Gov. Lee. "I'm grateful that the vast majority of eligible schools intend to participate in Education Freedom Scholarships, and I have full confidence in the Department of Education's ability to implement the program."

On Thursday, April 10, 2025, the department published the Education Freedom Scholarship (EFS) Program student application checklist and encouraged interested families to gather required documentation to submit when the application launches. Families can access the checklist for Education Freedom Scholarships, Tennessee's landmark universal school choice plan, here.

Interested Tennessee families are also encouraged to sign up for regular email updates here. Families can make plans for the 2025-26 school year by viewing the most updated list of schools intending to participate on the EFS webpage, totaling 211 schools to date. The department is actively registering Category I, II, III schools to receive funds for the 2025-26 school year.

"I appreciate all the families and schools who engaged throughout this implementation phase as we continue to best prepare them for the upcoming application launch on May 15," said Lizzette Reynolds, Commissioner of Education.

Background:

During the Tennessee General Assembly's legislative session in January, legislators passed the Tennessee Education Freedom Act, and Governor Bill Lee signed the legislation to establish Tennessee's universal school choice program into law on February 12, 2025.

On Wednesday, March 20, 2025, the State Board of Education held a meeting to hear the Education Freedom Scholarship Act emergency rules, which established procedures for the scholarship program. During the meeting, the emergency rules received a unanimous recommendation, marking another step in the implementation process. The emergency rules will remain in effect for 180 days while the department and State Board of Education work to promulgate permanent rules.

To learn more about the EFS Program and access additional resources, visit the EFS webpage.

For Tennessee Department of Education media inquiries, contact Edu.MediaInquiries@tn.gov.

GCAC Named Finalist for Two Prestigious International Awards

Global Citizen Adventure Corps (GCAC), a nonprofit based in West Tennessee, has been named a finalist for two international awards by GoAbroad, a leading platform for global study, volunteer, and work experiences. GCAC is recognized in the Global Respectful Disruption Leadership and Innovation in Diversity categories.

Co-founded by Stacie Freeman of Dresden and Julie Hill of Union City, GCAC partners with Bethel University in McKenzie to offer students from rural areas life-changing global experiences.

Finalists and winners are selected by the Innovation Awards Academy, a respected panel of global education leaders. Winners will be announced at the GoAbroad reception during the NAFSA: Association of International Educators conference in San Diego on May 29, 2025. Last year, GCAC received the Innovation in Philanthropy Award during a ceremony in New Orleans.

"These awards honor organizations and individuals pushing global education forward," GoAbroad writes, "and celebrate those who go beyond the conventional."

Finalist: Innovation in Diversity

GCAC is being recognized for its commitment to expanding access to international education for traditionally underrepresented students. Many participants come from Title I schools across rural West Tennessee.

One nomination story highlighted GCAC's founding moment: after a devastating tornado made a Costa Rica trip financially impossible for a group of Dresden High School students, scholarships were created to ensure students could still participate. As a result, GCAC was founded to support students of diverse backgrounds, identities, and abilities. Students earn college credit through Bethel University while engaging in meaningful global service.

Finalist: Respectful Global Disruptive Leadership

GCAC's model focuses on developing empathetic, informed student leaders through international service and learning. Pre-departure coursework emphasizes cultural humility, while on-the-ground projects align with United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

All service projects are community-led and designed for long-term sustainability. GCAC encourages alumni to return as co-leaders, and many students go on to pursue careers in public service and global engagement.

At the heart of GCAC's mission is respect—for people, cultures, and the global community. Through "respectful disruption," GCAC is redefining who gets to participate in global education—and ensuring every voice has a seat at the table.

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Obituaries

MARK WAYNE CORLEY
1953 — 2025

HUNTINGDON — Mr. Mark Wayne Corley, 72, of Huntingdon, passed away Monday, April 28, 2025, at his home.

Funeral services will be private.

Mr. Corley was born January 27, 1953, in Magnolia, Ark., to the late Earl Wayne Corley and Betty Ann (Eddy) Corley.

He is survived by his Wife, Betty Carroll Corley; three sisters-in-law, Melissa Carroll O'Sullivan (Tom) of Jackson, Barbara Batteese of McKenzie and Judy Latta (J.R.) of Jackson; and a brother-in-law, Harold Carroll of Jackson.

MALCOLM ALDRIDGE
2019 — 2025

HUNTINGDON — Malcolm Aldridge, 6, of Huntingdon, died Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at his home.

Funeral services were Friday, May 2, 2025 at the Chapel of Dilday-Carter Funeral Home. Interment was at Oak Hill Cemetery in Huntingdon. Brother Doug Sellers officiating.

Malcolm was born March 29, 2019, in Jackson, to Travis Aldridge and Brenda Maelee Beam. He is also survived by one brother, Cedric Cooley of Huntingdon; paternal grandparents, Richard and Melanie Aldridge of Huntingdon; maternal grandparents John Beam and Tracey Riffe; and paternal great-grandparents Carlton (Jo Ann) Davison of Huntingdon and Nancy Davison of Huntingdon.

He is preceded in death by his maternal great-grandparents, Donald and Mae Beam of Huntingdon.

Dilday-Carter Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements, 731-986-8281.

CHARLES 'HOWARD' ROSS
1933 — 2025

GLEASON — A memorial service for Charles "Howard" Ross is Saturday, May 17, 2025, at 11 a.m. at First United Methodist Church. The family will receive friends on Saturday at 10 a.m. until service time at the church.

Mr. Ross, 91, died at Baptist Hospital Union City on Sunday, May 4, 2025. He was born in Paris on December 10, 1933, to the late H.C. and Asenath Matilda Owen Ross.

He is survived by his son, Charles (Debbie) Ross of Gleason, a brother, Paul (Sherry) Ross of Greenfield, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Shirley Collier Ross; his daughter, Gina Ross Jaillier; a sister, Ruth Owen; and five brothers, Eugene Ross, Earl Ross, Willard Ross, Burnice Ross and Elvin Ross.

If you need further assistance, please call Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home at 731-352-4848 or visit our website at brummittmckenziefuneralhome.com.

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Card of Thanks

To our neighbors and friends, we wish to express our sincere thanks and gratitude for flowers, cards, and every expressions of sympathy since the passing of our mother.

Family of
Norma Jo Cooper

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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AN EVENING WITH CARROLL ARTS JUNE 21

Carroll Arts, Inc. presents An Evening with Carroll Arts on Saturday, June 21, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church in McKenzie. The event will feature artists from Carroll County and include an art exhibit at 6:30 p.m. and live performances at 7 p.m. For more information, please email carrollartsinc@gmail.com.

Other upcoming events include: The Creativity Camp for Carroll County elementary and middle school students is July 7-11; Southern Fried Funnies during McKenzie's Sweet Tea Festival in August; Storytelling during the Huntingdon Heritage Festival in September; A Mistletoe Christmas Program during McKenzie's Christmas Celebration in December; and the 15th Annual Trivia Bowl in January 2026.

McKENZIE SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER EVENTS

Lots going on this week!

Line dance class every Monday and on the first and third Wednesday at 6 p.m. Only one dollar.

Tuesday, May 6, jam session.

Wednesday, May 7, Dominos at the center at 12:30 and the senior movie at the Park Theater. This month's movie is "Working Man". Starts at 2. Movie, soda and popcorn only $5.

Thursday, May 8, Bingo at 12:30. UT Extension service sponsored class on cooking with an air fryer at 3 p.m.

Friday, May 8, pool tournament starting at noon. Open to anyone over 50. Entry fee $10.

Saturday, May 9, Dominos at 12:30 and Cakewalk/Dinner at 5. Dinner is spaghetti, salad, garlic bread and tea only $6. Cake auction starts at 5:45. Cakewalk is $5.. Walk in all the walks and win as many times as you can!

Dinner and cakewalk together are only $5.

McKenzie Senior Center, 172 Main Street South, McKenzie.

HUNTINGDON AMERICAN LEGION POST 47 EVENTS

American Legion Post 47, Huntingdon, serves lunch each Wednesday from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. for $10. Sit and eat at the Legion or take out.

May Menu:

May 7 — Smoked pork chop sandwich, fries and corn.

May 14 — Chicken breast, mashed potatoes and gravy and green beans.

May 21 — Cheeseburger, baked beans and potato salad.

May 28 — Pulled pork sandwich, macaroni and cheese and slaw.

The American Legion is looking for Veterans to join the post. Meetings are at 6 p.m. the second Monday of each month in the basement of the Carroll County Courthouse. The entrance is on the south side of the court house. Food is provided. For more information, please call Commander Doug Marshall at 937-459-0301 or Assistant Adjutant Tony Moore at 731-358-1130.

Attention all Clay Shooters! Huntingdon American Legon Post 47 hosts the inaugural Sporting Clay Shooting Competition Saturday, May 17 at the Carroll County Shooting Sports Park.

First Flight 9 a.m.; lunch/break 11:30 a.m.; Second Flight 1 p.m.

