



# McKenzie Bands Present Spring Concert

**BY BRAD SAM**  
*brad@mckenziebanner.com*

McKENZIE (May 13) — The McKenzie Band Program presented its spring concert Tuesday in the McKenzie High School gymnasium.

The concert featured performances by the McKenzie Middle School Sixth Grade Beginning Band, the MMS Seventh/Eighth Grade Intermediate Band and the MHS Concert Band and Color Guard.

The eclectic program of musical pieces was conducted by Director of Bands Daniel Capua.

The Beginning Band performed “When the Saints Go Marching In” and “Sky-splitter Fanfare”.

The Intermediate Band performed “Darklands March”, “Resilience” and



The McKenzie Middle and High School bands with Director Daniel Capua. Photo courtesy Jill Barton

“Scorpion”.

The MHS Concert Band and Color Guard performed “Into the Clouds”, “Benediction”, “Capstone March”,

“Skyfall”, “The Magnificent Seven” and “Great Movie Adventures”. The color guard performed a routine to “Constellation”.

The Beginning Band in-

cludes: Brooklyn Andrews, Alice Gallimore, Brooke Harris, Callie Sevic, Malcolm Evans, Allie Ochoa, Kiya Priddy, Genevieve Phipps, Gavin Scott, Anna-

belle Bobb, Miranda Hood, Xander Morgan, Evelyn Villanueva, Fenix Walker, Aidan Blackwell, Daniel Carroll, Case Holcomb, Cecil Lessenberry, Jason Crocker,

Eli Davis, Syerra Horton, Thomas Howard and Leonardo Ochoa.

The Intermediate Band includes: Nevaeh Herries, Caitlin Umstead, Katelyn Martin, Finn Evans, Lily Baker, Jazmin Johnson, Sebastian Sass, Charles Scott, Riley Crafton, Hayli McSwain, Brycen Galicia, Meghan Cowan, Johnathan Jenkins and Billy Tabor.

The MHS Concert Band includes: Kaylee Dalzell, Rachel Essary, Janyla Piro, Ethan High, Athena Chaput, Lola Barton, Miley Pruitt, Ramon Vazquez, Dylan Bomar, Ozzy Lessenberry, Nathan Lease, Caleb Burns and Connor Summers.

The MHS Color Guard includes: Sadie Goff, Caylee McClerkin, Kaelyn Stebbins, Jordyn Leslie, Jaylee Montgomery, Savannah Lewis and Danie Parker.

## Mustang Gray Eubanks is Mr. Baseball Finalist

Huntingdon High School standout Gray Eubanks is a finalist for Class 2A Mr. Baseball.

The senior multi-position player has helped lead the Mustangs to a state tournament appearance.

Other finalists in Class 2A are Cooper Spaulding of Westview and Tyler Oaks of McMinn Central.

The winner will be announced Tuesday, May 20 at 11 a.m. in a ceremony at the Family Worship Center in Murfreesboro.



Mr. Baseball Finalist Gray Eubanks. File photo

## County Defines Accessory Structure with Lake Zoning

HUNTINGDON (May 12) — The Carroll County Commission met on Monday at 7 p.m. On the agenda are three resolutions. Resolution 5-01-2025 – Amending the text of the Carroll County Lake Zoning Resolution to revise the definition of “Accessory Structure.” The revision reads, “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.” The motion passed unanimously.

Just the opposite happened with Resolution 5-02-2025. In a sign of solidarity and protest against TDOT’s delay in allowing the McKenzie Industrial Board to place their signs at the county airport entrance and the entrance at Rochelle Road, the Commissioner voted unanimously against the resolution. The “no vote” was led by Commissioner Darrell Ridgely who said

he doubted the vote would draw much attention from TDOT but wanted to possibly send a message to them if possible.

The resolution was drafted to authorize 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.

County officials are not sure if this will delay the project.

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

The Commission heard an update from LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee) Chairman Dan Willman. A major focus from the April 23 meeting was based on making improvements from recent floods. Points of improvement were more road

signs to alert that roads are closed; working more with TDOT on road closures and re-routing; communication; LEPC talking to the Commission about TACAN; and possibly communicating with local road construction companies to assist with impassable roads (barricades, road signs, etc.).

It was noted that the Hospital had no issues during the recent storm this was in part due to the fact EMS was able to re-route to avoid impassable roads. Another point discussed was a proposed mock disaster to prepare for future disasters.

The committee discussed the recent revision of the by-laws and voted upon the approval of the latest version, which the committee approved. Granges will be put on an OSHA 10 training course for those who are interested free of charge. The next meeting will be held on July 23, 2025, the location has not yet been determined.

The following were elected notaries: Treva Avery, Stacey Cole, Rachel Foster, Raini Goodrich, Keandrea Harris, Cynthia Johnson-Harrington, Cheryl Oblesby-Townes, Jennifer Pinson, Sherry Seavers, Jillian Stafford, Tanya Leigh Taylor, Terry Warren, Mark Warren, Andrew Dylan Wheatley, and Tanya Wilson.

This outage is due to a technology upgrade to NWS Nashville’s Advanced Weather Interactive Processing System, or AWIPS. NWS uses the computer system to display and integrate life-saving weather and water information to the public.

During this weather radio downtime, forecast operations will be conducted by the service back-up offices in NWS Knoxville/Morristown. Weather alerts and warnings will still be issued by the NWS.

## National EMS Week is May 18-24

This week, May 18-24, is National EMS Week.

According to the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT), the week is a time to show our gratitude toward EMTs and paramedics who provide lifesaving care across the nation every day.

EMS Week is also a time to educate the public about EMS, and the essential service it provides to communities.

This year’s theme is “We Care. For Everyone.” NAEMT partners with the American College of Emer-

gency Physicians (ACEP) on EMS Week to encourage the nationwide recognition of EMS Week and contributions of EMS professionals.

Community organizations, schools and individuals can show appreciation for paramedics and EMTs by writing thank you notes or dropping off food items. Reach out to your local EMS agency and ask what they would most appreciate, and when is a good time to drop off items and potentially meet a few crew members.

Each day of EMS Week focuses on a specific as-

pect of emergency medical services:

Sunday, May 18: Health, Wellness, and Resilience Day

Monday, May 19: EMS Education Day

Tuesday, May 20: EMS Safety Day

Wednesday, May 21: EMS for Children Day

Thursday, May 22: Save-A-Life Day (Community Blood Drive, CPR & National Stop the Bleed Day)

Friday, May 23: EMS Recognition Day

Saturday, May 24: EMS Remembrance Day

Mama T's

WHAT'S COOKIN'

E: [recipes@mckenziebanner.com](mailto:recipes@mckenziebanner.com)

By Teresa Washburn



Call 731.352.3323

### Crunchy Baked Chicken

1/4 pound (1 stick) butter, melted  
2 tablespoons mayonnaise  
2 tablespoons marinade for chicken

1 (6 oz.) can French-fried onions, crushed  
6 boneless, skinless chicken breasts halves  
Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Combine butter, mayonnaise and marinade for chicken in shallow bowl. In separate shallow bowl, place crushed onions.

Dry chicken breasts with paper towels, dip first into butter mixture and dredge each chicken breast in crushed onions. Place in large baking pan and arrange so pieces do not touch. Bake for 30 minutes or until chicken is cooked through. Serves 6

### Chicken A La Orange

1 (11 oz.) can mandarin oranges, drained  
1 (6 oz.) can frozen orange juice concentrate  
1 tablespoon lemon juice  
1 tablespoon cornstarch  
6 boneless, skinless

chicken breast halves  
2 tablespoons garlic-and-herb seasoning  
2 tablespoons butter  
Rice, cooked  
Combine oranges, orange juice concentrate, lemon juice, 2/3 cup water and cornstarch in saucepan. Stir constantly over medium heat until mixture thickens. Set aside.

Sprinkle chicken breasts with herb seasoning and place in skillet with butter. Cook about 7 minutes on each side until brown.

Lower heat and spoon orange juice mixture over chicken, cover and simmer about 20 minutes. Add a little water if sauce gets too thick. Serve over hot, cooked rice.

### Curry-Glazed Chicken

3 tablespoons butter  
1/3 cup honey  
2 tablespoons Dijon-style mustard  
1 1/2 teaspoons curry powder  
4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts halves  
Rice, cooked.  
Preheat oven to 375 de-

### Fruited Chicken

6 boneless, skinless chicken breasts halves  
1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, melted  
2/3 cup flour  
Paprika

1 (15 oz.) can chunky fruit cocktail with juice  
Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Dip chicken in butter and flour. Place in sprayed 9x13 inch shallow baking dish. Sprinkle with a little salt, pepper and paprika. Bake for 45 minutes.

Pour fruit and half juice over chicken. Bake for additional 20 minutes. Serves 6

### Chicken and Orzo Supper

1 (5 oz.) box chicken flavored orzo  
1 (7 oz.) package prepared cooked chicken strips  
1 (10 oz) frozen corn  
1 (10 oz.) can cut green beans, drained  
1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil

1 teaspoon minced garlic  
Cook orzo according to package directions. Add chicken strips, corn, green beans, olive oil, garlic, 1/4 cup water and a little salt and pepper and mix well.

