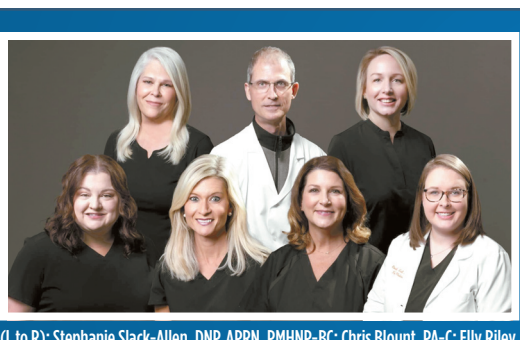

(L to R): Stephanie Slack-Allen, DNP, APRN, PMHNP-BC; Chris Blount, PA-C; Elly Riley, DO; Lori Holladay, NP; Jill Bennett, NP; Katharine Bullock, FNP; and Emily Ezell, DO.

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Tuesday, July 29, 2025 | McKENZIE, TENNESSEE | Vol. 155 / No. 30 / 75¢

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QUOTE

"The more sand that has escaped from the hourglass of our life, the clearer we should see through it."
— Jean Paul

Huntingdon Fire Chief John Fordon, photographed at Elk Grove Village Fire Department, Illinois.

Fire Chief Fordon Deployed To Kerr County After Flooding

BY LYNDSEY SUMMERS
lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

KERRVILLE, Texas — John Fordon, Huntingdon's fire chief, has dedicated most of his professional life to helping those in need. When disastrous floods hit Kerr County on July 4, Chief Fordon was ready to get to work.

Fordon joined 14 first responders and six canines from across the state to represent the Urban Search and Rescue Tennessee Task Force 1 (TN-TF1) in Texas on July 7.

TN-TF1 is a highly trained team of first responders from West Tennessee, led by the Memphis Fire Department and deployed by FEMA. Fordon is a logistics specialist on the team, responsible for setting up a base of operations, and a convoy driver. He also provides the team support with any equipment needs. In Kerr County, Fordon supported the Canine Search Team - Human Remains Detection.

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'Eggers' Strike in McKenzie

BY LYNDSEY SUMMERS
lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

A series of pranks have disrupted neighborhoods in and around McKenzie, prompting angry responses from affected residents. According to one social media post, several houses and

See EGGERS on Page 3

A BRIGHT FUTURE

Kids Football Camp participants, MHS players and coaches at the conclusion of the event. *Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner*

Rebels Host Kids Football Camp

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (July 21) — Coach Keith Hodge and the McKenzie High School Rebels hosted the second annual Kids Football Camp Monday evening at the indoor practice facility.

About 90 kids participated in the two-hour camp, a big jump from last year's inaugural event.

The kids started with agility and warm-ups, then rotated in smaller groups at eight stations to focus on learning specific skills such as passing, receiving, tackling and kicking.

The event closed with a receiving competition and a "postgame huddle".

Coach Hodge spoke to The Banner about the camp. "The main thing for us is we want the McKenzie community involved. We want the kids, elementary kids, the middle school kids, to be excited about

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Back-to-School Drive Gives Students Fresh Start

BY LYNDSEY SUMMERS
lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (July 26) — Webb School alumni and volunteers from McKenzie's First Baptist Church joined forces to host a back-to-school drive at McKenzie's historic Webb School. The drive — which offered free clothes, shoes, backpacks, school supplies, personal hygiene products and haircuts — drew in a large gathering of volunteers and shoppers alike.

The Webb School gymnasium was packed with clothing and supplies that had been organized by volunteers the

See SCHOOL on Page 3

After shopping, students checked out with Webb alumni who bagged their new items. *Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner*

Huntingdon Council Adopts New Tax Rate

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

HUNTINGDON (July 22) — The Huntingdon Town Council approved the property tax rate for the next fiscal year at $0.7744 per $100 of assessed value during Tuesday's regular meeting. The purchase of a commercial pumper for the fire department was also approved.