Top three teams awarded prizes and overall high shooter. Win a Locally Built CHEYTAC AR-15 by donation tickets, $20 each or six for $100 AFTER FFL-approved background check. Chance to win a Stoeger Grand 12 Guage at the event (Side Shoot) with prizes as well. Corporate Shooting Sponsorship $500 (includes four-man team, four meals, sponsor signage at a station). Event Sponsorship $400 (includes four-man team and four meals). Team Sponsorship $320 (four-man team).

Each shooter must provide their own gun, shells and eye/ear protection. Food and drinks will be available for purchase from the American Legion Post 47.

All proceeds benefit local veterans and building bathrooms on donated land for Huntingdon American Legion Post 47.

For more information on sponsorship or to sign up, please contact Doug Marshall at 937-459-0301 or email dougmarshallpost0047@gmail.com.

The American Legion's mission is to enhance the wellbeing of America's Veterans, their families, our military and our communities by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

FRIENDS OF THE CARROLL COUNTY LIBRARY BAKE, BOOK SALE

Friends of the Carroll County Library are hosting a bake and book sale on May 8, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and May 9, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Carroll County Library, 625 High Street, Huntingdon.

UPCOMING DATES, EVENTS

The following list of events was provided by Carroll County Chamber of Commerce. Specific information about events may be available at a later date.

May 17 — Bruceton in May.

May 22 — Chamber Golf Tournament.

May 22 — Last day of school spring semester.

May 26 — Huntingdon and McKenzie Memorial Day Celebrations.

June 28 — Eastview Fireworks Celebration.

July 4 — McKenzie and McLemoresville July 4th Celebrations.

August 5 — 2025-2026 school year begins.

August 22-23 — McKenzie Sweet Tea Festival.

September 27 — Huntingdon Heritage Festival.

October 13-17 — Fall Break.

October 27 — County Chamber Banquet.

November 7-8 — Carroll County Christmas Market.

November 24 — Ducks Unlimited Banquet.

December 19 — Last day of fall semester.

THIRD ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

The Third Annual Northwest Tennessee Legislative Breakfast is Friday, May 23, 2025, at Discovery Park of America in Union City. This event brings together local and state officials, tourism stakeholders, and business leaders to discuss the economic impact of tourism across our region.

Doors open at 8:30 a.m. and the program begins at 9 a.m. Admission is free, but RSVPs are required at nwtntourism.com/news/2025-nwtn-legislative-breakfast.

McKENZIE HIGH SCHOOL DECADES REUNION

McKenzie High School is hosting the annual football Homecoming on Friday, September 19, 2025. The Rebels will play Camden Lions at Rebel Stadium. In conjunction, the MHS Alumni Association will host its second annual Decades Reunion. Any MHS class hosting a reunion should contact the MHS Alumni Association to help promote the class reunion.

SINGING AT ABUNDANT LIFE FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER

Ivan Parker will sing at Abundant Life Family Worship Center, 4375 Hwy 70, Cedar Grove on Sunday, June 1 at 6 p.m. A love offering will be taken.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

Huntingdon Location — Adult Education Building, 14155 Paris Street. Office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Classes are offered for one-on-one instruction on Mondays, 1-4 p.m. and Thursdays, 9 a.m.-NOON. For more information, phone 731-364-5481.

McKENZIE SENIOR CENTER EVENTS

Every Tuesday — Jam session with Steve Morris, 6 p.m. Open to the public.

CARROLL HUMANE SOCIETY EVENTS

Cat Vouchers

We always have spay/neuter vouchers for cats at a cost of $60 and to be used at Paris Vet Clinic. If you need to pay with cash, come by the shelter to purchase. Otherwise, we have a NEW NUMBER to purchase using a credit/debit card. Please leave a message and the volunteer will return your call very soon, 731-514-0878.

Dog Vouchers

Dog vouchers are available for $60 each cash or card only. These must be purchased at the shelter during business hours Tuesday-Saturday 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Appointments will be made at the time of purchase. The participating vet clinic is Huntingdon Animal Clinic. You'll be responsible for paying the clinic when you pick up your animal. We do recommend that you have your pet vaccinated due to exposure to other animals. Puppies must be a minimum of 4 months of age (older if small breed) at the time of surgery.

LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

The Northwest Tenn. Economic Development Council is accepting applications for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program. This program assists low-income households through direct energy payments to their energy provider. Individuals interested in applying for the LIHEAP Program should make an appointment at the Northwest TN Economic Development Council office in their county of residence. Go to our website for county site contact information: nwcommunityaction.org.

McKENZIE TOPS MEETS MONDAYS

The McKenzie Chapter of TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets Mondays at 3 p.m. at the McKenzie Church of Christ gym. Anyone interested in losing weight can join. The first meeting is free. For more information, call (731)- 352-7309. If no answer, leave a message.

CARROLL DEMOCRATIC PARTY MEETS

The Carroll County Democratic Party meets the third Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. at 12740 Lexington Street, Huntingdon.

CARROLL REPUBLICAN PARTY MEETS

Carroll County Republican Party meets monthly each fourth Tuesday, 7 p.m. in the Public Safety Building in Huntingdon.

CARROLL COMMISSION MEETS MONTHLY

Carroll County Commission meets the second Monday of each month, 7 p.m., in the Conference Room of the Carroll County Office Complex, High Street, Huntingdon. There are no meetings in February and July.

KT&T IN CONCERT AT BEECH SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

KT&T gospel singers will be in concert at Beech Springs Baptist Church, Brawner's Lee Road, Gleason, on May 17, 6 p.m.

GET THE WORD OUT

The newspaper publishes most news items for free. Submit to EVENT@mckenziebanner.com or call 731-352-3323 Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Thank you for reading and supporting your community newspaper.

R25544/18-1

Carport SALE

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GLEASON
Fri. & Sat., May 9 & 10
7 a.m. - ?
Furniture, end table, curio cabinet, household items. Too much to list.

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THUNDERBOLTS (PG)
Tues. 7:30
Wed. 7:30
Thurs. 7:30

THE ACCOUNTANT 2 (R)
Tues. 7:25
Wed. 7:25
Thurs. 7:25

UNTIL DAWN (PG-13)
Tues. 7:35
Wed. 7:35
Thurs. 7:35

SINNERS (R)
Tues. 7:25
Wed. 7:25
Thurs. 7:25

MINECRAFT (PG)
Tues. 7:30
Wed. 7:30
Thurs. 7:30

THE KING OF KINGS (PG)
Tues. 7:35
Wed. 7:35
Thurs. 7:35

A4365/18-1

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West Carroll Elementary Honors Students with SOAR Awards

West Carroll Elementary School (WCES) is continuing its tradition of recognizing exceptional students through its SOAR Awards program. The initiative highlights students who consistently demonstrate the school's core values: Safety, Ownership, Achievement and Respect.

Each week, WCES celebrates students who excel academically, show strong character, and make meaningful contributions to the school community.

Fourth-grade teacher Mrs. Beth Hysmith praised her student, Harlynn Vernon, for her dedication and love of learning. "Harlynn is an incredible fourth grader who gives her best effort every single day," Hysmith said. "She approaches every subject—whether it's reading, math, or writing—with focus and determination. Her commitment and passion for learning truly set her apart."

Hysmith also highlighted another fourth-grade standout, Skii Crouch. "Skii is a shining example of responsibility and hard work," she shared. "She gives her all in every task, follows directions without hesitation, and leads by example. She's also an enthusiastic reader, always eager to discover new books. Her drive and positive attitude make her a standout student."

In sixth grade, teacher Shanna Pafford shared her admiration for Hunter Seiber. "Hunter is an outstanding student both in and out of the classroom," Pafford said. "He's always smiling, ready to help, and has a great attitude. It's been a joy to watch him grow into a respectful and kind young man."



(L to R): Harlynn Vernon, Hunter Seiber and Skii Crouch. *Photo courtesy WCSSD*

Through the SOAR Awards, WCES continues to foster a culture that celebrates academic achievement, personal growth and strong community values.

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McKenzie Police Reports

Driving on a Suspended License — Dillon Edward Ray Gregory, 30, Dunlap Street, Paris, was charged with Driving on a Suspended License- First Offense and Violation of Financial Responsibility on April 29.

Sergeant Cody Coleman observed Gregory driving a Ford Fusion, and the officer knew about Gregory's license status. He was issued a citation to appear in Carroll County General Sessions Court.

Driving on Suspended License-Second Offense — Jonathan Navarro, 21, Stonewall Street, McKenzie, was charged with Driving on Suspended License-Second Offense and Violation of Financial Responsibility on April 30.

Lt. Justin Brister observed Navarro driving a Dodge Challenger and was aware of his license status due to recent offenses. Navarro was transported to Carroll County Jail.

Driving on Suspended License — Samuel Alexander Jewell, 29, Booker Street, McKenzie, was charged with Driving on a Suspended License on May 2.

Officer Dustin McClure observed an off-road motorcycle being operated on the city streets and made a traffic stop. A check of his license status revealed that it had been suspended on March 22, 2025, in McKenzie City Court. Jewell was cited into Carroll County General Sessions Court.