Cook on low heat, stirring several times, until mixture is hot, about 10 to 15 minutes. Serves 4.

## Drug

...From Front Page

(Methamphetamine), and one count Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Bond: \$6,000.

Tara Neal (DOB 01/05/1989), Hollow Rock. One count Sale and Delivery of Schedule II (Methamphetamine). Bond: \$75,000.

Tosha Marie Simmons (DOB 06/13/1982), McKenzie. One count Sale and Delivery of Schedule II (Methamphetamine). Bond: \$50,000.

Cornelius Montes Orgain (DOB 01/29/1978), McKenzie. One count Sale and Delivery of Schedule II (Meth-

amphetamine), one count Possession of a Firearm by Convicted Felon, one count Possession of Schedule VI (marijuana) and one count Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Bond: \$50,000.

Jacob Saulters (DOB 05/14/1990), Walnut. One count Sale and Delivery of Schedule II (Methamphetamine). Bond: \$50,000.

James Horton (DOB 10/29/1986), McKenzie. One count Sale and Delivery of Schedule II (Methamphetamine). No Bond.

Joseph Dominique Johnson (DOB 12/07/1992), Huntingdon. One count Sale and Delivery of Schedule II (Methamphetamine). Bond: \$50,000.

Michael Antonio Gilbert

(DOB 05/02/1983), Waverly. One count Sale and Delivery of Schedule II (Methamphetamine). No Bond.

Michael Leon Hones II (DOB 09/10/1978), Hollow Rock. One count Sale and Delivery of Schedule II (Methamphetamine). No Bond.

Priest Weathers (DOB 01/13/1964), Huntingdon. One count Sale and Delivery of Schedule II (Methamphetamine). Bond: \$50,000.

William Cody Schenk (DOB 03/24/1974), Huntingdon. Two counts Simple Possession of Schedule VI (marijuana) and two counts Drug Paraphernalia. Bond: \$3,500.

The investigation remains active and ongoing.

## Nashville Area Weather Radio Service Down May 19-21

According to the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA), all NOAA Weather Radio Transmitters serviced by U.S. National Weather Service Nashville will be down Monday, May 19 through Wednesday evening, May 21. This includes transmitters in Clarksville, Waverly, Nashville, Centerville, Lobelville, Clifton, Lawrence-

burg, Hickman, LaFayette, Cookeville and Spencer.

TEMA encourages citizens to have multiple ways to receive weather alerts and updates, especially with the potential for strong to severe storms during this period. Options include emergency alerts, weather apps, social media, local TV and radio and trusted online sources.

## Trezevant Discusses Tiny Houses, Water Issues

TREZEVANT (May 13) — Tiny houses and water issues were key topics during the May 13 meeting of the Trezevant Mayor and Council.

Currently, the city has no ordinances regulating tiny houses. Donny Buntin from the Northwest Tennessee Development District addressed this issue with the Mayor and Council. Buntin serves as the contracted municipal planner for 12 communities in Northwest Tennessee. Trezevant does not have a planning contract with Northwest or any other service. Buntin offered to assist the town's Planning Commission in drafting an ordinance to present to the full Council.

Several cities have implemented restrictions on tiny houses and small living structures. These restrictions often include minimum living space requirements, minimum land parcel sizes, general aesthetic considerations, the need for a permanent foundation, and specifications on which residential areas, such as high-density zones, can host them. Trezevant has two zoning classifications: R-1 (low density) and R-2 (high density).

Buntin noted that the trend of tiny houses began in 2017 in this region, prompting many municipalities to adopt regulations.

Mayor Bobby Blaylock encouraged David Bryant from the Planning Commission to collaborate with Buntin to draft a proposed ordinance to limit the placement of tiny houses.

Sanitation rates in the city are set to increase, with monthly fees rising from \$14 to \$16. The first reading of the budget for the 2025-26 fiscal year was also approved, detailing \$375,000 in revenues against \$482,624 in expenses, resulting in a deficit of \$106,724 in the

General Fund. The Water Fund estimates \$361,900 in revenues and \$329,976 in expenses, leaving a net profit of \$31,924.

A representative from 'textmygov' presented a computer app enabling the city to send mass text alerts to residents. This service is already utilized by the City of Trenton, Savannah, and other municipalities. The cost for the first year is \$2,000, followed by \$1,500 for each of the next two years under a three-year contract. Suggested uses for the service include alerts about holiday closures, water service outages, and water billing dates. However, Mayor Blaylock expressed his disapproval, stating, "I'm not for it," and the Council opted not to pursue its implementation.

From the audience, Rita Galloway raised concerns about the quality of water provided by the department, claiming that the aging water system allows sediments to enter the water supply. She and her husband have found the water undrinkable. Galloway criticized the condition of the water treatment plant for not adequately treating the water, which leads to sediment accumulation in the elevated water tank, affecting households throughout Trezevant. She accused city officials of neglecting their duty to represent the people and claimed the city fathers said the city could not afford necessary improvements to the water system. Galloway urged the city to hire a certified water plant operator and emphasized the need for more police officers to patrol the area.

Water Superintendent Erik Grimes was absent, so Mary Jo Hall provided an update on the water and sewer situation. She stated that the city has both short- and long-term plans



Rita Galloway complains about the quality of water in Trezevant.

to address the infrastructure needs, with engineers set to evaluate requirements. Hall mentioned that the city recently achieved a 100 percent rating for water sanitation. Upgrades are necessary for both the water and wastewater systems, including one of two water wells that is currently pumping sand, said Hall.

Mayor Blaylock noted that the city's aging iron water pipes often lead to discoloration. Vice-Mayor Pam Joyner mentioned that a consultant has presented to the city concerning the condition of the water systems, and the town is developing an action plan.

Councilman Don Barger thanked citizens for their input regarding water and police department issues, noting that a plan for the water department is in development. Regarding police staffing, he indicated that Chief Mike Mulligan currently patrols periodically and the city is actively advertising for officers. He acknowledged that other departments, such as in Jackson, are also struggling to fill vacancies.

One female attendee expressed frustration, saying that although she is repeatedly informed that "everything is going to get better," she continues to witness 'crackheads' in the community.

## Odom

...From Front Page

Mrs. Shook-Livingston was found off of Copper Springs Road in Springville, Tenn. The Henry County Sheriff's Office thanks all the public's help with providing leads to solving this case.

Sheriff Josh Frey

## Kelley

...From Front Page

service project.

Students presented for approval their idea for the trail to the Mayor and Town Council at Kelley Sports Complex. Governor's Early Literacy Foundation, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, Carroll County Library and Friends of Carroll County Library, Carroll County Inclusion Park, and Huntingdon Special School District helped sponsor the project allowing the students' vision to come to fruition.

## Countians Receive Property Reappraisal Notices

This week property owners throughout Carroll County will be receiving, if not already received, property reappraisal notices. Many owners may be alarmed at the rate of increase on the appraisal value.

The following statement was issued by Carroll County Mayor Joseph Butler on the matter:

**Understanding the 5-Year Property Reappraisal Process in Carroll County**

With appraisal notices going out this week, as your County Mayor, I want to ensure that there's an understanding of how the 5-year property reappraisal process works and what it means for your property taxes.

**What Is a Property Reappraisal?**

Tennessee law requires property to be on the tax roll at current market value. Every five years, Carroll County conducts a reappraisal of all real property to adhere to State law. This process is not a tax increase, but rather a reset of property values to reflect current market conditions.

The last reappraisal occurred during a different economic environment, as we know our community has seen substantial growth and our economy has changed a great deal

over the last 5 years. The new values simply aim to reflect what your property is worth today.

**Why Do We Reappraise Every Five Years?**

The real estate market changes over time. Some areas grow in value due to new development or other improvements, while others may stay the same or even decrease. Reappraisals help make sure that the property tax burden is distributed fairly based on current property values.

**How It Affects Your Property Taxes**

Here's the key point - a change in your property's appraised value does not automatically mean your taxes will go up. It's helpful to differentiate between the taxes you pay and the tax rate set by the County.

**Here's Why:**

- \* After the new appraisals are completed, the County is required by law to adjust the property tax rate downward so that the County brings in no more total revenue than before the reappraisal (excluding new construction or improvements). This is called the "certified tax rate." 5 years ago in this process, we adjusted the tax rate downward.
- \* If your property value went up more than average, your taxes might go up.
- \* If your value stayed

about average, your taxes might stay the same.

- \* If your value went up less than average or decreased, your taxes might go down.

**Example**

If the average property in the County increased in value by 20%, and your home increased by 20% as well, your tax bill would likely remain about the same after the rate adjustment.

But if your property increased by 40%, your taxes might go up — even with the lower tax rate — because your property gained more value than most others.

**Transparency and Your Right to Appeal**

Once you receive your new appraisal notice, you will have the opportunity to review and, if needed, appeal the value if you believe it doesn't accurately reflect your property's market value. If you need information or have questions on this process, contact the Property Assessor's Office at (731) 986-1975.

**Final Thought**

As someone who believes in limited government, fiscal conservatism, and low taxes, I believe the reappraisal process is intended to keep the tax system fair. It doesn't increase the County's revenue, but helps ensure everyone pays their fair share based on what their property is worth today.