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Top, The Huntingdon High School baseball team was honored for their finish as the TSSAA Class AA Baseball Runner-Up. Above, HHS track and field state competitors were honored. Pictured (L to R) are Mayor Chad Edwards, HHS runners Shawn Simpson, Carson Watters, Cole Chafin and Blaine Todd and Head Coach Bryan Dickens. Below Left, HHS soccer and All-West Tennessee goalkeeper Gage Foster (right) was honored by Mayor Chad Edwards and the council. Below Right, Gray Eubanks (via video call) was presented the Town of Huntingdon's Pinnacle of Excellence Award. From left, Gray's parents, Coach Alan Eubanks and Councilperson Kelly Eubanks, are pictured accepting the award from Mayor Chad Edwards. *Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner*

Huntingdon Town Council Honors High School Athletes

Gray Eubanks Awarded Pinnacle Of Excellence

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

HUNTINGDON (July 22) — During Tuesday's regular meeting, the Huntingdon Town Council and Mayor Chad Edwards honored local high school athletes for their achievements in spring sports, including awarding the town's Pinnacle of Excellence to Mr. Baseball winner Gray Eubanks.

Mayor Edwards welcomed the capacity crowd to the meeting room. "It's a pleasure to see so many of you here to celebrate the achievements and dedication of our athletes. Each individual has constantly gone above and beyond, demonstrating exceptional performance and commitment and passion."

He presented a certificate to each athlete, beginning with Gage Foster, who led the Mustang soccer team to a region championship and sectional appearance. Foster was named an All-West Tennessee Soccer goalkeeper.

Honored next were track and field Head Coach Bryan Dickens and state competitors Shawn Simpson, Cole Chafin, Carson Watters and Blaine Todd. The four finished third in the 4x800-meter relay. In the 3200-meter run, Todd finished second and Simpson finished sixth.

The Mustang baseball team was honored for their TSSAA State Championship Runner-Up finish. Presented certificates were Head Coach Alan Eubanks, assistant coaches Brandon McCormick, Kade Pearson and Daniel Eubanks, and team members Owen Kreuziger, Silas Sharp, Easton Byars, Aiden Hilliard, Owen Hugueley, Colt Luther, Broox Bennett, Wesley Williams, Brady Warbritton, Wyatt Bradley, Braylon Rich, Maddox Holmes, Cody Wilson, Kainan Moore, Colt Wood, Gabriel Smothers, Austin Mays, Hayes Eubanks, Cy Hankins, Caleb Ezell, Derek Hodge, Hayden Strop, Cooper Waddell, Cayden Brewer, Evan Blakeman, Linsman White, Braylin Dearmon and Gray Eubanks.

Coach Eubanks thanked the mayor and council, adding, "I want to thank the town too… When we played for the state championship that day, it was a real moment… It's like the whole town was there."

Edwards then presented the Pinnacle of Excellence to Gray Eubanks. The Class AA Mr. Baseball winner was unable to attend in person, but was present via video call as the mayor recited the inscription on the plaque: "On behalf of the Huntingdon Town Council and the Town of Huntingdon, it is our honor to present the 2025 Pinnacle of Excellence award, an accolade recognizing individuals who have reached the highest levels of achievement and embody the spirit of the town of Huntingdon's values: dedication, teamwork, sportsmanship and hard work. This individual's journey has been marked by achievement and success not only in baseball but football. He has proven to be a leader both on and off the field. His unwavering commitment and determination have had a significant impact on the Huntingdon mustangs."

Gray's parents, Coach Alan Eubanks and Councilperson Kelly Eubanks, accepted the award on his behalf.

The Kids Football Camp concluded with a receiving competition. *Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner*

Camp

…From Front Page

football and the competition and the camaraderie that comes with being up here and getting together and learning different skills and different things that come along with football.

"But the main thing is getting all these kids together and seeing what they can do and compete a little bit and just have fun. This game is meant to be fun and exciting for the kids.

"The McKenzie community loves football. This is just the second year of it, and it's already grown. I think that's a really big deal for us. We want to continue to keep kids excited."

Booker is New West Carroll Junior Senior High Assistant Principal

COURTESY WCSSD

ATWOOD — West Carroll Junior Senior High School recently announced Leslie Booker as the new assistant principal.