Criminal Trespassing — Trinity Gordon Maynard, 49, Hinkledale Road, McKenzie, was charged with Criminal Trespassing, Simple Possession, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia on May 2.

Sergeant Darren Davis was dispatched to a residence, where Maynard was previously banned. Officer Davis arrested Maynard and during the arrest, found a glass pipe with residue and a plastic baggie containing hexagon-shaped pills believed to be suboxone. He was transported to Carroll County Jail.

Leaving the Scene of an Accident — Franklin O. Gilliland, 84, Trenton Street, Rutherford, was charged with Leaving the Scene of an Accident on May 3.

Sergeant Cody Coleman filed the report stating that Gilliland had entered the oncoming traffic lane and struck the side mirror of a vehicle. Gilliland did not stop and drove from the scene. A witness followed Gilliland's vehicle and reported the license plate number to police. Gilliland was stopped in Henry, where Sergeant Coleman met Henry County officers to interview Gilliland. He was cited into Carroll County General Sessions Court.

Warrant Service — Joshua Adam Saylor, 27, 6th Avenue, Huntingdon, was arrested on two outstanding warrants on May 2.

Officer Dustin McClure observed Saylor walking on Magnolia Street and was aware of active warrants for his arrest on False Report and Littering charges. Saylor was transported to Carroll County Jail.

Criminal Trespass — Joshua M. Gray, 44, Forrest Avenue, McKenzie, was charged with Criminal Trespass on April 28.

Officer Bryan Batchelder arrested Gray for entering buildings on Forrest Avenue, where no trespassing signs were posted. The report indicates that other officers had previously warned Gray. He was transported to Carroll County Jail.

Theft — MPD is investigating the theft of a bicycle on April 27.

Officer Dustin McClure took a report from Bethel University Security about the theft from Wildcat Cove, Main Street. Surveillance cameras captured the subject wearing a black top with a skeleton print, a mask, and sunglasses.

Public Intoxication — Kenneth W. Cherry, Jr., 37, Florida Court, McKenzie, was charged with Public Intoxication on May 3.

Officer Dustin McClure responded to a verbal dispute between Cherry and a female as they walked along Washington Street. Cherry was considered intoxicated and was transported to Carroll County Jail.

Criminal Trespass — Maurice Lawrence, homeless, McKenzie, was arrested for Criminal Trespass on May 2.

Officer Darren Davis was dispatched to Wyatt's Coin Laundry, where Lawrence was dancing outside the front door. Customers would not enter the business because Lawrence, according to the report. Lawrence was previously banned from the business, just as many other businesses in McKenzie. He was transported to Carroll County Jail.

Carroll County Sheriff's Reports

Drug/Narcotic Violation — According to a report by Deputy James M. Boaz, on April 25, Gregory Gurley called CCSO and stated that he was cleaning out his sister-in-law's house (who has dementia) and getting it ready to sell. While he was going through the rooms cleaning, they came across a brown plastic bag with contents in it. The bag had two ball mason jars and one plastic jar; one Mason jar was full of brown leafy like substance believed to be marijuana, one jar was half full of marijuana, and the plastic jar had individually packaged seeds believed to be marijuana seeds with the total weight being 144 grams. Gurley stated the owner of the substance had been deceased for approximately 3 years.

DUI/ Drug/Narcotic Violation — According to a report by Deputy Alex Sherwood he stopped a vehicle traveling on Highway 105 for failure to maintain lane and failure to dim bright lights. While speaking with the driver, Deputy Sherwood noted signs of impairment, including the smell of alcohol. The driver, Daniel Dave McCarty, 31, of Memphis, stated he had just left a wedding and had a few drinks. McCarty performed badly on the impairment tests and was arrested and transported to Carroll County Jail. After inventory of the vehicle, marijuana was also found.

Reckless Endangerment — According to a report by Deputy Daniel Thomas, on April 27, he was traveling down Hwy 79 when he saw Steven Crawford, 32, of Trezevant, traveling down the highway on whom he was getting ready to serve a warrant. The vehicle took off and Officer Thomas chased it through multiple counties until in Trenton the driver slowed and stuck his hand out the window. Crawford had two occupants in the vehicle with him, Crystal Alexander, 36, of Trezevant and Jennifer Seymore, 50, of Bolivar. After a search, meth was found and Crystal had 2 grams of marijuana on her person. Crawford also had a revoked license and was charged with felony evading, reckless driving, reckless endangerment, and resisting arrest. Crystal was charged with simple possession. Jennifer had no charges but did have an active warrant out of Carroll County.

Possession of Drug/ Narcotics — According to a report by Deputy Alex Sherwood, he held a traffic stop on a vehicle for failing to maintain lane of travel. After stepping out of the car, he heard a man yelling words nearby on the corner of Jones and Paris streets. The subject, Carl Morris, 56, of Huntingdon, had a handgun in his right front pants pocket. The handgun was removed while the deputy spoke with him. After doing a pat down a small, plastic container with residual meth was in his pocket. Morris said he had just smoked and was under the influence at the time. This occurred across the street from the Head Start within a drug-free zone.

Public Intoxication/ Simple Assault — According to a report by Deputy Sean Bongiovanni, on April 30, Carroll County deputies were dispatched to Hwy 77 Hollow Rock for a physical disturbance. Jimmy Dale Turner Jr, 18, of Hollow Rock, had very slurred speech and a strong smell of alcohol. He was in a neighbor's yard when found and causing a disturbance. It was also discovered he had pushed and harmed Everett Tucker, 63, which initiated the call.

Domestic Violence — According to a report by Deputy Sunny Crews-Sherwood, she and other deputies responded to a home on Highway 70 in Cedar Grove in reference to a subject who threatened harm to himself. The wife had called reporting that Joseph Rogers, 45, of Cedar Grove, had been drinking and smoking marijuana trying to cope with the anniversary of his father's death. Joseph became irate and broke the basketball goal, then smashed the glass patio table with a golf club after coming at his wife. When deputies arrived, Joseph became more irate and he kept screaming at deputies to leave and he was going to kill them. Joseph broke the front window and threw out a rifle taunting deputies to come get him. After a brief standoff Joseph was able to be taken into custody without force. He was placed under arrest for domestic violence.

Carroll County General Sessions

HUNTINGDON (April 30) — The following cases were heard in Carroll County General Sessions Court on April 30.

Three defendants were bound over to the Grand Jury of the Carroll County Circuit Court.

Tina Rene Hicks, Old Highway 22, Huntingdon, was bound over on a charges of DUI-First Offense: bound over on Implied Consent.

Ashley Patterson, Lexington Street, Bruceton, bound over on charge of Theft of Property.

Ashley Ward, Burlington Road, Milan, bound over, Schedule II Drugs - Manufacturing, Delivery, Sell, or Possess; bound over, Evading Arrest Flight.

The following cases resulted in a guilty plea or finding.

Timothy Gene Chappell, Buck Ditch Road, Huntingdon, guilty, Theft of Merchandise,11/29 sentence suspended to two days, probation, no contact with the convenience store, $98.67 restitution.

Daniel Chrismon, Main Street, Atwood, guilty, Casual Exchange, $750 fine, probation; dismissed, Possessions Of Drug Paraphernalia.

David Curneal, South 10th Street, Murray, judicial diversion, Domestic Assault, probation, no contact with victim, alcohol and drug assessment and follow medical directive.

Matthew Thomas Dillingham, Kee Street, Hollow Rock, guilty, Disorderly Conduct, $50 fine, 24 hours jail; dismissed, Vandalism.

Michael Gilbert, Hope Lane, Waverly, guilty, Driving While License Suspended, must take steps to get license, probation.

Joshua Morris Gray, Highway 70, Huntingdon, guilty, Criminal Trespass, probation, no contact with victims.

Eric Lee Hand, Apple Lane, Holladay, guilty, Simple Possession/Casual Exchange, $750 fine, probation, alcohol and drug evaluation and counseling; dismissed, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

Aaron Wesley Hopper, Laurel Street, Bruceton, guilty, Public Intoxication, dismissed, Disorderly Conduct.

Elizabeth McCord, Glover Street, Atwood, guilty, Simple Possession/Casual Exchange, $400, probation, alcohol and drug assessment; dismissed, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

Eric Poole, Highway 79, Brownsville, guilty, Driving Unregistered Vehicle; judicial diversion, Reckless Driving, probation.

Isiah G. Willis, Cheatham Street, Bruceton, guilty, Disorderly Conduct, $50 fine, probation.

Brandon Tylor Woodard, Perkins Mill Road, McKenzie, guilty, Probation Violation, 11/29 jail, may jail time credit for successful completion of rehab.

The following defendants' cases were dismissed.

Kimberly Bullington-Rimmer, Highway 104, Lavinia, dismissed, Domestic Assault.

Gerald Lee Luther, Vale-McKenzie Road, Hollow Rock, dismissed, Assault on First Responder, dismissed, Probation Violation.

Property Transfers

Robert W. and Ann Camp to Iman J. Muhammad Everton in District 22.

Morris F. Anderson to Charles Keven and Lisa G. Flippin in District 9.

Young W. Oh to Jacob and Madison Rash.