## Milam

...From Front Page

who truly loves his community of Henry, Tennessee. He has deep roots in this small town and has built a wonderful life there with his family. But William's impact goes far beyond Henry's borders.

Mr. Milam joined the Military in 1984 and served for 21 years before his retirement. Mr. Milam was deployed several times over the course of his Military career and received countless awards and recognition for his service. Mr. Milam deployed to Bulgaria, Honduras, the West Indies, and he also deployed to the Middle East in 2004-2005 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom/Enduring Freedom.

For his remarkable service and heroism, William was awarded a Bronze Star.

**Family Life**

William's love for his

country and community is matched by his love for his family. He and his wife, Ella, have been married for 38 years. Together, they have raised two children and are now proud grandparents to three grandchildren. Their daughter, Tequila Willis-Hart, son-in-law, Casey Hart, and granddaughter, Cailee (age 2), live in Rogersville, Missouri. Tequila works as a medical assistant, helping people in her community stay healthy. Casey is a global construction manager, spending much time managing projects overseas. Their son, Justin Milam, daughter-in-law, Sara Milam, and grandchildren, Ayden (age 12) and Sadie (age 2), live in Ooltewah, Tenn. Justin has an important job as a nuclear medicine technologist at a local hospital. Sara is a middle school English teacher, helping young students improve their reading and writing skills.

Milam is the former commander of the Veterans of

Foreign Wars Post 4939, a member of the McKenzie Rotary Club, a member of the Henry County Airport Board, a foreman of West Tennessee Public Utilities, alderman for the Town of Henry, a member of the Henry County Helping Hand

**Giving Back to the Community**

After retiring from the Army, William returned to his hometown. He brought with him valuable skills and a strong desire to make a difference in his community. Even though William has already given so much through his military service, he and his wife Ella continue to help others. They give back to their community of Henry County as much as they can, which truly shows how much they care about the place and the people around them. William's actions show that the spirit of service doesn't end when a soldier comes home - it can continue to make a positive impact for years to come.

## Liberty

...From Front Page

Bob Newman is the guest speaker. Bob joined the US Marine Corps in 1966. After boot camp at Parris Island, South Carolina, he served aboard the USS America with the Marine Detachment, Camp Lejeune North Carolina with the military police, and South Vietnam with the Third Marine Division. After serving in the Marine Corps, Bob gradu-

ated from Belmont University with a B.S. in Business Administration. In 1976, he moved to Huntingdon, where he attended First Baptist Church for 38 years. During that time, he served as a deacon and was blessed to serve as a teacher of a men's Sunday School class. In 2011, Bob retired from Unimin Corporation after working 37 years in the mining industry. In 2014, he married Sylvia Amejko and moved to Jackson. He is a member of Englewood Baptist Church, the Marine Corps League, Vietnam Vet-

erans of America, and the Madison County Republican Party. His wife, Sylvia succumbed to cancer in 2023. He continues to live in Jackson.

Veterans in attendance will be recognized, then the names of the 77 veterans buried in Liberty All Cemetery will be read. The congregation will go outside and flags will be placed on each of the 77 graves.

The program will be concluded by the playing of "Taps."

Everyone is invited.

## Ceremony

...From Front Page

in military service to our country, as well as our Veterans and active military personnel. There will be reserved seating for Veterans and a red carnation for every Veteran who registers at the registration table pri-

or to the ceremony. Registration for Veterans begins at 9:15 a.m.

Major General (Ret.) Tommy H. Baker will be the featured speaker.

Bring your lawn chairs and join us in this annual event. What better way to begin the Memorial Day than with a gathering of friends and family to remember those who faith-

fully served and to honor those who remain and those still serving.

In the event of rain, the ceremony will be held at the Huntingdon Middle School Gymnasium.

For questions or additional information about the ceremony, contact Huntingdon City Hall at 731-986-2900.

## Looking For A Photo? Browse Over 1,800 Photos Taken During Graduation Ceremonies

The McKenzie Banner staff attended the McKenzie, Huntingdon, West Carroll, Hollow Rock-Bruceton, Clarksburg and Gleason graduations between

Thursday, May 15 and Sunday, May 18.

In this week's edition you will find the Graduation Keepsake Special Edition that contains pho-

tos of all the graduates, the Top 10 and coverage from each of the graduation ceremonies.

Space is limited in the printed section, but there are thousands

of photos online! Scan the QR codes with your smartphone or visit the links to see all the photos we captured at your loved one's graduation.

Congratulations to all the graduates! We are so proud of you!

If you need help, please call or email us, 731-352-3323 or grad@mckenziebanner.com.

BUY PHOTOS

EVENT: McKenzie Graduation 2025



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

President Trump’s Budget Bill Should Be Defeated

There is a proposed Bill in the US Congress known as the ‘Big Beautiful Bill’. If approved, this Bill would reduce funding for the

following: Medicaid, and SNAP, (Supplementary Nutrition Assistance Programs). According to the nonpartisan Congressional

Budget Office the bill would reduce the number of persons receiving Medicaid by 7,500,000. The bill would increase military spending by \$150,000,000,000. The bill would increase the federal debt from \$36,000,000,000 to \$40,000,000,000. This bill would reduce the federal income tax rate for a married couple with incomes greater than \$694,000 from 39.6% to 37%. This bill is IMMORAL and should be defeated.

Roger C. Johnson PhD  
McKenzie

Wingo Resident Complains About Train Blocking Street

Wingo Circle resident Bertha Taylor phoned The Banner to issue a complaint about the CSX train blocking both entrances to the neighborhood of Wingo Circle one day last week.

Mrs. Taylor said the roadways were both blocked by a CSX train that was parked in the railroad crossing from 7:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. She said there are 30 houses on the street and no one could drive in or out of the neighborhood. Taylor said it concerns the residents because there are some people who have sick family members. She said she contacted CSX without immediate relief.



Gasoline Prices Drop During Week

TENNESSEE (May 19) — Average gasoline prices in Tennessee have fallen 2.8 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$2.67/g today, according to GasBuddy’s survey of 3,821 stations in Tennessee. Prices in Tennessee are 1.2 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 44.6 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has increased 2.9 cents in the last week and stands at \$3.502 per gallon. According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Tennessee was priced at \$2.34/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$4.11/g, a difference of \$1.77/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.34/g while the highest was \$4.11/g, a difference of \$1.77/g. The national average price of gasoline has risen 6.1 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.14/g today. The national average is up 1.9 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 41.0 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 sta-

tions across the country. Historical gasoline prices in Tennessee and the national average going back ten years: May 19, 2024: \$3.12/g (U.S. Average: \$3.55/g) May 19, 2023: \$3.11/g (U.S. Average: \$3.52/g) May 19, 2022: \$4.29/g (U.S. Average: \$4.60/g) May 19, 2021: \$2.87/g (U.S. Average: \$3.04/g) May 19, 2020: \$1.62/g (U.S. Average: \$1.90/g) May 19, 2019: \$2.52/g (U.S. Average: \$2.84/g) May 19, 2018: \$2.66/g (U.S. Average: \$2.92/g) May 19, 2017: \$2.07/g (U.S. Average: \$2.35/g) May 19, 2016: \$2.09/g (U.S. Average: \$2.27/g) May 19, 2015: \$2.46/g (U.S. Average: \$2.71/g) “Gasoline prices jumped in over three-quarters of U.S. states over the last week, as oil prices surged following former President Trump’s decision to reduce tariffs and strike new trade deals—moves that inspired optimism that a major tariff-induced economic slowdown might be avoided,” said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. “In addition to gains in price-cycling markets, rising oil prices—fueled by

economic optimism and tightening gasoline inventories—contributed to broader upward pressure on prices. While Americans are still seeing significant savings compared to a year ago, that gap has narrowed as oil prices have rebounded. As we approach Memorial Day, GasBuddy is preparing to release its summer travel survey results and issue a gas price forecast for the season. For now, motorists can expect one of the most affordable summers for hitting the road since the pandemic, with gas prices tracking at some of the lowest inflation-adjusted levels in years.” GasBuddy is the authoritative voice for gas prices and the only source for station-level data. GasBuddy’s survey updates 288 times every day from the most diverse list of sources covering nearly 150,000 stations nationwide, the most comprehensive and up-to-date in the country. GasBuddy’s averages, graphs, maps and historical pricing data covering the U.S. and Canada is available 24/7 at <http://prices.GasBuddy.com>. SOURCE GasBuddy

THE WIT AND WISDOM OF DAVID JOHNSON  
Embracing Your Circle of Control

Squatting beside me in the shade of the plum tree in our back yard, my then ten-year-old daughter, Rebekah, watched as I scrubbed my soaked and soaped hunting dog, Susie.

My huffing and puffing, and my mumbling through gritted teeth made it clear how I felt. I hadn’t planned on bathing my dog when I came home for lunch that summer day. But Rebekah had been insistent that I let her give Susie a bath. Then, when she came back in looking like a wet dog herself, she asked me to help her.

With my shirt sleeves rolled up and sweat stinging my eyes, I heard Rebekah, through the fog of my own feelings of frustration, ask a question that stopped me in my tracks.

“Daddy, why is it that when I ask you to help me, you take over?”

Stunned, I heard a whisper of truth: when Rebekah asked for my help, she wanted me to influence her situation not take over it.