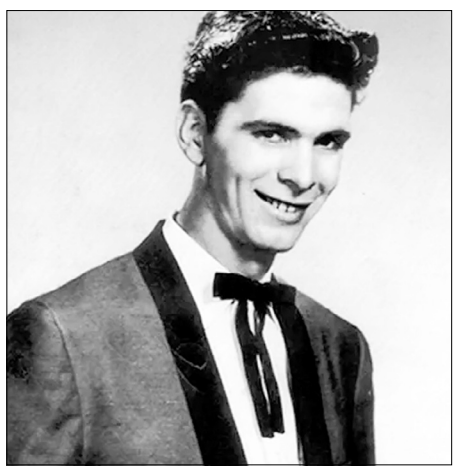
Booker brings a strong academic focus and a deep commitment to student-centered leadership that will enhance the school community and support the continued success of our students.

Joining West Carroll from Milan, Booker comes with a wealth of experience both in the classroom and in educational leadership. Her background as a dedicated educator has provided her with valuable insights into effective teaching practices and student engagement, making her an excellent fit for West Carroll's mission to foster academic excellence and holistic student development.

West Carroll Junior Senior High School Assistant Principal Leslie Booker. *Photo courtesy WCSSD*

"We are thrilled to have Leslie Booker join our leadership team. Her experience and view on education aligns directly with our goals," said Dr. Adam Douglas, principal of WCJSHS. "Her passion for education, combined with her hands-on experience and leadership skills, will be instrumental in supporting our staff and students as we strive to create a nurturing and challenging learning environment."

Leslie's collaborative approach and student-first philosophy align perfectly with West Carroll's commitment to empowering every learner to achieve their fullest potential. The school community looks forward to the positive impact her leadership will bring to both academic programs and school culture.



Left, Andrea Salazar, niece of Carl Mann, addresses the Huntingdon council on behalf of the Mann family. *Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner* **Right, Rockabilly Hall of Fame member and Huntingdon native Carl Mann.**

Huntingdon Council Approves Signage Honoring Carl Mann

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

HUNTINGDON (July 22) — During their regular monthly meeting Tuesday, the Huntingdon Town Council approved the installation of signage honoring Rockabilly Hall of Fame member Carl Mann.

Born in Huntingdon, Mann was a child musical prodigy who began recording at age 15. He signed with Sun Records and, at 16, reached #25 on the Billboard Hot 100 with his cover of "Mona Lisa".

He performed and recorded for over six decades until his death in 2020 at age 78. Mann was inducted into the Rockabilly Hall of Fame in 2006.

Mann's niece, Andrea Salazar, addressed the council on behalf of Carl's family to request the signage and offer to cover the costs. Also present were Salazar's sister, Sabrina Bailey, and Mann's son, Richard Mann.

Salazar said, "Carl Mann was a rockabilly pioneer and spent a lifetime performing for fans all over the United States and Europe. He was the last and youngest artist signed with Sun Record label. He was a guest performer on the Dick Clark show multiple times. Carl spent time touring with Johnny Cash, George Jones, Carl Perkins, Brenda Lee and was personal friends with Loretta Lynn and with Patsy Cline. He had many musical accomplishments, and he is a gold record recipient.

"He was somewhat disappointed that the town of Huntingdon never seemed to recognize him for all that he did. He would be a little hurt when he would go to McLemoresville and see the welcome sign with Dixie [Carter]'s name on it, or he would go to Parsons and see the highway named after Little David Wilkins, or he would go to Jackson and see 'Home of Carl Perkins'. And there was never a sign in honor of him here in his own hometown.

"On behalf of his sister and the whole Mann family, we would love to see his legacy live on. Therefore, we would like a sign to be put up at the entrance of town to recognize him. We feel as if it's 50 years overdue."

Mayor Chad Edwards referred to discussions he had previously had with the family and suggested Highway 70 coming into town from Leach as a good place for the signage as much of the Mann family lived in that area.

The mayor offered that the council could consider the proposal and revisit it, but councilmember Chad Barnhart countered that it could be a brief discussion right away. Councilmember Daniel Eubanks doubled down on that sentiment and made a motion to approve the signage. Kelly Eubanks seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

The family will come up with a design for the sign, which will come before the board for final approval, according to Mayor Edwards.

Tax

…From Front Page

The new rate is a reduction from the previous year's rate of $1.2478, based on the county-wide property reappraisal conducted this year, but represents no change in overall revenue to the town.

The council also approved a change in language to the ordinance that sets sewer rates for customers outside of corporate limits. Rather than billing based on a set usage (6,000 gallons), bills will indicate a flat rate of $74.57. The change is purely semantic and does not represent a change in the rate. Action on the matter was prompted by comments from several residents of Lake Halford during last month's regular meeting.