Casey Drewry to Charlotte and Therman Johnson Winberry.

Alan E. Cross to Virginia Marie Cross in District 4.

Charles Bernard Smith to Phat and Thi Kieu Lam Ngyuen in District 4.

Barbara Rayburn to Michael J. York in District 22.

Dwayne D. Maddox III to Cornealius Borntrager.

Thomas Williams to Steven Scott.

Katie E. and Chase Sanders to Alen and Maggie-Belle Strickland in District 11.

Christopher and Hollie Simpson to Nathan J. Todd in District 8.

Twin Rock Investments, LLC to Brent C. and Emily R. Laird in District 6.

Sidney F. and Matthew Chapman to Arete Tennessee Assets, LLC in District 11.

Dan W. Bradfield to Jack Redmond in District 4.

Joseph F. and Theresa M. Castro to Damien Wilbanks in District 16.

Mitchell Whitworth to Ledsinger Farms in District 10.

Rickey Odell and Peggy Jane Williquette Dunn to Melissa A. Belanger.

Adam U. Reed to Vance and Tammy Ward.

Diamond Collins to Martin L. Batte Jr and Lisa A. Batte in District 16.

Marriage Licenses

Jacob Ryan James, 25, of Huntingdon, to Caley Elaine Harris, 23, of Huntingdon.

Alexis Brooke Bland, 19, of Atwood, to Hayden Glen Hilliard, 21, of Atwood.

Maria Eduarda Santos Da Silva, 22, of McKenzie, to Gustavo Guillen Dos Santos, 19, of McKenzie.

Lori Anna Brown, 23, of McKenzie, to Anthony Christian Lee, 23, of McKenzie.

Ashley Elizabeth Pierce, 33, of McKenzie, to Irving Jazheel Chavez, 30, of McKenzie.

Michael Edward Stanford, 39, of Huntingdon, to Raena Marie Louise Palm Wallace, 38, of Huntingdon.

Mallorie Jordan Ellis, 28, of Atwood, to Ryan Douglas Wyatt, 32, of Atwood.

NOTICE

The Trezevant Water System 2024 water quality report will be published in the McKenzie Banner on May 13, 2025.

A394/18-1

McKENZIE SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The McKenzie Special School District Board of Education will accept bids for ink jet ink and technology supplies. Bids will be received until **12:00 Noon on May 19, 2025.**

Specifications are available from Dr. Dianne Anderson, McKenzie Board of Education, 114 Bell Ave., McKenzie, TN 38201: 731-352-2246 or on our website http://www.mckenzieschools.org.

The McKenzie Special School District Board of Education reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids.

PO#20250789/A460/18-1

PUBLIC HEARING

The McKenzie Housing Authority is developing its Agency Plan for 2025 in compliance with the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998. It will be available in the Housing Authority's Office located at 22 W. McDonald Avenue, McKenzie, TN. The Authority's hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. In addition, a public hearing to discuss the Agency Plan will be held on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, at 3 p.m. at the Authority's office.

A473/18-1

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

PROBATE CASE NO: 2025PE111

ESTATE OF: CLIFFORD BOYD MATLOCK, LATE OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Notice is hereby given that on the **2ND** day of **MAY, 2025** Letters Testamentary, of Administration, in respect to the Estate of **CLIFFORD BOYD MATLOCK** deceased, who died **MARCH 15TH, 2025,** were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court Clerk & Master of Carroll County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the Estate are required by law to file the same with the Clerk of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this Notice to Creditors at least sixty (60) days before date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the Notice to Creditors, if the creditor received a copy of the Notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting) as described in (1) (A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

All persons indebted to the above Estate must come forward and make proper settlement with the undersigned at once.

This 2ND day of MAY, 2025.
THIS NOTICE WILL RUN TWO CONSECUTIVE WEEKS.

FILE CLAIMS IN TRIPLICATE WITH:
KENNETH TODD - CLERK & MASTER
99 Court Square, Suite 105, Huntingdon, TN 38344

STEVEN BOYD MATLOCK, Executor/Administrator
DWAYNE D. MADDOX III, Attorney
KENNETH TODD, Clerk & Master

A561/R25542/18-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

PROBATE CASE NO: 2025PE105

ESTATE OF: IVA NELL GARRETT, LATE OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Notice is hereby given that on the **25TH** day of **APRIL, 2025** Letters Testamentary, of Administration, in respect to the Estate of **IVA NELL GARRETT** deceased, who died **MARCH 21ST, 2025,** were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court Clerk & Master of Carroll County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the Estate are required by law to file the same with the Clerk of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this Notice to Creditors at least sixty (60) days before date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the Notice to Creditors, if the creditor received a copy of the Notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting) as described in (1) (A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

All persons indebted to the above Estate must come forward and make proper settlement with the undersigned at once.

This 25TH day of APRIL, 2025.
THIS NOTICE WILL RUN TWO CONSECUTIVE WEEKS.

FILE CLAIMS IN TRIPLICATE WITH:
KENNETH TODD - CLERK & MASTER
99 Court Square, Suite 105, Huntingdon, TN 38344

JAMES COWAN, Executor/Administrator
W. COLLINS BONDS, Attorney
KENNETH TODD, Clerk & Master

A561/R255535/18-2





Top, Miss West Carroll Primary Court (L to R): Vivian Clifton, Fourth Maid; Kinnedy White, Second Maid; Everlee Kopiar, Miss West Carroll Primary; Crimson Maples, First Maid; and Kynlee Wilson, Third Maid. Above, Miss West Carroll Primary award winners (L to R): Olivia Pierce, Prettiest Eyes; Kinnedy White, Best Smile; Crimson Maples, Best Hair; and Everlee Kopiar, Flair for Fashion. Below, Little Miss West Carroll Primary Court and award winners (L to R): Kassidy Carey, Honorable Mention; Aubrey Pierce, Flare for Fashion/Third Maid; Madison Myles, Prettiest Eyes/First Maid; Paislee Totty, Best Hair/Little Miss West Carroll Primary; Landri Bass, Prettiest Smile/Second Maid; and Finleigh Grace, Fourth Maid. *Photos courtesy WCSSD*



West Carroll Primary Holds Beauty Pageant

McLEMORESVILLE (April 8) — On Tuesday evening, West Carroll Primary hosted its highly-anticipated annual PTO Beauty Pageant. The event showcased the talents and charm of sixteen delightful participants who vied for titles such as Miss West Carroll Primary, Little Miss West Carroll Primary and Mr. West Carroll Primary.

The night was a heartwarming celebration of the students and their achievements, as families, friends and community members gathered to support the children and contribute to the PTO's fundraising efforts.

Awards like "Prettiest Eyes," "Best Hair," "Flair for Fashion," "Best Smile" and the coveted titles of King and Queen were presented throughout the evening, bringing smiles to the proud participants and their supporters.

The pageant not only highlighted the children's poise and confidence but also underscored the spirit of community that defines West Carroll Primary. The participants beamed with pride in their accomplishments and cheered on their peers, embodying the true essence of camaraderie and celebration.



Mr. West Carroll Primary Court and award winners (L to R): Russell Woodall, Best Smile/First Page; Adrian Dodd, Flair for Fashion/Mr. West Carroll Primary; and Samuel Everett, Prettiest Eyes/Second Page. *Photo courtesy WCSSD*

West Carroll Primary extends its heartfelt gratitude to everyone who made the evening a success.

Special thanks go to Mr. Johnathan Wheeler for his engaging emceeing, Ms. Shelly Worrell for her meticulous direction of the event, Ash Photography for offering professional pageant photos for all contestants and the teachers and staff who generously lent their time and efforts to ensure the smooth running of the pageant.

It was truly a memorable night filled with joy, unity and a shared appreciation for the children and their accomplishments.

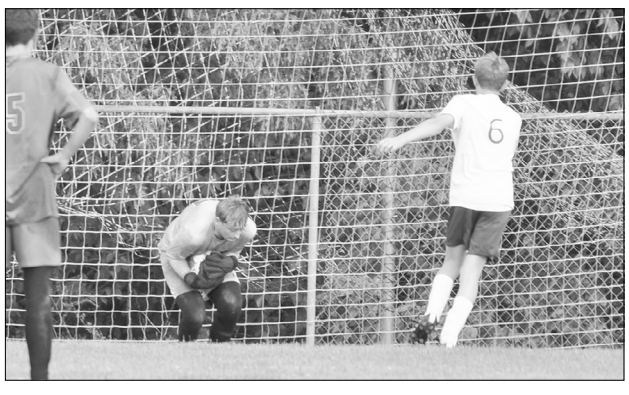
DISTRICT 12A SOCCER TOURNAMENT

Rebels Shut Out Tigers In Opener

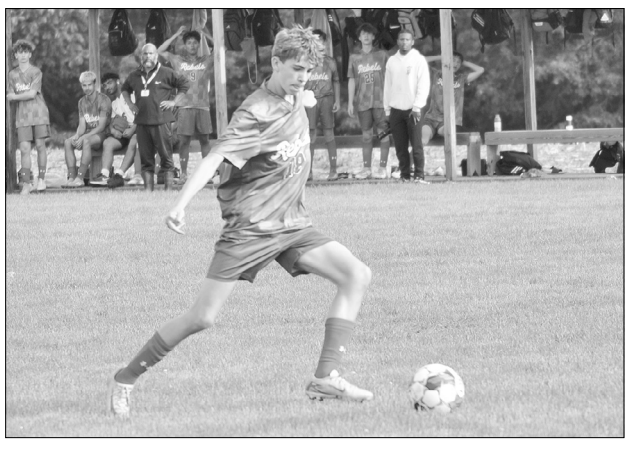
BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (May 2) — McKenzie High School hosted the Hollow Rock-Bruceton Central Tigers Friday to begin the District 12A Soccer Tournament. The Rebels took a 9-0 win to advance to the semifinals on Monday, where they faced Union City in Martin after The Banner's press deadline.