All my adult life trying to find that line between control and influence has been a challenge for me.

Several years ago I came up with a concept that proves helpful in keeping things in proper perspective.

In each person’s life there are two circles: a circle of influence and a circle of control.

Inside your circle of influence you will find friends, family, coworkers, and people you come in contact with each day.

Inside your circle of control you will find your thoughts, your feelings, and your behaviors.

Essentially, only one thing exists inside the circle of control — you.

Everything else in your world resides in your circle of influence.

This technique makes it easier to recognize when you’re trying to pull something from your circle of influence and place it inside your circle of control.

Whenever I find myself wrestling over a particular situation or feeling frustrated with someone, I visualize the two circles and start placing the elements of my dilemma into their proper place.

Attempting to stretch your circle of control to include another person will produce a host of nega-

tive consequences. You’ll subject yourself to feelings of resentment, anger, and frustration. Why? Because they’re not doing what you want them to do!

Ironically, the person you’re trying to control will experience those same set of emotions. Why? Because no one likes someone trying to control them!

On numerous occasions during my years of working with families, I’ve seen the value of people recognizing their circle of control.

One such couple was John and Alice (not their real names).

As they sat across from me, John’s depression and Alice’s anxiety bore testimony to the years they’d spent witnessing their son, Todd’s, chronic battle with cocaine abuse and dependency. Out of the purest of motives they had spent nearly twenty years trying to find just the right thing they could do to help Todd clean up his life. They employed him in the family business, gave him money to buy a car, financed his house, forced him into counseling numerous times, and bailed him out of jail. As each attempt to rescue Todd proved unsuccessful, they were crushed with feelings of self-blame.

What was difficult for them to see was that all their efforts to “help” were actually about controlling Todd. They had to give up trying to “fix” him and recognize Todd’s behavior was outside their circle of control.

Once John and Alice placed Todd in their circle of influence and realized he was the only one who could control his behavior, they were able to release the weight of their feelings of self-recrimination. By freeing Todd, they freed themselves.

Another person who was helped by this concept was Tonya. She came to see me after being referred by a hospital emergency room social worker. She’d been married to Ken for fifteen years. During that time he’d beaten her on numerous occasions, once even putting her in the hospital. She’d been forced to perform degrading sex acts. He’d called her despicable and vile names. And still Tonya plaintively wailed, “Why can’t I make him love me?”

By believing she could control Ken’s love and treat-

ment of her, she kept herself chained to a life of misery. Her repeated expectation that “this time will be different”, that he would treat her with respect and unconditional love, created chronic disappointment in Tonya’s heart.

At the point Tonya began understanding the limits of her control, she began focusing on her behavior rather than Ken’s. She started making choices about how she would allow others to treat her and what behaviors she would no longer tolerate. Accepting the truth that Ken’s treatment of her was his choice and beyond her control gave her the strength to begin a new life.

What parent hasn’t battled with their teenager over grades? Amanda, a single mom, spent nearly half the school year trying to make her son, Noah, bring up his grades. She offered money, took away privileges, shamed him, encouraged him, and threatened him, all to no avail. She felt totally defeated.

Then, in a moment of clarity, recognizing her circle of control, she sat Noah down and told him that from that day forward she would never say another word to him about his grades. She told him he was in control of his grades.

Remarkably, Noah responded to this new-found freedom of control by improving his grades.

As time moves forward for me, I sometimes get the sensation that my circle of control is getting smaller. But the truth is, I’m simply recognizing how small my circle of control has always been. My sense of control over many things was simply an illusion.

I now embrace my small circle of control and appreciate how healthy it is for me because just “doing me” is a full-time job! I feel less burdened and weighed down. I spend less time anguishing over people’s treatment of me. I don’t expend so much mental and emotional energy trying to get people to do what I think they ought to do. I worry and fret less.

I focus more on being the kind of person I ought to be.

Recognizing your limits of control in life can set you free.

\* Taken from The Wit and Wisdom of David Johnson, Volume 11: The Hairy Catfish Caper.

TN Sends Letter to Congress Opposing Budget Amendments

NASHVILLE — TN Attorney General Jonathan Skrmetti today joined Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser, New Hampshire Attorney General John Formella, and Vermont Attorney General Charity Clark in leading a bipartisan letter signed by 36 other state attorneys general opposing a federal ban on state regulation of AI products. “The combined efforts of the states and the federal government have been, at best, barely enough to protect consumers from Big Tech,” said Tennessee Attorney General Skrmetti. “AI has incredible potential but amplifies every risk we’ve seen from Big Tech and creates new risks we don’t fully understand. Eliminating state oversight through this rec-

onciliation amendment guarantees Americans will suffer repeated violations of their privacy, consumer protection, and antitrust laws.” AI promises to revolutionize America’s economy, spur achievement and innovation, and improve lives across the country. However, the rise of such technology presents real, immediate dangers ranging from explicit material and election interference to deception, exploitation, and harassment against consumers. In the absence of federal leadership, state legislatures and attorneys general have continued to be at the forefront of ensuring AI is not abused and that consumers are protected. As the letter to Congress emphasizes, state laws and regulations

“have been developed over years through careful consideration and extensive stakeholder input from consumers, industry, and advocates. And, in the years ahead, additional matters—many unforeseeable today given the rapidly evolving nature of this technology—are likely to arise.” If enacted, the amendment would strip away essential state protections without replacing them with a viable federal regulatory framework and silence state leaders who are best positioned to respond. Any effort to prohibit states from enacting and enforcing laws aimed at regulating AI and protecting consumers will leave AI entirely unregulated at any level and Americans completely exposed to its known harms and evolving, real-world risks—ultimately leading to dangerous consequences for the American people.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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ters, not libelous or harmful, will be published. The editorial staff may restrict the number of letters dealing with the same subject matter. The signature of the writer must be affixed to the letter with a verifiable address and phone number. The address and phone number will not be published at the request of the writer, however the name will be published. Tri-County Publishing does not publish unsigned letters of opinion. The McKenzie Banner reserves

the right to refuse any item deemed libelous, not of public interest, or commercial in nature. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit the material while preserving the intent of the letter. Upon receipt in the offices of Tri-County Publishing, Inc., the letter becomes the property of the newspaper and will be retained in the files. Tri-County Publishing may solicit contrary opinion concerning the content of the letter.

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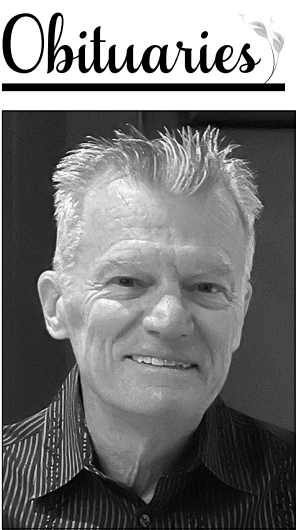
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PAUL ‘RICK’ YAKES  
1956 – 2025

Paul R. (Rick) Yakes, Jr., 69, of The Villages, Florida, died on May 13, 2025, after a brief illness.

He was born in Hannibal, Mo., on January 31, 1956, to Pauline Brooks and Paul R. Yakes, Sr. He graduated from Hannibal High School in 1974, The University of Missouri in 1982, and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in 1992 before receiving additional post-master's certificates. He married Dixie Lynn Foster, of McKenzie, on October 7, 2000.

Committed to serving his country, Paul enlisted in the US Army in 1975. His first active duty military assignment was to Ft. Hood, Texas, where he served as an Infantry Squad Leader in the First Cavalry Division. He was commissioned into the US Air Force after receiving his bachelor's degree in 1982 and graduated from

Undergraduate Navigator Training at Mather Air Force Base, Calif., in 1983. He went on to attend Initial KC-135 Combat Crew Training at Castle Air Force Base. Upon graduation from Castle, he moved to Offutt Air Force Base in the spring of 1984, where he was assigned to the 2nd Airborne Command Control Squadron as a navigator on the Looking Glass. In 1986, he was assigned to the 38th Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron at Offutt AFB flying worldwide reconnaissance missions. In 1988, Paul accepted an assignment at Eielson AFB as part of the Cobra Ball for the 24th Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron. In 1991, he was transferred to the 3909th Strategic Aircraft Evaluation Squadron, Barksdale AFB. In 1992, he left Barksdale for an assignment at the Tanker/Airlift Control Center at Scott AFB. He returned to Offutt AFB in the spring of 1994, when he became a proud member of the 1st Airborne Command Control Squadron. Having flown a total of 823 sorties in thirteen variants of the EC/KC/RC-135, T-43, and E-4B, he accumulated over 4950 flight hours. His efforts supported regional, national, and global missions, requiring him to report to at least ten posts—some of them more than once. In his 45 years of service to this nation, he traveled to 42 countries in 6 continents and earned 3 Meritorious Service Medals, 4 Air Medals, 5 Aerial

Achievement Medals, 2 Air Force Commendation Medals, 5 Combat-Readiness Medals, the Army Good Conduct Medal, a National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, and the Southwest Asia Service Medal.