Council members unanimously approved a contract with Alexander Thompson Arnold (ATA) for audit services, but not before some discussion. The fee for this year is $34,150, plus an additional $4,250 if an additional audit is necessary. Councilmember Andrew Maddox voiced his interest in seeking bids for the services next year. Mayor Chad Edwards and City Attorney Robert Keeton explained that finding reputable firms willing to take on new clients is difficult and that changing firms can be a risk, but agreed, along with several council members, that it was worth looking at next year.

Councilmember Maddox was the lone dissenter in a 6-1 vote to enter into an agreement with J.R. Wauford & Company for engineering services for an Asset Management Plan. The plan is required by the state and is funded 80/20 by a Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) grant with a match amount of $19,000.

The council authorized a PILOT (Payment In Lieu of Taxes) agreement between the Industrial Development Board and INTOCAST, a new industry coming to Huntingdon.

A resolution was approved to authorize the town to be a member of the HGACBuy Cooperative Purchase Program, which will give the fire department more options for equipment purchases. The membership was utilized immediately as the council approved the purchase of a commercial pumper from Fouts Fire for $499,500. The two pumpers currently in the department's fleet were manufactured in 1993 and 1999.

A request for use of Edwards Park on Saturday, August 2 for a community event was approved.

Mayor Edwards made two announcements regarding The Dixie Carter Performing Arts Center. The bank note on the 2004 construction of the center will be paid off in full in October rather than by May 2026 in order to save on interest payments. Also, the money donated to The Dixie by the Hal Holbrook estate has been moved to a different account which will accrue more interest while retaining more access to the funds.

The meeting adjourned in 40 minutes.

Mathis is New McKenzie Middle School Assistant Principal

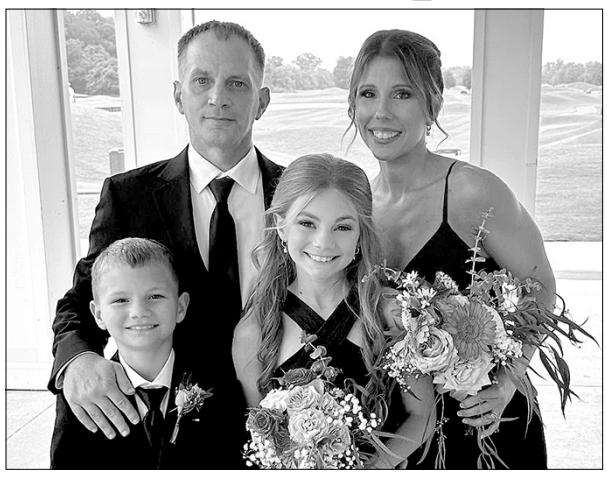
BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (July 24) — Beth Mathis is the new McKenzie Middle School assistant principal, the district announced Thursday.

Mathis is a 2001 graduate of McKenzie High School. She earned her bachelor's degree at the University of Tennessee at Martin in 2005 and her Masters in Instructional Leadership from Bethel University in 2012. She also holds a Special Education add-on endorsement from Austin Peay State University.

A 20-year educator, Mathis got her start in her hometown, teaching one year at McKenzie Middle School. She then relocated to Murfreesboro and taught for several years at LaVergne Middle School.

She returned to west Tennessee to teach at Dresden Middle School from 2010-2015 before circling back to MMS. In 2021, she moved up to the high school, where she taught algebra. Last year, she served as the MHS math interventionist.



McKenzie Middle School Assistant Principal Beth Mathis with husband, Jason, and children, Lane and Sami. *Photo courtesy Beth Mathis*

Mathis has also been the high school cross-country coach, a role she will continue this season.

She told The Banner, "I feel like Josh [Kee, the new MMS principal] will be a great leader and mentor, so I'm excited to learn from him. The majority of my experience has been in middle school, so I feel at home. I'm passionate and motivated to make our schools the best they can be."

McKenzie Director of Schools Dr. Justin Barden said, "Mrs. Mathis brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the position, and her passion for student learning and supporting teachers in the classroom will be evident immediately as she serves in the role."

Mathis lives in McKenzie with her husband, Jason, and their children, Sami and Lane.