Rebel Aiden Mason scored two goals and had an assist. Skyler Fornera also scored two goals. Guillermo Hickman, Brody Davis, Eli Vinson, Jony Hernandez and Branson Baker each scored a goal. Alex Garcia had two assists.

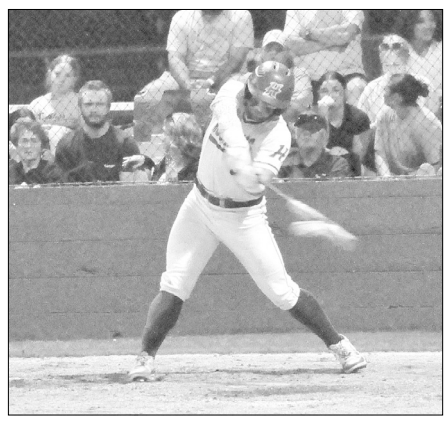


Above, Rebel goalkeeper Nate Dameron makes the stop on a Central penalty kick. Below, Rebel Branson Baker scores a long goal. *Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner*



DISTRICT 12AA BASEBALL TOURNAMENT





Left, Mustang Caleb Ezell earned the complete-game victory, allowing two runs (one earned) on four hits while striking out five and walking one in six innings. Right, Mustang Gray Eubanks rips an RBI single. *Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner*

Mustangs Cage Lions in Opening Round

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

HUNTINGDON (May 1) — Huntingdon High School hosts the District 12AA Baseball Tournament and made an opening-round statement with a 12-2 defeat of the Camden Lions Thursday.

Camden struck first with a run in the top of the first, but the Mustangs answered with three in the home half and added a pair in the second. The Lions plated their second and final run in the third, and again Huntingdon responded with three. The Mustangs added a run in the fifth, then ended the game early with three in the sixth, with the final two runs coming on a walk-off, inside-the-park home run by Gray Eubanks.

Eubanks was 2-for-3 with the home run, two walks, two RBIs and three runs scored. Silas Sharp went 2-for-2 with a walk and two RBIs. Hayes Eubanks was 2-for-4 with two RBIs. Braylin Dearmon batted 2-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored. Brady Warbritton was 1-for-3 with a walk, an RBI and two runs scored. Broox Bennett went 1-for-3 with a walk and an RBI. Braylon Rich was 0-for-1 with three walks, an RBI and a run scored. Aiden Hilliard went 0-for-2 with two walks and two runs scored.

Caleb Ezell earned the complete-game victory for Huntingdon, allowing two runs (one earned) on four hits while striking out five and walking one in six innings.

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL





Left, Lady Rebel Maggie Hall steals second base standing up. Right, Lady Rebel shortstop Jaycee Stafford makes a fearless play at second base, committing to the tag to make the out as she collides with a Milan baserunner. *Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner*

Lady Rebels Fall to Milan in Season Finale

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (May 1) — McKenzie High School softball closed the regular season Thursday with a home loss to Milan, 5-0.

Pitching and defense dominated the first three innings, but Milan finally broke through with a pair of runs in the fourth and followed up with three in the fifth.

Lady Rebel Braylin Auvenshine was 1-for-3. Maggie Hall went 0-for-1 with a walk and a stolen base, and Ady Freeman was 0-for-1 with a walk.

Aurora Johnson took the complete-game loss for McKenzie, allowing five earned runs on seven hits while striking out eight and walking one.

DISTRICT 12A BASEBALL TOURNAMENT

Rebels Top Irish in Opening Round, 7-2

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

McEWEN (April 30) — The McKenzie High School Rebels faced Houston County Wednesday in the opening round of the District 12A Baseball Tournament. A two-run home run in the first inning by Tate Surber set the tone for a 7-2 Rebel win.

McKenzie scored two runs in the first, one in the second and two each in the third and fourth. The Irish got on the board with a pair in the sixth.

Rebel Tate Surber was 2-for-3 with a home run, a walk, two RBIs, two runs scored and a stolen base. Cole Brown went 2-for-4 with two doubles and two runs scored. Fletcher Holt was 1-for-2 with a double, a walk and two RBIs. Ace Brown batted 2-for-3 with two RBIs and a run scored. KD Cunningham and Lelan Gordon were each 1-for-3. Xander Johnsey was 0-for-2 with two walks, an RBI and a run scored.

Fletcher Holt earned the win for McKenzie, allowing two earned runs on four hits while striking out six and walking none in five innings. Xander Johnsey pitched the final two frames, allowing no runs on one hit while striking out two and walking none.

Gasoline Prices Fall During Week

TENNESSEE (May 5) — Average gasoline prices in Tennessee fell 7.3 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $2.68/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 3,821 stations in Tennessee. Prices in Tennessee are 8.3 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 62.4 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has increased 0.2 cents in the last week and stands at $3.501 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Tennessee was priced at $2.32/g yesterday while the most expensive was $4.11/g, a difference of $1.79/g.

The national average price of gasoline has risen 2.0 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging $3.12/g today. The national average is down 12.0 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 49.6 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

Historical gasoline prices in Tennessee and the national average going back ten years:

May 5, 2024: $3.31/g (U.S. Average: $3.62/g)

May 5, 2023: $3.11/g (U.S. Average: $3.53/g)

May 5, 2022: $4.01/g (U.S. Average: $4.27/g)

May 5, 2021: $2.68/g (U.S. Average: $2.94/g)

May 5, 2020: $1.49/g (U.S. Average: $1.78/g)

May 5, 2019: $2.58/g (U.S. Average: $2.89/g)

May 5, 2018: $2.58/g (U.S. Average: $2.81/g)

May 5, 2017: $2.12/g (U.S. Average: $2.35/g)

May 5, 2016: $2.08/g (U.S. Average: $2.22/g)

May 5, 2015: $2.39/g (U.S. Average: $2.63/g)

"Last week was another mixed bag at the pump for many Americans, but there may be some promising short-term news from OPEC+, which has agreed to increase oil production starting in June," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "Here in the U.S., slightly more than half of the states saw gas prices rise, while many others saw modest declines. We continued to see price cycling in states prone to such movements, including much of the Great Lakes region, as well as in Maryland, Florida, and parts of Texas. However, the most notable development is OPEC+'s decision to raise production next month, as oil prices hover near their lowest levels since the pandemic. While gasoline inventories have been tightening due to ongoing refinery maintenance— which has limited how much gas prices have fallen in response to lower oil— refinery output is expected to rise soon. As maintenance wraps up, we could see an increase in gasoline supply and a national average that may soon dip below $3 per gallon."





Above Left, MHS basketball senior players, managers and cheerleaders — (L to R) Seated: Laila Scott, Baylee Barden, Reese Gallimore, Lydia Pate, Ally Gibson, Jacey Pinson and Kyla Beveridge. Standing: Tate Surber, Carter Kee, Landyn Smith, Sophie Pate, Landon Brown, Craegen Travis and KD Cunningham. Above Right, MHS basketball and cheer award winners — (L to R) Seated: Carleigh Lunn, Baylee Barden, Reese Gallimore, Lydia Pate, Sophie Pate and Brooke Murphy. Standing: Eli Vinson, Cole Brown, Tate Surber, Carter Kee, Landon Brown, Craegen Travis and Tobey Brooks. Not Pictured: Kailie Hudgins, Aurora Johnson, Kynadie Brown and Ashley Dunavant. Below Left, MHS basketball cheerleaders — (L to R) Front Row: Brooke Murphy, Laila Scott, Addi Davis, Lydia Pate, Madelynn Pewitt and Olivia Pate. Back Row: Tobey Brooks, Baylee Barden, Reese Gallimore, Aleecia Williams, Katelyn Prather and Carleigh Lunn. Below Right, The McKenzie High School Lady Rebels. *Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner*





McKenzie High School Celebrates Basketball Teams with Banquet

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (May 4) — McKenzie High School hosted its annual basketball banquet Sunday afternoon in the school cafeteria. Players, coaches, managers, cheerleaders, family and other supporters gathered to celebrate the successes and hard work of the season.

Principal Kelly Spivey welcomed everyone, and Director of Schools Dr. Justin Barden delivered a prayer before guests enjoyed a delicious meal catered by Hometown Hangout.