Throughout his career, Paul jumped at any opportunity to train which allowed him to serve as a curriculum writer, trainer, and evaluator. His life-long pledge to serve did not end after his retirement as a flight navigator from the Air Force at the rank of Major. Rather, he continued as a civilian servant to the Air Force for another 20 years, working as an analyst, director, consultant, and logistical planner. Until 2005, he acted as a Senior Director, Flight Management Specialist, Quality Assurance Specialist at PACAF Air Mobility Operations Control Center (AMOCC) (GS-13). As of 2013, Paul served as the Joint Mobility Operations Officer/Senior Transportation Specialist (GS-12). Finally, as he approached his second retirement, he was the Joint Mobility Operations Planner, (GS-13) USTRANCOM at Scott AFB.

Paul is survived by his loving wife, Dixie Foster Yakes; his sisters, Pam Dyke, Penny (Jeff) Smashey, and Tammy Stueve; his daughters, Tabatha (Chad) Dougherty, Elisabeth (David) Hinton, and Jennifer (Darrell) Hughes; his grand-

children, David Andrew, Raven Cole, Clay Miller, Brendan Paul, Khloee Elisabeth, Jude Leelan, Eleanor Jane, and Beatrix Lara; his great-granddaughter Maxine Fern; and many cousins, nieces, nephews and beyond. He is preceded in death by his mother, Pauline Fern Dooley; father, Paul R. Yakes, Sr.; and brothers-in-law, Bruce Stueve and Alyn Dyke.

His hobbies included traveling, woodworking, golfing, and writing.

A full military burial is being planned at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery (2900 Sheridan Rd., St. Louis, Mo.), following a brief visitation at Kurus Funeral Home (1773 Frank Scott Pkwy W., Belleville, Ill.). All visitation and funeral details will be forthcoming via social media. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to either the American Legion at [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org), the Wounded Warrior Project at [www.woundedwarriorproject.org](http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org), The Gary Sinise Foundation at [www.garysinisefoundation.org](http://www.garysinisefoundation.org), or your local VFW.

KENNETH  
LESSENBERRY  
1957 – 2025

MILAN — Kenneth Wayne Lessenberry, 58, of Milan, died May 14, 2025, at Milan General Hospital. He was born in Milan on January 15, 1967, to Norman Lessenberry and the late Linda Barger Lessenberry.

Kenneth was a member of McLemoresville Baptist Church and worked as a heavy equipment operator for the West Tennessee River Basin Authority.

Kenneth is survived by his father, Norman of Milan; sons, Cole Lessenberry and wife Hannah of Milan and Logan Lessenberry of Jackson; and one grandson, Isaiah.

A memorial service is 2 p.m., Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at Bodkin Funeral Home. Visitation with the family is Tuesday from noon until service time at Bodkin Funeral Home, Milan.

JEWELL GROOMS  
1925 – 2025

BRUCETON — Mrs. Jewell Marie Grooms, 99, of Bruceton, died Friday, May 16, 2025, at Lifecare Center of Bruceton.

Funeral services were in the Chapel of Chase Funeral Home on Sunday, May 18. Burial was in Hebron Cemetery.

Mrs. Grooms was born November 6, 1925, in Ross-er, Tenn., to the late Joseph David Cole and Eva Marion (Murphy) Cole. She was a housewife and homemaker. She married Gordon Browning “Brownie” Grooms on December 29, 1945, who preceded her in death. She was also preceded in death by four sisters: Edna Hudson, Opal Lewis,

Robbie Williams, and Bessie Clark.

She is survived by two daughters, Linda Davis (Bobby) of Jackson and Brenda Gregg (Frank) of Huntingdon; two granddaughters; four great-grandchildren; and a great-great-grandson due in November. Chase Funeral Home.

BARBARA  
ANN HOLT  
1948 – 2025

Mrs. Barbara Ann Holt, 77, died Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at her home.

Funeral services were conducted in the Chapel of Chase Funeral Home on Saturday, May 17, 2025. Burial was in Palmer Shelter Cemetery.

Mrs. Holt was born January 20, 1948 in Lexington, to the late James Edward and Hazel Estelle Fesmire. They were blessed to have a daughter, Paula Anderson (Kenneth), and a son, Eric Holt (Nikki), five grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brothers and sisters, J.L. Fesmire, Eulene Renfroe, Shirley Gutierrez, Linda Boucher, Collins and Walter Fesmire.

She is survived by one sister-in-law, Anita Fesmire, and many nephews and nieces.

TN Sports Wagering Council  
Fines Illegal Sportsbook BUSR

NASHVILLE — The Sports Wagering Council (SWC) fined illegal offshore sportsbook BUSR \$50,000 for operating illegally in Tennessee.

BUSR failed to comply with a March cease and desist letter, and it is the fifth illegal operation to be fined by the SWC as the state agency continues its work to shut down illegal sportsbook operators in Tennessee.

In April, the SWC issued \$150,000 in fines to BetUs, MyBookie and Xbet, and in November 2024 Bovada shut down after the SWC issued \$50,000 in fines to the illegal offshore sportsbook. Earlier this month the SWC issued a cease and desist letter to the illegal offshore sportsbook Lowvig.

“Our mission is to protect the public interest of Tennessee through a safe and regulated sports betting environment, and we encourage any bettors using BUSR to withdraw their money immediately,” SWC Executive Director Mary Beth Thomas said. “In contrast to our legal sportsbooks, illegal operators do not offer any of the same consumer protections the law requires of licensed entities, and we will continue this important work to eliminate these bad actors from Tennessee.”

Tennessee is the largest “online-only” sports betting market in the U.S. with more than \$4.8 billion wagered to date this fiscal year through online sportsbooks licensed by the SWC.

The Sports Gaming Act authorizes the Council to impose a \$10,000 fine for the first offense of accepting wagers without a license, which rises to \$15,000 for the second offense, and \$25,000 for the third offense.

Subsequent offenses may lead to the imposition of a \$25,000 fine for each occurrence, with an occurrence being a single wager accepted in Tennessee.

Bettors can always go to [tn.gov/swac](http://tn.gov/swac) for a list of approved licensees and vendors. Illegal sportsbooks can often be identified by these factors, all of which are illegal in Tennessee:

- \* Extending credit;
- \* Wagering with cryptocurrency; and
- \* Offering casino games, such as slots or online poker, or chance-based wagers, such as the coin toss or the color of the, Gatorade.

Licensed online sportsbook operators provide important player protections not found in the illegal market, including protecting consumers, holding reserves to pay wagers and keeping personal information secure.

Licensed sportsbooks must also follow certain restrictions under state law, such as prohibiting individuals under 21 years old from wagering and refusing to allow wagering on credit.

About the Tennessee Sports Wagering Council

The Tennessee Sports Wagering Council's primary role is to protect the public interest of Tennessee through a safe, regulated sports gambling environment. The SWC oversees the licensing and registration process for online sports wagering operators, sports wagering vendors, and fantasy sports operators. The state agency monitors and enforces compliance with the Tennessee Sports Gaming Act and the Tennessee Fantasy Sports Act and related rules, including the assessment of the State's privilege tax on sportsbooks.

Tennessee State Veterinarian  
Issues Alert for Screwworms

NASHVILLE — Tennessee State Veterinarian Dr. Samantha Beaty is urging animal owners to be aware of New World Screwworm (NWS), an invasive pest that poses a serious threat to livestock and other warm-blooded animals, including pets.

NWS is a parasitic fly whose larvae feed on the living tissue of warm-blooded animals, causing painful infected wounds. Adult flies are slightly larger than houseflies, with metallic blue/green bodies, orange eyes, and three dark stripes on their backs.

Although the pest was eradicated from the United States decades ago, recent detections in Mexico highlight the potential for reintroduction and spread, particularly in southern states. USDA recently announced the suspension of live cattle, horse, and bison imports along the southern U.S. border in response to NWS. However, Tennessee's position along key travel, wildlife migration, and trade corridors heightens the need for increased awareness.

“An international border means nothing to NWS or wildlife that may be carrying the larvae,” Dr. Beaty said. “Livestock and pet owners should carefully inspect their animals and report any unusual or persistent wounds. NWS can cause devastating health impacts to affected animals, and early detection is critical to containment and treatment efforts. As with many animal health concerns, awareness and prevention go a long way in reducing the risk of spread to Tennessee.”

What to Look For:

- Wounds that won't heal or worsen over time
- Foul-smelling discharge or visible larvae (maggots) in a wound
- Signs of discomfort or

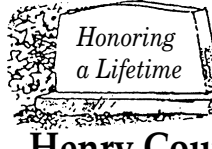
unusual behavior, such as animals avoiding feed or isolating themselves

- Infestation may be found in wounds resulting from routine procedures such as castration, dehorning, or branding, or from minor injuries like insect bites.

Domesticated species that could be affected include cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, horses, and other mammals, including pets and, in rare cases, humans.

Animal owners should be vigilant for NWS by checking animals regularly—especially if animals have traveled internationally. Owners should inspect wounds and treat them promptly. If owners or producers are moving pets or livestock across borders, owners should ensure the animals are properly inspected and obtain appropriate movement permits and documents.

If you suspect NWS, contact the State Veterinarian's office at 615-837-5120 or the USDA Area Veterinarian in Charge at 615-517-2642. On weekends and evenings, call 866-536-7593. Suspicious cases will be evaluated, and samples may be submitted for laboratory confirmation. The Tennessee Department of Agriculture Animal Health Division will assist veterinarians with sample collection and submission.