Bethel Graduate Gracelyn Eaves Named First Runner-Up In Miss Tennessee Volunteer

JACKSON (July 26) — Gracelyn Eaves, a graduate of Bethel University, earned the title of First Runner-Up in the Miss Tennessee Volunteer pageant held in Jackson on July 26. The 22-year-old was also recognized for having the highest grade point average among contestants and won the Lifestyle and Fitness category for the third consecutive year. She previously won the title of Miss Congeniality during her first appearance in the competition.

This marks her third participation in the pageant, having previously competed as Miss Bethel Volunteer, Miss Paris Volunteer, and this year as Miss Nashville Volunteer.

Gracelyn, a brown-eyed, brown-haired contestant, comes from a large blended family. Her mother and stepfather are Tasha and Shawn Boone. She was raised by her father, Jeff Eaves, while her biological father is of Hawaiian and Korean descent. Gracelyn is one of nine siblings.

A graduate of Houston County High School in 2021, Gracelyn graduated from Bethel University in 2024. During her time at Bethel, she held several leadership positions, including president of the Bethel University Student Government Association, as well as being crowned Miss Bethel and Miss Greek. She also achieved the highest grade point average in her major. Gracelyn participated in Bethel University's Global Studies program, traveling to Guatemala and Italy.

Currently, Gracelyn is a student at Austin Peay State University, where she will earn her master's degree in Public Health in December. Following her graduation, she plans to apply for admission to medical school.

Gracelyn expressed her gratitude to the people of the greater Bethel University community for their love and support during the contest, acknowledging the impact of many local residents on her growth and success.

McKenzie School Board Agenda

McKenzie Board of Education meets Tuesday, August 5, 5:30 p.m. in the MSSD Board Room, Bell Street, McKenzie.

TENTATIVE AGENDA: 1. Prayer and Pledge to the Flag 2. Adoption of Agenda: A. Consent Agenda B. Regular Agenda (New Business) 3. Hear correspondence addressed to the Board 4. Public comment(s) on actionable agenda items (not to exceed 15 minutes)**.

MSSD Board Policy 1.404 NEW BUSINESS (Actionable Items):

5. Installation of the McKenzie Special School District Board of Education Student Board Representative, Gracie Aird.

6. Consider for approval Certified Tax Rate for 2025-2026 (MSSD Property Tax Rate).

7. Consider for approval McKenzie SSD budget amendment(s).

8. Consider for approval, on First Reading, amendments to the McKenzie Special School District Board of Education Policy Manual. 1.407 School District Records; 2.403 Surplus Property; 3.204 Threat Assessment Team; 4.100 Instructional Programs; 4.212 Virtual Education Program; 4.301 Interscholastic Sports; 4.403 Library Materials; 4.406 Use of Internet; 4.601 Reporting Student Progress; 5.119 Employment of Retirees; 5.305 Family and Medical Leave; 5.500 Discrimination/Harassment of Employees; 5.701 Substitute Teachers; 6.200 Attendance; 6.303 Questioning and Searches of Students; 6.304 Student Discrimination, Harassment, Bullying, Cyber-bullying & Intimidation; 6.312 Use of Wireless Communication Devices; 6.411 Student Wellness; 6.600 Student Records.

9. Consider for approval Memorandum of Understanding—McKenzie Police Department and McKenzie Special School District for SRO services.

10. Consider for approval the MSSD Disciplinary Hearing Authority 1. Tonya Brown or designee, McKenzie Elementary 2. Josh Kee or designee, McKenzie Middle 3. Kelly Spivey or designee, McKenzie High 4. Other district supervisors, as required Members of the DHA are appointed to one (1) year terms and subject to reappointment at stated in Student Disciplinary Hearing Authority Policy, 6.317.

11. HR Report.

12. Director's Report.

Eggers

...From Front Page

vehicles in the Holly Hills subdivision were targeted by egging in the late hours of Tuesday, July 22.

Egging, or the act of throwing eggs at people or property, is a form of vandalism and can irreversibly damage property under the right conditions. Thrown eggs can leave dents or break property. Egg whites can deteriorate certain types of paint, and egg yolks can be difficult to remove once dried. Vandals can be charged with a misdemeanor or a felony depending on the level of damage they inflict.

The vandals' targets were seemingly random. Residents shared photos of egged windows, house columns, doorsteps, truck bumpers, and more. One resident, who posted a photo of their house's egged second-story window, said it looked like an egg had cooked on their window.