After dessert, cheer coach Brittany Colotta spoke. She thanked many people before recognizing the cheerleaders and presented awards.

Tobey Brooks was named the Stunting MVP. Brooke Murphy was Most Improved. Reese Gallimore was awarded Sideline MVP. Carleigh Lunn earned the Most Spirit Award. The Highest GPA was Baylee Barden. Lydia Pate was presented the Rebel Pride Award as well as the Taylor Buckley Cheer Scholarship, awarded in honor of Taylor Buckley, an MHS cheerleader who died in a car accident in 2011 at age 16.

Seniors Gallimore, Barden, Pate and Laila Scott were given keepsake shadowboxes filled with memories and memorabilia.

Lady Rebel Coach Dru Emerson then took the podium, also thanking many people for their support. He presented managers with certificates and players with plaques listing their accolades, including a few team awards.

Kailie Hudgins was named Most Improved. Aurora Johnson earned the Sixth Man Award. Kynadie Brown and Ashley Dunavant earned the title Weight Room Warrior. Sophie Pate, the lone senior, was recognized as Team Captain.

Players were recognized for their statistical contributions, district and region honors and the intangibles they brought to the team. Freshman Jaycee Stafford was a clear standout, leading the team in seven statistical categories.

Rebel Coach Justin Lowery echoed the many thanks of the other coaches.

He presented awards for statistical achievements. Cole Brown earned Most Charges Taken. Eli Vinson was presented with the Sixth Man Award. Senior Landon Brown took the Defensive Award. Senior Craegen Travis earned Most Blocks. Senior Carter Kee took awards for Best Free Throw Percentage and Most Assists. Senior Tate Surber earned honors for Best Two-Point Percentage, Best Three-Point Percentage, Most Rebounds and Most Steals. Surber was also recognized as the program's all-time leading scorer. Seniors Landyn Smith and KD Cunningham were also presented plaques.

Principal Spivey presented academic awards to Lady Rebels Addyson Littleton, Kynadie Brown, Addison Milam, Braylin Auvenshine, Jaycee Stafford, Madeline Gottshall, Ava Hastings, Gracie Aird, Sophie Pate and manager Madelyn Morris; and Rebels Tate Surber and Carter Kee and managers Kyla Beveridge and Ally Gibson.

Tim McBride presented the Barbara Boyd Memorial Scholarship to Tate Surber. Boyd was a 1959 MHS graduate, a Lady Rebel basketball player and a longtime McKenzie educator.

Members of the Rebounders Club presented gifts to coaches and seniors. Seniors presented gifts to the coaches as well.

The event concluded with guests lingering for photos and fellowship.

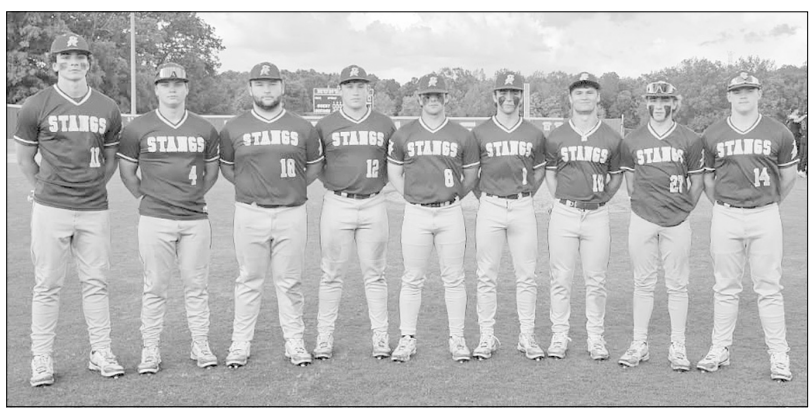




Left, The Barbara Boyd Memorial Scholarship was presented to Tate Surber. Pictured are (L to R): the late Barbara Boyd's husband Jerry, Surber, her son, Clay and presenter, Tim McBride. Right, The Taylor Buckley Cheer Scholarship was awarded to Lydia Pate (center), joined by Buckley's family members (L to R) mother, Shawna Fowler, niece, Addison Milam and sisters, Laura Beth Milam and Courtney Fowler. *Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner*

DISTRICT 12AA BASEBALL TOURNAMENT





Left, The District 12AA Baseball Champion Huntingdon Mustangs. Right, Mustangs named to the All-District or All-Tournament teams (L to R): Braylin Dearmon, Broox Bennett, Braylon Rich, Silas Sharp, Gray Eubanks, Hayes Eubanks, Brady Warbritton, Caleb Ezell and Easton Byars. *Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner*

Mustangs Claim Title with Big Wins Over Stewart County

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

HUNTINGDON (May 2-3) — The Huntingdon Mustangs are the District 12AA Baseball champions following a pair of lopsided wins over Stewart County on Friday and Saturday.

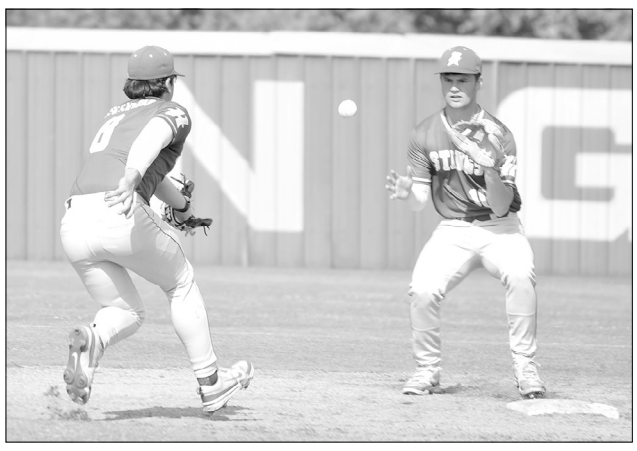
In Friday's semifinal, the Mustangs topped the Rebels 10-0 in five innings. On Saturday, Stewart County topped Waverly in the lower bracket to reach the championship game, but the Mustangs won the rematch 11-1, again in five innings.

Following the game, the All-District and All-Tournament teams were named.

Mustangs Brady Warbritton, Braylon Rich, Easton Byars, Caleb Ezell and Silas Sharp were named to the All-District 12AA team, and Gray Eubanks was named Player of the Year.

Mustangs Hayes Eubanks, Broox Bennett, Silas Sharp, Easton Byars and Braylin Dearmon were named to the All-Tournament team.





Left, Mustang Easton Byars earned the complete-game shutout in Friday's semifinal, allowing four hits while striking out seven and walking one in five innings. Right, Mustang shortstop Gray Eubanks flips to second baseman Brady Warbritton for the out in Saturday's championship win. *Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner*

Semifinal:
Huntingdon Mustangs 10, Stewart County Rebels 0

Huntingdon got on the board with four runs in the second inning, then added two each in the third, fourth and fifth frames.

Mustang Hayes Eubanks was 3-for-3 with a triple, two doubles, two RBIs, three runs scored and a stolen base. Braylon Rich was 2-for-3 with a walk and three RBIs. Broox Bennett went 1-for-2 with a triple, a walk and two runs scored. Easton Byars was 1-for-2 with an RBI. Caleb Ezell went 1-for-3 with an RBI and a run scored. Brady Warbritton was 0-for-2 with two walks and two runs scored. Gray Eubanks went 0-for-2 with a walk and an RBI. Braylin Dearmon was 0-for-1 with a walk, a run scored and a stolen base.

Easton Byars earned the complete-game shutout for Huntingdon, allowing four hits while striking out seven and walking one in five innings.

Championship:
Mustangs 11, Rebels 1

Huntingdon struck first with two runs in the bottom of the first, added one in the third and pulled away with six in the fourth. Stewart County got on the board with a run in the top of the fifth, but the Mustangs plated two in the home half to end the game.

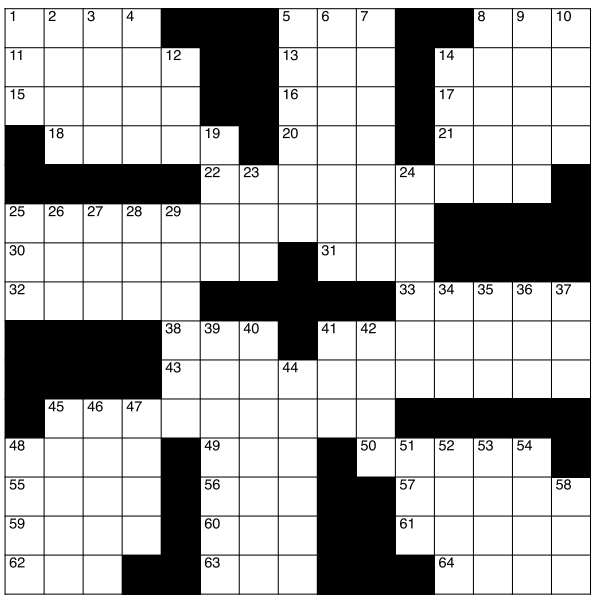
Mustang Braylon Rich was 3-for-4 with a triple, two doubles, two RBIs and two runs scored. Hayes Eubanks went 2-for-3 with two RBIs, a run scored and a stolen base. Silas Sharp was 2-for-4 with three RBIs and a run scored. Broox Bennett went 1-for-2 with a double, a walk and a run scored. Brady Warbritton was 1-for-3 with a double, a walk, two runs scored and two stolen bases. Braylin Dearmon went 1-for-3 with a double and two RBIs. Caleb Ezell was 1-for-3 with a run scored. Easton Byars went 0-for-0 with three walks, a run scored and a stolen base. Gray Eubanks was 0-for-3 with a walk and a run scored.