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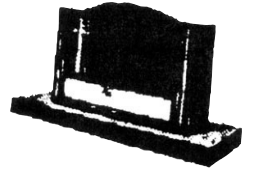
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**OFFER EXPIRES MAY 31, 2025**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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.

CARROLL COUNTY 911 BUDGET COMMITTEE TO MEET

The Carroll County Emergency Communications District Budget Committee meets Tuesday, May 27 at 8 a.m. at the district office at 101 Dillahunt Lane, Huntingdon. Citizens desir-

ing to publicly comment at the meeting on an agenda item must register with the district at 731-986-8911. A copy of the Public Comment Policy may be obtained at the district office.

McKENZIE SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER VETERANS BREAKFAST

All veterans are invited to a free breakfast at the McKenzie Senior Citizens Center in front of E.W. James on Sunday May 25 at 7 a.m. The event is sponsored by McKenzie American Legion Post 37.

RIBBON-CUTTING AT LAVENDER KISSES FARM

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce hosts a ribbon-cutting at Lavender Kisses Farm Saturday, June 7 at 9 a.m. The farm is located at 307 Marlboro Road, Hollow Rock.

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 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.

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-nwn- 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.

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.

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 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.

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.

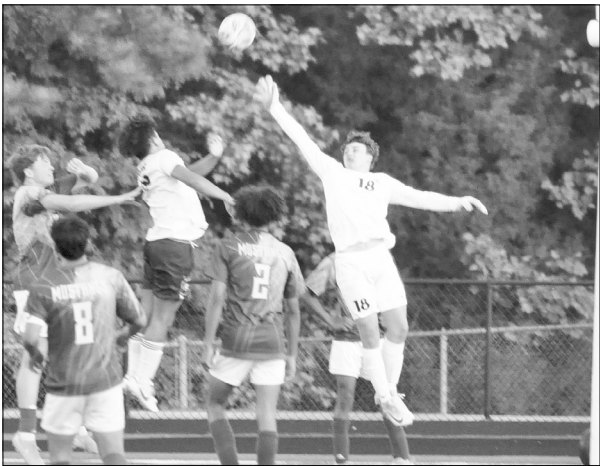
REGION 6A SOCCER TOURNAMENT

Mustangs Advance to Title Game with Overtime Win, Secure Sectional Appearance

BY BRAD SAM  
brad@mckenziebanner.com

HUNTINGDON (May 13) — Huntingdon High School hosted Cheatham County Tuesday night for a Region 6A Soccer Tournament semifinal and claimed a 3-1 win in overtime to advance to the championship game. The victory also secured a sectional appearance for the Mustangs.

After a scoreless first half, Cheatham County scored early in the second half. Huntingdon answered halfway through the period, and the score remained 1-1 at the end of regulation. The Mustangs took the lead five minutes into the 20-minute overtime and padded

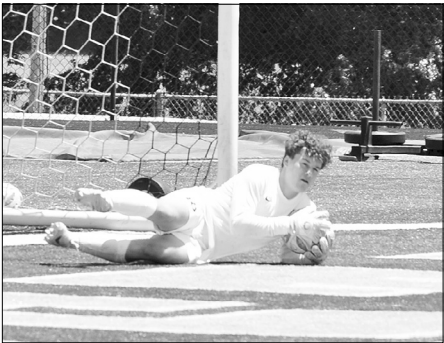


Mustang goalkeeper Gage Foster deflects a Cheatham County shot. Foster had 13 saves in Huntingdon's win. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

the lead with nine to play. Greyson Anderson, Mateo Jorge-Perez and Kelson Johnson each scored a goal for Huntingdon.

Jorge-Perez and Gage Foster each had an assist. Goalkeeper Gage Foster had 13 saves in the win.

CLASS A SOCCER SECTIONAL



Left, Mustang goalkeeper Gage Foster makes a diving stop for one of his 13 saves. Right, Mustang Mateo Jorge-Perez takes a shot during overtime. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner

Mustangs End Season with Overtime Loss

BY BRAD SAM  
brad@mckenziebanner.com

HUNTINGDON (May 17) — The Huntingdon Mustangs ended their season Saturday with a 2-1 over-

time loss to Battle Creek in a Class A Soccer Sectional. Battle Creek advances to the state tournament. Mustang Jaden Martin scored an early goal, assisted by Gage Foster. The

Grizzlies tied it halfway through the second half to force overtime and took the lead during the extra minutes. Huntingdon goalkeeper Gage Foster had 13 saves.

Huntingdon Softball Standout Signs with Bethel

McKENZIE — Huntingdon softball standout Bailey Cary signed with the Bethel University softball program Wednesday.

Bailey is the daughter of Mark and Joyce Cary of Huntingdon and will major in Exercise Science.

Bailey is an Honor Roll student and a member of HOSA, JAG, and the Mustang Mentors.

Bailey has been a key member of several travel ball squads in Louisiana, Tennessee, and the Mid-South. She has won multiple MVP awards in travel ball.

During her prep career at Huntingdon High School, Cary has been an all-district third baseman and also has excelled in the circle. She is one of the starting pitchers that have led the Lady Mustangs to the TSSAA Sec-



Pictured (L to R) Front Row: Mark Cary, Bailey Cary and Joyce Cary. Back Row: BU AD Dave McCulley and Claire Jones.

tionals. Bailey has also displayed her versatility as a first baseman. She feels one of strengths is her defensive prowess at first base. Cary commented, "I look forward to my career as a Lady Wildcat. I was recruited by several other schools, but I have always wanted to

come to Bethel. It's close to home and my parents can come watch us play." Bethel Interim Athletic Director Dave McCulley said, "Bailey comes from a great family and a great Lady Mustang program. We are excited that she has signed with Lady Cats."

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# McKenzie Police Reports

**DUI** — Karen Marie Webb, 43, Highway 69, Paris, was charged with DUI and Speeding on May 13.

**Officer Daniel Pollard** stopped Webb's vehicle for traveling 79 in a 40 m.p.h. zone. He and Carroll County Deputy Jeremy Smith administered a field sobriety test and determined Webb was under the influence. She was transported to Carroll County Jail.

**Domestic Assault, Criminal Trespass** — Timothy Scott Hickey, 36, Brighton, Tenn., was arrested on May 13 and charged with Domestic Assault and Criminal Trespass.

Sergeant Cody Coleman and Assistant Chief Trey Boucher were dispatched to a residence on Reynolds. The female occupant of the house had issued a ban notice for Hickey at the residence. Officers found the female occupant inside the home. She appeared nervous and

pointed to a closed door. Officers opened the door and found Hickey hiding inside the closet. He was arrested on charges listed above and transported to Carroll County Jail.

**Vandalism** — A resident of Winston Road reported that his car had been egged on May 16.

Officer Matthew Cunningham filed the report stating the vehicle's owner had it parked at Forrest Avenue when the vandalism occurred.

**Theft of Birth Certificate** — Lance Anthony Alven, 46, Hillview Apartments, McKenzie was charged with Theft and Vandalism on May 18.

Sergeant Cody Coleman filed the report stating a former female friend with whom Alven had been in a relationship, claimed Alven took her birth certificate. He had burned the document. After interviewing Alven at his address, he was cited into

Carroll County General Sessions Court on the above charges.

**Attempted Burglary** — A resident of Walnut Circle reported an attempted entry into her home in the early morning hours of May 18.

Officer Bill Burson responded to the address, where the resident stated she had noises outside her home and then the breakage of glass of a rear window. Nothing was determined to be missing from the residence at the time of the report.

**Shoplifting** — Dollar General, Highway 22, McKenzie, reported a shoplifter on May 16.

Officer Daniel Pollard took a report from the store clerk and watched a surveillance video of the incident in which the shoplifter stole a pack of baseball cards. The suspect had a camouflage ball cap, a gray short-sleeved flannel shirt, and khaki pants.

district listed.

Kimberly Chaney to Rany and Elisha Reeves. District 13.

Randy Reeves to Pam Reeves. District 24.

Keith and Myrna Johnson to Margaret B. Harvey. District 4.

Jon K. Zemanek to Wiley Willis. District 22.

Kara S. Williams to Josie Williams. District 11.

J & E Properties, Inc. to Cachengo, Inc. District 12.

Darrin Vaughn to Melvin L. and Karen D. Lynch. District 16.

Sandra Pendergrass to Brooklyn McCaslin. No district listed.

David Michael Busby to Jonathan Lee Pierpoint. District 16.

Jerry J. and Catherine R. Borntrager to Jonathan L. and Fannie E. Borntrager. District 23.

Russ Aberle to Russell and Alicia Aberle. District 6.

Bill W. Cox to Donna G. McDaniel. District 13.

Bill W. Cox to Bill W. and James A. Cox. District 13.

Anita B. Haskins to Danny Ray Bawcum. No district listed.

Michael David Sanders to Angela L. Sanders. No

# Property Transfers

Savannah B. Williams to Timothy B. McDonald. No district listed.

William A. and Jerry M. Deloach to Firefly TN Land Holdings, LLC. No district listed.

Kathy Barker to Ricky L. Miller. District 19.

John Stoltzfus to Megan Lynne Wortham. District 18.