This was the second egging to hit the Holly Hills neighborhood. One victim of the July 22 event said their truck was also egged during Easter weekend.

Holly Hills wasn't the only neighborhood affected. Police Chief Ryan White confirmed the McKenzie Police Department received a call about eggs being thrown at the city's pickleball courts. A resident near Stonewall Street also reported an egging on July 22.

At least seven victims posted about the July 22 incident on social media; three of the seven were local schoolteachers.

Residential security cameras captured videos of the perpetrators' vehicle, helping the Carroll County Sheriff's Department identify the teenage pranksters on Thursday, July 24. Upon identification, the sheriff's department called the victims to ask if they would like to press charges. One Holly Hills victim said they will have the teenagers do manual labor for them instead.

The Carroll County Sheriff's Department asks that victims outside of McKenzie city limits contact them at 731-986-8947 and ask for Investigator Angel Furr. Victims inside McKenzie's city limits are urged to call the McKenzie Police Department 1-731-352-2265 and speak with Investigator Kyle Beauchamp.

Above Left, Brenda Smith, former president of the McKenzie chapter of the Webb Alumni Association, helped students find plus-sized shirts. Above Right, Volunteers from McKenzie's First Baptist Church handed out backpacks stuffed with new school supplies. Below Left, Volunteer Carlton Townes assists a family with shopping questions. Below Center, Barber Aaron Morris from On Point Cutz & Styles in Union City cut and styled students' hair. Below Right, Tammy Lane, from Salon Serendipity, gave free haircuts to students. *Photos by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner.*

School

...From Front Page

night before. Booths and clothing racks were labeled by clothing sizes and types, from boys/girls 4T to men's 3XL. In an adjacent hallway, barbers and hairdressers set up stations to give young students fresh hairstyles going into the new school year.

Shoppers were allowed three outfits, one pair of shoes, a backpack and other supplies per student. The drive supported students in kindergarten through eighth grade.

Three years ago, Kim Bell Webb said God gave her a vision to give back to the community through a back-to-school drive. "The economy's high," she said. "Parents who make $7 an hour can't afford to get school clothes for three kids."

As the program has grown, so have its supporters. "This year the Lord has really, truly blessed us with people wanting to come aboard and partner with us," said Webb. The Webb Alumni Association received donations ranging from $20 to thousands of dollars in preparation for this event.

The back-to-school drive took place at Webb School. *Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner*

Carlton Townes, a senior at McKenzie High School, was one of the youngest volunteers at the event, representing both the First Baptist Church and Webb alumni. A descendant of Webb alumni, he grew up in the Webb community and attended Headstart at Webb School.

"I never regret anything I do when it comes to this stuff," said Townes. "When you come across these people, you never know the impact that you have on them."

McKenzie Mayor Ryan Griffin said, "I'm very grateful for our community to come alongside those that maybe can't afford to go back-to-school shopping or maybe need that fresh start, that fresh haircut, to start off the new school year."

Typically, Webb School alumni and the First Baptist Church have separate back-to-school events. Webb alumni host theirs in the Webb School gymnasium, and First Baptist Church members have theirs in Mulberry Park. This year, due to construction at the park, the two organizations joined together to help the community.

McKenzie's 2025-26 school year begins with a half-day on August 5.

Fordon

...From Front Page

Fordon's tasks included readying water for the canines, caring for the canines during breaks and setting up shelter from the heat. In the two weeks he stayed in Kerr County, he said temperatures ranged in the low to high 90s.

"Like humans, a dog's nose is working constantly. They need breaks, too," Fordon said.

Though they traveled into Texas together, Tennessee's first responder team dispersed when they reached the disaster site. They vetted with members from the Texas task force team to see where they were most needed and combined forces with the 2,000 first responders from across the nation.

Fordon, a career first responder, joined Tennessee Task Force 1 in February 2024. He had been a firefighter at Illinois' Elk Grove Village Fire Department for 31 years before retiring and moving to Carroll County in October 2023. He continued his service as a first responder at the Huntingdon Fire Department, being sworn in as Huntingdon's fire chief in April 2025. He remains an active member of the Illinois task force.

Fordon was first deployed with the Illinois task force in 2005 following the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. His mission in Kerr County was his eleventh deployment overall and his first with Tennessee.