Aiden Hilliard got the start and the win for Huntingdon, allowing no runs on three hits while striking out four and walking three in three and a third innings. Gray Eubanks threw the final inning and two-thirds, allowing one unearned run on two hits while striking out three and walking one.

Color A Masterpiece



Weekly Crossword



CLUES ACROSS

1. Herring-like fish
5. Perform on stage
8. Soda
11. Small growth
13. In support of
14. Step taken when walking
15. Hollyhocks
16. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
17. Feel pain
18. San Diego ballplayer
20. Inches per minute (abbr.)
21. Fat from a pig's abdomen
22. Create again
25. Honors once more
30. Thin coating of gold
31. Welsh river
32. Japanese novelist Mizumura
33. Husks of corn
38. Green vegetable
41. Showing guilt
43. Soldier
45. Photographers
48. Language spoken in Nigeria
49. Mimic
50. Expressed pleasure
55. Ancient Greek sophist
56. Beverage container
57. Night monkey genus
59. Lace bugs
60. Hogshead (abbr.)
61. Frameworks
62. Keyboard key
63. Greek goddess of the dawn
64. Influential Korean independence figure

CLUES DOWN

1. A place to unwind
2. Helped (archaic)
3. Razorbill genus
4. Bleached
5. Continent
6. Fruit preserved in syrup
7. Impediment to one's freedom
8. Nocturnal rodents
9. Earthy pigment
10. Relieved oneself
12. Golf score
14. Tech hub __ Alto
19. Sportscaster Andrews
23. Records electric currents
24. Popular Hitchcock film
25. Revolutions per minute
26. NY Giants legend
27. Sports radio host Patrick
28. When you hope to get somewhere
29. French seaport
34. Thai river
35. Rocker's accessory
36. Extra charge
37. Influential American president
39. Pain in the head
40. Great Plains people
41. Consumed
42. Soluble ribonucleic acid
44. Improves
45. Secret clique
46. Behind the stern of a ship
47. Dough made from corn flour
48. Fallow deer
51. Swiss river
52. Grayish white
53. Engrave
54. College's Blue Devils
58. Midway between south and southeast

Week 18

See solution in next week's edition.

Safe Build Word Search

N	B	G	H	S	M	D	D	L	F	U	O	B	S	N	M	U	L	O	C
F	E	L	E	C	T	R	I	C	I	A	N	L	S	S	N	A	L	P	Y
K	G	R	O	U	N	D	W	I	R	E	C	W	E	Y	J	G	M	E	I
I	M	E	W	B	L	E	N	A	P	W	T	S	I	O	J	C	A	J	E
G	S	I	D	F	C	F	B	R	S	I	D	W	B	W	A	C	E	D	O
W	R	N	E	E	G	N	I	O	D	G	M	N	C	K	I	N	B	T	C
P	C	O	T	D	T	Y	K	B	N	Y	O	C	S	R	O	W	R	U	G
J	D	I	A	A	I	R	D	E	T	R	W	N	C	I	T	E	R	T	N
L	M	T	R	R	N	O	R	P	A	D	E	U	T	W	J	M	I	J	I
U	C	A	E	G	C	L	L	E	L	G	I	A	T	S	N	U	O	A	M
K	N	D	R	L	H	J	T	L	N	T	L	C	I	W	D	I	M	Y	A
Y	U	N	I	L	J	E	J	I	B	U	E	N	J	N	F	M	H	N	R
S	P	U	F	D	R	D	K	R	S	N	D	H	O	T	N	P	A	G	F
E	K	O	M	C	T	L	E	N	N	U	S	C	R	K	P	A	L	N	J
S	N	F	N	M	U	A	I	O	C	B	O	A	R	D	O	L	A	H	E
S	N	O	H	A	K	D	C	T	D	B	W	J	J	I	J	S	O	T	C
U	C	H	C	E	T	S	S	F	J	E	C	U	C	R	O	H	C	N	A
R	Y	R	R	S	I	C	Y	H	R	I	D	R	Y	W	A	L	L	U	B
T	L	J	C	D	K	M	A	Y	A	J	G	K	E	F	N	W	D	K	B
W	A	O	S	G	N	I	H	S	A	L	F	W	M	I	J	T	G	N	O

Anchor
Apron
Beam
Board
Caulking
Circuit Breaker
Column
Concrete
Conduit
Disconnect
Drywall
Ducts
Electrician
Fire Rated
Flashing
Foundation
Framing
Grade
Ground Wire
Insulation
Joist
Panel
Plans
Trusses

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

MAY **8**

1639: William Coddington founds Newport, Rhode Island.

1927: Charles Nungesser and Francois Coli disappear after attempting to make the first non-stop transatlantic flight from Paris to New York.

SUDOKU

WEEK 18

3		8					7	
				6	9	3		5
		1						
7							6	9
		6		3				2
		9						
8								
			1		7	4		
4	7			2	6			

Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

See solution in next week's edition.

CRYPTO FUN

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Solve the code to discover words related to building safety.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 5 = E)

A. **18 23 7 17 5 4 16**
Clue: Assess condition

B. **17 5 19 10 18 16**
Clue: Document that gives authorization

C. **4 11 26 5 7**
Clue: Regulations that govern building

D. **17 19 11 16 5 4 16 18 11 23**
Clue: Act of keeping something safe

Answers: A. inspect B. permit C. codes D. protection

LETTER MIX-UP

How many words can you make by rearranging the letters in the phrase below? Use each letter only once.

INSPECTION

1. _____ 11. _____
2. _____ 12. _____
3. _____ 13. _____
4. _____ 14. _____
5. _____ 15. _____
6. _____ 16. _____
7. _____ 17. _____
8. _____ 18. _____
9. _____ 19. _____
10. _____ 20. _____

Riddle Me This

Where do horses live?

Answer: In a NEIGHborhood.

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to this week's theme.

PERRIA

Answer: Repair

GUESS WHO?

I am an actor born in Kentucky on May 6, 1961. In my teens, I tried out for the Cincinnati Reds but didn't make it past the first round of cuts. I've played a pediatrician, Batman, a gangster, and a ship captain in my career. A newer role has been Dad to twins.

Answer: George Clooney

A154/32-TF

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PUZZLE SOLUTION

Week 17 Crossword Puzzle Solution

C	O	H	N	■	M	A	H	A	N	■	H	A	R	D
A	L	A	I	■	C	R	E	D	O	■	O	B	E	Y
S	L	I	P	■	F	A	M	E	D	■	R	I	D	E
H	A	G	A	R	■	B	I	N	■	H	A	B	E	R
■	■	■	S	I	L	I	C	O	S	I	S	■	■	■
A	D	C	■	S	A	C	■	M	A	D	■	H	A	W
P	A	R	S	E	C	■	H	A	G	■	F	A	D	E
A	R	E	A	S	■	H	A	S	■	H	A	N	D	S
R	E	A	D	■	C	O	N	■	H	O	A	G	I	E
T	S	K	■	R	A	M	■	R	H	O	■	S	S	R
■	■	■	S	E	R	E	N	A	D	E	S	■	■	■
H	A	B	I	T	■	M	A	C	■	Y	A	C	C	A
A	R	A	B	■	R	A	M	E	T	■	B	L	E	W
N	E	R	I	■	E	D	E	M	A	■	E	A	R	N
D	A	N	U	■	C	E	R	E	D	■	R	Y	E	S

SUDOKU SOLUTION WEEK 17

3	5	9	6	7	8	2	1	4
6	7	4	1	9	2	3	5	8
2	8	1	4	3	5	9	7	6
1	9	7	2	4	6	8	3	5
4	3	6	5	8	9	7	2	1
5	2	8	3	1	7	4	6	9
9	1	2	7	6	4	5	8	3
8	6	5	9	2	3	1	4	7
7	4	3	8	5	1	6	9	2

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HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL



Above, Lady Rebel seniors (L to R): Ady Freeman with mother Angie Freeman and Aubrey Jackson with parents Brady and Heather Jackson. Below Left, Lady Rebel senior center fielder Aubrey Jackson makes a running catch. Below Right, Lady Rebel senior right fielder Ady Freeman fires to the infield. *Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner*





Lady Rebels Fall to Waverly on Senior Night

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (April 29) — McKenzie High School softball hosted Waverly Tuesday and celebrated Senior Night. The Lady Tigers scored in each inning for a 13-0 win.