Jerry M. and Beth M. Deloach to Firefly TN Land Holdings, LLC. District 20.

Lee and Laverne Dittman to Amber Renee Dittman. District 10.

# Carroll County General Sessions Report

**HUNTINGDON** (May 14) — The following cases were heard in Carroll County General Sessions Court on May 14.

**Crystal Christman**, Doubleday Lane, Mansfield, was guilty of theft of merchandise, 11/29 jail suspension to 48 hours, restitution to retailer of \$48.99, probation, and no contact with retailer.

**Scotty Bryant Foster**, Paris Street, Huntingdon, guilty, Driving While Revoked, guilty, Public Intoxication, \$250 fine, probation, 11/29 jail.

**William A. Hollowell**, Hawkins Lane, Huntingdon, guilty, Public Intoxication.

**Dylan McSwain**, Porter Norwood Road, Mansfield, guilty, DUI - First Offense, \$350 fine, 11/29 jail suspended to 48 hours, probation, not to drive for one year, DUI School, Alcohol and Drug Evaluation; dismissed, Resist Stop or Arrest; dismissed, Implied Consent; dismissed, Improper Lane Change.

The following cases were dismissed.

**Jacinda Bates**, Field Street, McKenzie, dismissed, Probation Violation.

**Terry Crittendon**, Troy-Hickman Road, Union City, dismissed, Driving While Revoked.

**Cameron Jace Hernan-**

**dez**, Dogwood Hills Dr., Paris, dismissed, Domestic Assault - first and second offenses.

**Gary Hocker**, Shirley Lane, Eva, dismissed, Failure to Appear.

**Joseph T. McGregor**, Main Street, Atwood, dismissed, Schedule II Drugs-Fentanyl, Drug Paraphernalia, Meth-Deliver, Sell, Possess with Intent. All charges dismissed - search for outer building was not included in search warrant.

**Amber Sparks**, Highway 79, Atwood, dismissed, Driving While Suspended - Second or Subsequent Offense.

# Carroll County Sheriff Reports

**Aggravated Criminal Trespass/ Public Intoxication** — According to a report by Deputy Heather Townes on May 9, Christopher McCaslin, 44, of Cedar Grove, drove his all-terrain vehicle where he stopped in a yard and got off, began to beat on the front door of the home violently, and was hitting the wall with the porch swing. The victim was alone at the time, and it frightened her. She called 911 for help and described the situation above. Townes found Christopher down the road and he advised he didn't think anyone was home when he was acting that way in the victim's yard. He had slurred speech, a strong odor of alcoholic beverage on him, and had a machete. He was arrested and transported to jail.

**Criminal Impersonation** — According to a report by Deputy Alex Sherwood on May 11, it was reported that Joseph Rogers, 45, of Cedar Grove, sent his ex-wife's ex-husband, Edward Robinson, who is a Certified Law Enforcement Officer for Dyersburg State Community College, a text message representing himself as Carroll County Sheriff's Department. The text message read, "This is Carroll County Sheriff's Department. We are trying to inform you that harassment charges have been filed

by Mrs. Cheynne Rogers. Any further contact with your ex-wife is prohibited. You will be served papers and have a no-contact order in effect." Rogers is in no way affiliated with the Carroll County Sheriff's Department. A warrant for arrest was issued for Criminal Impersonation, and he was taken to Carroll County Jail.

**Possession of Drug Paraphernalia** — According to a report by Deputy Alex Sherwood on May 10, he conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for failing to maintain lane multiple times on Renfro Road. Upon making contact, he smelled marijuana coming from the vehicle. The passenger, Mark Carey, 44, of Cedar Grove, had a small baggy of marijuana, a marijuana pipe with residue, as well as a used grinder. He also had a plastic baggy with white residue that tested positive for meth. Carey was issued a misdemeanor citation for Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia with a book in date of May 21.

**Domestic Assault** — According to a report filed by Deputy Daniel Thomas on May 9, units were dispatched to Broad Street in Hollow Rock for an active fight between father and son. A witness stated that her stepson, Nicholas Zito, 32, had an "episode" and began yelling and kicking

the door open from outside before he started punching her husband in the head. The victim had visible cuts on his face and head. He was arrested and taken to Carroll County Jail.

**Aggravated Assault; Interference with Emergency Calls** — According to a report filed by Deputy Heather Townes on May 14, a victim came to the Carroll County Sheriff's Office to make a report on her boyfriend for assaulting her. She said that her boyfriend attacked her because she had bought a car and was trying to leave in it. He assaulted her very violently, leaving multiple large bruises, red marks, scratches all over her body, as well as an unrelated previous spinal injury. Deputies went to the home and arrested James Warbritton, 40, of Huntingdon for aggravated assault and interfering with her calling the police.

## REGION 6AA SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

# Fillies Advance to Championship, Clinch Sectional Appearance

**BY BRAD SAM**  
brad@mckenziebanner.com

**KINGSTON SPRINGS** (May 12) — The Huntingdon Fillies traveled to Harpeth High School for a Region 6AA Softball Tournament semifinal Monday against Cheatham County. The Fillies defeated the Lady Cubs 6-4 to advance to the championship game and secure a sectional appearance.

Huntingdon struck

quickly with four runs in the top of the first inning. Cheatham County scored a pair in the bottom of the second. Each team scored a run in the third, then were held scoreless for three frames before scoring a run each in the seventh.

Josey Stokes was 2-for-4 for the Fillies with two doubles, two RBIs and a run scored. Ellie Wilson went 2-for-3 with a double. Emalynn Maness was

1-for-3 with a double and two RBIs. Camden Sellers went 2-for-3 with a walk and an RBI. Karter Moore was 1-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored.

Bailey Cary got the start for Huntingdon, allowing four runs (two earned) on ten hits while striking out one and walking three in six innings. Emalynn Maness pitched the final frame, allowing no runs on one hit with no walks.

## REGION 6AA SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

# Fillies are Runner-Up with Loss to Camden

**BY BRAD SAM**  
brad@mckenziebanner.com

**CAMDEN** (May 14) — The Huntingdon Fillies are the runner-up of the Region 6AA Softball Tournament after an 11-4 loss to Camden Wednesday. The loss sent the Fillies on the road for a sectional against Forrest with a state tournament bid on the line.

Huntingdon struck first with a pair of runs in the

top of the first, but Camden tied it in the home half and pulled away with five runs in the second. After three scoreless frames, the Fillies plated two in the top of the sixth, but the Lady Lions added four in the home half.

Josey Stokes was 2-for-4 for the Fillies with a double, an RBI and a run scored. Camden Sellers went 2-for-3 with a walk. Aubrey Castleman was 1-for-3 with an RBI. Karter

Moore went 1-for-3 with a run scored. Delaney Byars was 1-for-4 with a run scored. Ellie Wilson was 1-for-3.

Emalynn Maness got the start for Huntingdon, allowing five runs (two earned) on three hits with no walks in one inning. Bailey Cary pitched five innings of relief, allowing six earned runs on seven hits while striking out two and walking one.

## CLASS 2A SOFTBALL SECTIONAL

# Fillies End Season with Extra-Inning Loss to Forrest

**BY BRAD SAM**  
brad@mckenziebanner.com

**CHAPEL HILL** (May 16) — The Huntingdon Fillies ended their season Friday with a 6-5 loss in eight innings to Forrest High School in a Class 2A Softball Sectional.

Forrest advances to the state tournament.

The Lady Rockets struck first with a run in the bottom of the first. Hunting-

don took the lead with three runs in the top of the fourth, but Forrest regained the lead with three in the fifth. The Fillies tied it in the sixth, and the score held at 4-4 through the seventh. Huntingdon took the lead with a run in the top of the eighth, but the Lady Rockets plated two in the home half to claim the win.

Huntingdon's Karter Moore was 2-for-4 with

three RBIs and a stolen base. Kylie Tippitt went 1-for-4 with two runs scored and a stolen base. Delaney Byars was 1-for-4 with a run scored and a stolen base. Ellie Wilson went 1-for-3. Camden Sellers was 0-for-2 with a walk and an RBI.

Emalynn Maness got the start for the Fillies, allowing four runs (two earned) on five hits while striking out one and walking none in four innings. Bailey Cary threw three and a third innings of relief, allowing two earned runs on three hits and a walk.

## REGION 6A SOCCER TOURNAMENT

# Mustangs Claim Title, Secure Sectional Appearance

**BY BRAD SAM**  
brad@mckenziebanner.com

**KINGSTON SPRINGS** (May 15) — The Huntingdon Mustangs are Region

6A Soccer Tournament champions following a 2-1 road win over Harpeth Thursday.

The win secured Huntingdon a sectional appearance

for a chance to qualify for the TSSAA Class A Soccer State Championship.

Mustangs Mateo Jorge-Perez and Jaden Martin each scored a goal, and Greyson Anderson and Kelton Johnson each had an assist.

Huntingdon goalkeeper Gage Foster had 15 saves in the win.

## REGION 6A SOCCER TOURNAMENT

# Rebels End Season with Semifinal Loss

**BY BRAD SAM**  
brad@mckenziebanner.com

**KINGSTON SPRINGS** (May 13) — The McKenzie High School Rebels ended their soccer season Tuesday with a 4-0 loss in the Re-

gion 6A Soccer Tournament semifinal round to Harpeth.