Responding to natural disasters can be "very humbling," said Fordon.

"I'm doing what I can to help something I have no control over," Fordon said. "It makes you realize how precious life is and how quickly it can be taken away with little to no warning."

First responders bear witness to immense levels of devastation. Brandy Baumgardner, a member of the Tennessee Disaster Mental Health Strike Team, said, "We have found that, over the years, the victims, first responders and citizens usually have some form of trigger/symptoms when a disaster like this pops up… The buried cars, the huge mudflow debris piles… even if someone has been making it okay, they can suddenly be in a downward spiral after seeing the media coverage of an event three states away."

While Fordon and Baumgardner have not crossed paths in deployment, they share similar experiences. Fordon said that sometimes the only way to get through his emotions is to talk with fellow first responders.

"You know what you're getting into when you sign up for this type of work," Fordon said. "You know that when you meet people in this profession, they're having a really bad day. Once the mission is over… whatever challenges you endured, you have to work through them. You can do that by talking to people and being understanding and respectful."

Although the work is gruelling, it's an undertaking that Fordon and thousands of Americans accept to help victims of mass destruction.

Different disaster events demand different types of responses. In some events, volunteers are necessary for recovery. In others, donations can do the heavy lifting.

"Depending on what the event is, sometimes it's best to just step back and let first responders do what they need to do," Fordon said.

In Kerr County, it was rumored that almost 800 volunteers showed up each day to help with search and rescue.

Fordon advised that there are certain channels to follow if interested in volunteering. Counties in need have volunteer areas in which they group people for tasks based on their capabilities.

July's flooding event impacted over 100 miles of land throughout Texas. At least 135 people were found dead, with most found along the Guadalupe River in Kerr County, according to an Associated Press report. In a statement, Kerrville City Manager Dalton Rice credited search and rescue operations for the "remarkable progress" in locating missing people amid the destruction.

Three weeks into the search, more than 160 people previously unaccounted for have been found. Three people remain missing.

HUNKER DOWN WITH KES

I'd Trade Places with Him in a Heartbeat

No attempt at humor today. I'm sitting in a hospital waiting room. Waiting. Time has slowed to a lazy snail's pace. Minutes have crept into hours. Morning has crawled into afternoon. It is open heart surgery. And the patient is the only brother I have left.

You talk about time to think. And pray. And remember….

We drove a hundred thousand miles together on our knees in the dirt under our house. We built roads, bridges, tunnels, and service stations out of twigs, match sticks, and cut up tin cans. I drove a cattle truck most of the time. David Mark's rig was a Texaco oil tanker. We'd never heard of CB radios, but we talked to each other all the way to Joplin, Missouri, and back.

One of us would get hungry so we'd pull into a restaurant to stand up, stretch our legs, and check the menu. Waitress Mom would whip up hamburger steaks with mash potatoes and gravy, and we'd talk trucking till the food arrived. It tasted like peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, but we laid imaginary money on the kitchen table without complaint and headed back to our trucks. We needed to get across the ferry at Tiptonville before dark.

David hit me once with a hoe handle that rattled my teeth. I don't recall the leadup to this particular incident, but there is no doubt that I was at fault. He is 18 months younger, and you can bet the proverbial farm that I flaunted my superior age at every opportunity.

That "year and a half" makes no difference now but when we were five and six it was a mountain I was fixed upon, and a hill he was continually climbing.

We fought renegade Indians on the "plains" behind Aunt Jessie's house. And Japanese down at the big ditch. We were important soldiers. We had those multicolored ribbons and bronze metals pinned to our white t-shirts. I don't think Daddy ever noticed they were missing.

We learned teamwork playing football against our older brother. It was always me and David against Leon. He was five years bigger and stronger. But Dave would hit him low and hold on like a bulldog. I would go for his throat.

We got those identical Western Flyers the same Christmas. We biked all over creation. We raced up and down Stonewall Street. He stripped his down to the bare bones when he realized it would give him a couple of more miles per hour.

We walked to school together every weekday. And to the Park Theatre every Saturday for the afternoon double feature. We both worked at the swimming pool. We were both known around town as Leon's little brother. We shared those brown beans and cornbread suppers together, seemingly night after night after….

He was, at different times, my confidant, lone playmate, Rook partner, mortal enemy, teammate, punching bag, advisor, taste tester, holder of the "other end" of whatever we were holding, scapegoat, and mentor.