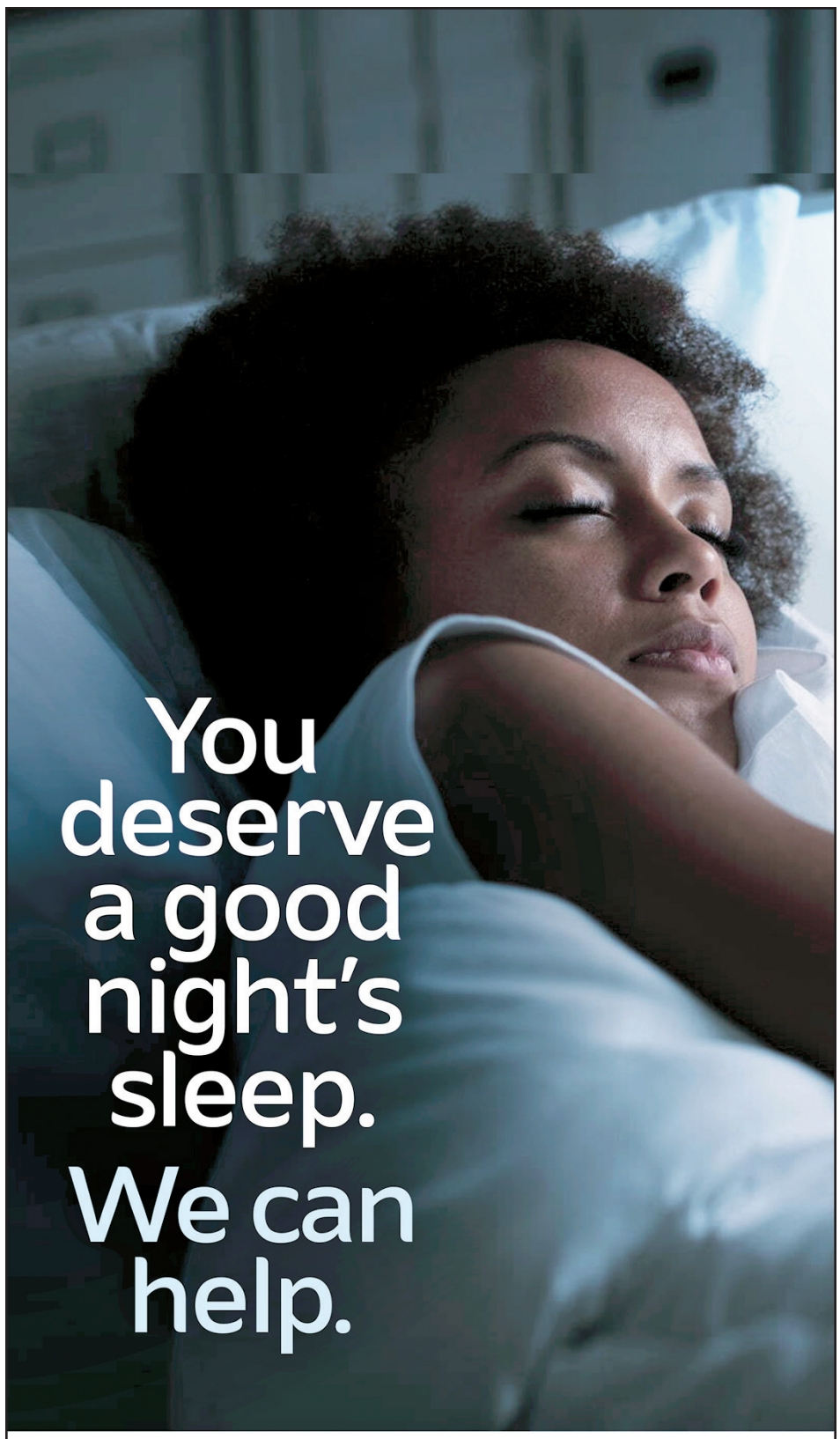
Prior to the game, two Lady Rebel seniors were honored on the field, joined by parents. Ady Freeman was escorted by her mother Angie Freeman, and Aubrey Jackson was escorted by her parents Heather and Brady Jackson.

Waverly seniors Allison Glatt, Salem Odell and Ragan Stewart were also recognized and presented a gift by Freeman and Jackson.

The Lady Tigers scored three runs in the first, two in the second, five in the third, two in the fourth and one in the fifth for the shutout.

Lady Rebel Aurora Johnson was 2-for-2. Aubrey Jackson and Braylin Auvenshine were each 1-for-2.

Johnson got the start for McKenzie, allowing 12 runs (eight earned) on ten hits while striking out three and walking two in four innings. Auvenshine pitched the final frame, allowing one unearned run on no hits or walks while striking out one.



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HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS



Above, MHS tennis celebrated Senior Day Monday. Pictured are (L to R): Alex Garcia (a junior international exchange student who will not be returning next year), seniors Caleb Burke and Kyla Beveridge and Coach Dru Emerson. Below Left, Senior Rebel Caleb Burke lobs a low bouncer. Below Right, Senior Lady Rebel Kyla Beveridge stretches to make the return. *Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner*





Rebels, Lady Rebels Split on Senior Day

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (April 28) — McKenzie High School tennis hosted Greenfield Monday and celebrated Senior Day. The Rebels earned a 1-0 win while the Lady Rebels were defeated 6-1.

Prior to the match, Coach Dru Emerson recognized seniors Caleb Burke and Kyla Beveridge, along with Alex Garcia, a junior international exchange student who will not be returning next year.

Burke earned the boys' 1-0 win with an 8-2 victory over Greenfield's lone player, Deegan Arant.

Lady Rebel Morgan Little picked up a 10-8 win over Addisyn Totty in singles play, while several other matchups were close. Ava Hastings fell 9-7 to Caroline Warren. Willow Arnold also fell 9-7 in a lengthy game with Ava Spikes featuring multiple tiebreakers. Kyla Beveridge was defeated 8-4 by Addisen Cooper, and Ashley Dunavant fell 8-3 to Avery High.

In doubles play, Beveridge and Arnold took a narrow defeat, 10-8, to Cooper and Spikes. Hastings and Dunavant lost 8-1 to High and Warren.

DISTRICT 12A BASEBALL TOURNAMENT

Rebels Top Tigers in Semifinal, 11-1

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

McEWEN (May 2) — The McKenzie High School Rebels traveled Friday to face the Hollow Rock-Bruceton Central Tigers in the semifinal round of the District 12A Baseball Tournament. A fourth-inning grand slam by Fletcher Holt helped secure an 11-1 win by the Rebels.

Holt was 1-for-3 with a grand slam. Cole Brown went 1-for-2 with a triple, a walk, two RBIs and two runs scored. Tate Surber was 1-for-2 with a double, two RBIs, two runs scored and a stolen base. KD Cunningham went 1-for-2 with a double, an RBI and a run scored. Craegen Travis was 1-for-3 with an RBI and a run scored. Xander Johnsey went 0-for-1 with two walks, an RBI and two runs scored. Lelan Gordon was 0-for-2 with a walk, a run scored and a stolen base.

Craegen Travis earned the complete-game win for McKenzie, allowing one unearned run on two hits while striking out seven and walking none in five innings.



Rebel Fletcher Holt hit a grand slam in McKenzie's semifinal win over Central. *File photo*



County Chamber Hosts 10th Annual Day of Prayer

McKENZIE (May 1) — The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce held its 10th annual National Day of Prayer event at the Sgt. Lee Russell Carroll County Airport on Thursday, May 1.

Local leaders in business, government, education, and religion presented prayers for the nation, state, and specifically for the people, churches, and institutions in Carroll County.

Chamber President Brad Hurley welcomed everyone to the annual event inside the main hangar at the airport. Seated in front of the THP's helicopter and Tosh Farms' Citation jet, community members spent approximately one hour asking God for His blessings.

Missle Culp provided soft musical accompaniment on the keyboard during the individual prayers.

Brent Bullock offered the National Day of Prayer traditional prayer; Mayor Joseph Butler offer a Prayer for the Carroll County Citizens; Natalie Porter offered the Prayer for State Leaders; Brad Hurley offered the Prayer for Graduates; Melissa Powell offered the Prayer for Healthcare Providers; Michael Dennison offer the Prayer for Gold Star Families; Mike Cary offered a Prayer for Senior Adults; Garrett Burns offered the Prayer for God's Word; John Wright offered Billy Graham's Prayer for the Nation; Ryan Griffin offered the Prayer for Carroll County Churches; Andy Rice offered the Prayer for the Military; Wilma Pearson offered the Prayer for Local Leaders; Lynn Watkins offered the Prayer for Carroll County K-12 Schools; Scott Carter offered the Prayer for Families Who Have Lost Loved Ones; Brian Winston offered the Prayer for the Business Community; Rick Crossno offered the Prayer for First Responders; Hal Eason offered the Prayer for Farmers; Anne Hames offered the Prayer for Bethel University; Kenny Herndon offered the Prayer for Federal and World Leaders; Michael Butler offered the Prayer for Utility Workers; Col. James Harding offered the Prayer for Veterans; Ike Gilbert offered the Prayer for the Needy; Chad Edwards offered the Prayer for Families; Joe Smothers offered President Washington's Prayer for our Nation; and Ryan Drewry offered the Lord's Prayer.

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