Rebel goalkeeper Nate Dameron had eight saves in the game.

The loss marks the end of the MHS soccer careers

of seniors Tyler McCalister, Guillermo Hickman, Skyler Fornera, Nate Dameron and Emil Schreitmuller as well as junior Alex Garcia, an international exchange student.

# Marriage Licenses

Cassie Renee Harris, 42, of Huntingdon, to Ronnie Gene Layhew II, 36, of Huntingdon.

Emily Shea Reeves, 22, of Huntingdon, to Spencer Cole Webb, 22, of Yuma.

Morgan Paige Cole, 24, of Hollow Rock, to Thomas Ryan Rovey, 24, of Knoxville.

Jon Aaron Merchant, 27, of Yuma, to Jennifer Lynn Rowell Rutter, 34, of Yuma.

Nicky Joe Brown, 38, of Hollow Rock, to Jessica Marie Miget Foster, 48, of Hollow Rock.

Daryl Wayne Veliz, 41, of

McKenzie.

Briley Peyton Lankford, 22, of Huntingdon, to Grayson Hunter Arrington, 26, of Paris.

Emily Bailey Bryan, 34, of Huntingdon, to Shane Hunter Umstead, 38, of Huntingdon.

# NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 67-5-508 Tennessee Code Annotated, the property assessment records of Carroll County will be available for public inspection in the Assessor of Property Office, Suite 105, Carroll County Complex during normal business hours. Any person desiring to inspect these records may do so at the appointed time and place.

The Carroll County Board of Equalization will begin its annual session to examine and equalize the county assessments on June 2, 2025. **THE BOARD WILL ACCEPT APPEALS FOR TAX YEAR 2025 ONLY UNTIL THE LAST DAY OF ITS 2025 REGULAR SESSION, WHICH WILL BE JUNE 20, 2025.** The Board will meet in the Conference Room in the Carroll County Complex. Any owner of property who wishes to make a complaint or appeal to the County Board of Equalization must make an appointment by calling the Assessor of Property Office at 731-986-1975 from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. daily. A property owner must appear at this time personally or by personal appearance of an agent for the owner bearing the owner's written authorization. Failure to appear and appeal an assessment will result in the assessment becoming final without further right of appeal.

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CLASS 1A BASEBALL SECTIONAL SERIES

Rebels, Raiders Split to Force Decisive Game Three

BY BRAD SAM

brad@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (May 14) — McKenzie High School hosted Moore County Wednesday for the first two games of the Class 1A Baseball Sectional Series, a best-of-three set to determine who advances to the TSSAA Class 1A Baseball State Championship. McKenzie took Game One, 6-3, and Moore County won Game Two, 5-3, forcing a decisive Game Three the following day.

Game One: McKenzie Rebels 6, Moore County Raiders 3

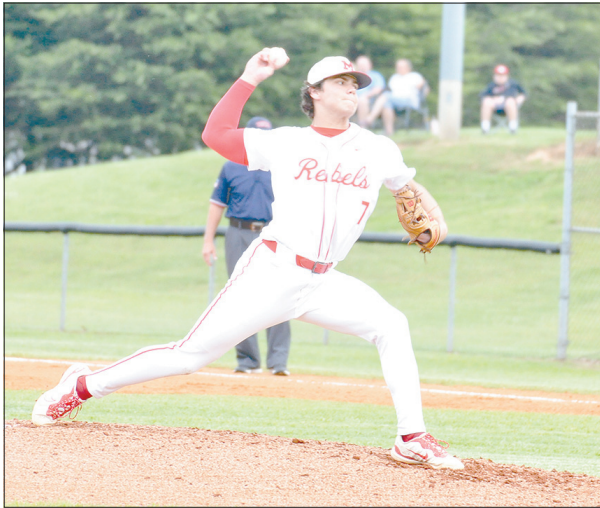
McKenzie struck first with four runs in the bottom of the first frame. Moore County got on the board with a run in the top of the third, but the Rebels answered with a run in the home half. The Raiders plated a pair in the fifth inning, and McKenzie tacked on one in the sixth.

Rebel Fletcher Holt was 1-for-4 with a three-run home run. Tate Surber went 2-for-3 with an RBI, a run scored and a stolen base. Craegen Travis was 2-for-3 with an RBI and a run scored. Xander Johnsey went 1-for-4 with a double and a run scored. Cooper Davidson was 2-for-2. Cole Brown went 2-for-4 with a run scored.

Tate Surber earned the complete-game victory for McKenzie, allowing three runs (two earned) on three hits while striking out ten and walking three.

Game Two: Raiders 5, Rebels 3

Moore County took an early lead with three runs in the bottom of the second inning and added another in the fourth. McKenzie got



Above, Rebel Tate Surber earned the complete-game victory in Game One, allowing three runs (two earned) on three hits while striking out ten and walking three. Below Left, Rebel first baseman Craegen Travis makes a running catch near the fence in foul territory during Game One. Below Right, Rebel right fielder KD Cunningham gets under a fly ball for the out in Game One. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner



on the board with one in the top of the fourth, but the Raiders answered in kind in the home half. The Rebels rallied in the sixth, but managed just two runs and left the bases loaded.

Rebel Craegen Travis was 1-for-3 with a double and two RBIs. Cole Brown went 2-for-4 with two runs scored. Cooper Davidson was 1-for-2 with a walk.

Tate Surber went 1-for-4 with a run scored.

Craegen Travis got the start for McKenzie, allowing five earned runs on three hits while striking out four and walking two in three innings. Xander Johnsey pitched the final three frames, allowing no runs on one hit while striking out one and walking none.

CLASS 1A BASEBALL SECTIONAL SERIES



Left, Rebel Tate Surber eyes a pitch to hit for a double. Right, Rebel Fletcher Holt earned the complete-game win, allowing three runs (two earned) on five hits while striking out six and walking two. Photos by Jason Martin/The Banner

Rebels Earn State Tournament Bid with Game Three Win

BY BRAD SAM

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McKENZIE (May 15) — McKenzie High School hosted Moore County Thursday for a decisive Game Three in the Class 1A Baseball Sectional Series. The Rebels earned a 5-3 win and, with it, a trip to the TSSAA Class 1A Baseball State Championship in Murfreesboro.

McKenzie begins the eight-team, double-elimination state tournament Tuesday at 4 p.m. against

Whitwell at Wilson Central High School in Lebanon.

In Thursday's win, the Rebels struck first with three runs in the bottom of the second inning. They added another in the fourth. Moore County got on the board with a pair in the top of the sixth. McKenzie plated one in the home half, then stopped a Raider rally short at just one run in the top of the seventh.

Rebel Xander Johnsey was 1-for-4 with a triple and three RBIs. Cole

Brown went 1-for-4 with a double and two RBIs. Cooper Davidson was 2-for-2 with a walk. Avery Brown went 1-for-1 with a walk and three runs scored. Tate Surber was 1-for-3 with a double and a walk. Lelan Gordon went 1-for-3 with a double. Ace Brown was 1-for-3.

Fletcher Holt earned the complete-game win for McKenzie, allowing three runs (two earned) on five hits while striking out six and walking two.

CLASS 2A BASEBALL SECTIONAL



Above, The Mustangs celebrate their Sectional series sweep and state tournament berth with a dogpile on the mound. Photo courtesy Kathy Bush/Huntingdon Sports Pics Below Left, Mustang Easton Byars earned the complete-game win in Game One, allowing two runs (one earned) on six hits while striking out four and walking none. Below Right, Mustang shortstop Gray Eubanks makes a diving catch running back into the outfield. Photos by Joel Washburn/The Banner



Mustangs are State-Bound With Sweep of Eagles

BY BRAD SAM

brad@mckenziebanner.com

HUNTINGDON (May 14) — The Huntingdon Mustangs are headed to the TSSAA Class 2A Baseball State Championship after sweeping Summertown in the first two games of a best-of-three Sectional series Wednesday, 5-2 and 7-0.

The eight-team, double-elimination state tournament begins Tuesday, May 20 and culminates in the championship game Friday, May 23. The Mustangs first play Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. against either Sweetwater or Pigeon Forge.

Game One: Huntingdon Mustangs 5, Summertown Eagles 2

Huntingdon scored two runs in each of the first two innings. Summertown got on the board with a run in the third, but the Mustangs added one in the fourth. The Eagles plated a run in the sixth.

Mustang Gray Eubanks was 3-for-3 with a home run, two doubles, a walk, two RBIs and two runs scored. Braylon Rich went 1-for-2 with a home run, two walks, two RBIs and a run scored. Brady Warbritton was 1-for-4 with a dou-

ble and a run scored. Hayes Eubanks went 2-for-4. Braylin Dearmon was 1-for-3. Silas Sharp was 0-for-1 with two walks and an RBI.

Easton Byars earned the complete-game win for Huntingdon, allowing two runs (one earned) on six hits while striking out four and walking none.

Game Two: Mustangs 7, Eagles 0

Huntingdon scored a run in the first, two in the third and four in the fifth for the shutout.

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

Caleb Ezell earned the complete-game shutout for Huntingdon, allowing four hits and a walk while striking out three.

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