He was my Tonto, Dr. Watson, Little Beaver, Hardy, Costello, David Brinkley, Robin, Jerry, and logical Spock, with the tall ears. As we grew older, these rolls reversed on occasion.

He was always and forever my best friend.

David bought a car when he was 15. The kids made fun of me riding to school with my "little" brother. Shoot, that didn't bother me one bit. Neither of us were walking! One December I got the transmission hung up on that 1956 Chevrolet. I had to walk back to the house and get Dave. He laid down in the snow, ice, and water, slid under that car and fixed it. I was mortified. He never said a word….just taking care of his helpless brother.

When I went off to college, he gleefully proclaimed that for the first time in his life, he had a bedroom all to himself. But as we were loading up the car, I pretended not to notice the small tears in his eyes.

I will never forget the day he came back from Vietnam. I met him at the airport. I didn't know whether to hug him or shake his hand… I said, "I don't care about all that Green Beret training crap, I can still take you down anytime I want to."

All of our lives that challenge would have precipitated a no-holds-barred fight till something was broken or blood was flowing. Dave chuckled, threw his big arm over my shoulder and said in all earnestness, "K.C., if you get 'in' and ordered to Vietnam, the army has this deal where I can go in your place."

I was reliving the time Leon, David, and I were playing golf at Joe Wheeler State Park when the doctor appeared. With a smile on his face!

Praise the good Lord in Heaven!

But wait, hold on a minute! I'm not finished yet! I haven't gotten to Dave drag racing through downtown Clarksburg. Or him tackling that Billy goat. Or the time he gave MY letter jacket to the girl in Buchanan….

Gratefully,
K.C.

THE WIT AND WISDOM OF DAVID JOHNSON

Stop! In the Name of Love

When used effectively, "stop" is one of the most powerful four-letter words at our disposal.

It's used to prevent a child from touching a hot stove or from running into traffic.

On our streets it's used to prevent accidents from happening.

If the phrase "in the name of love" is added to it, it's most often a plea to a person to stop engaging in behaviors that are harmful to themselves.

It can also be used to set boundaries, to define what behaviors you won't tolerate.

What's hard to do is to make yourself stop—overeating, cheating, lying, blaming others for your problems, being lazy, trying to control others, spending too much money or too much time on your phone or the TV. The list could go on and on, right?

Here's one you may not have thought of: how about stopping yourself from helping someone in need?

It sounds cruel, unkind, and un-Christ-like, doesn't it?

Jesus tells a parable in Matthew chapter twenty-five about ten young bridesmaids who are waiting for those in a wedding party to arrive so they can join them in the wedding feast. When the wedding party arrives, the bridesmaids jump up and make sure their oil lamps are burning brightly. Unfortunately, five of them forgot to bring oil with them, so they turn to their counterparts and ask them to share their oil.

That's when the other five say, "No."

Their explanation was, if we give you some of our oil, we won't have enough for ourselves.

Now, here's the thing you need to pay attention to. Jesus was the one telling this parable, and he said those who said "no" to an opportunity to help others were "wise."

Let that sink in for a moment.

I know lots of people who, if they'd been in that situation, would've given away all their oil, that it was their duty to do so, and that God would expect them to give it away.

Here's my takeaway: When helping others is harming you, you've gone too far.

Self-care isn't selfish. Even Jesus took care of himself by getting away from those who needed him so he could spend time talking to his Father.

In the name of loving and caring for yourself, just STOP!

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY

Letters to the editor bear the opinion of the letter writer, and not necessarily that of the newspaper management or staff. Letters of opinion are not verified for accuracy of fact and truly stand only as the writer's opinion.

Letters to the editor of public interest are solicited. Most letters, 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.

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Editor's Viewpoint

BY BRITTANY WASHBURN MARTIN *Publisher • Designer* *brittany@mckenziebanner.com*

The Beauty of Everyday

People are always hesitant to admit their flaws or weaknesses.

Maybe it is our animal instinct. Maybe it feels like exposing your throat to a predator that will rip it out.

It's self-preservation to never show your cards, to never let anyone know how they can hurt you.

I'd like to think I have evolved past letting my weaknesses control me, but probably not. There will always be a trigger hidden somewhere I forgot to look when I was fortifying my heart, putting on all the armor that I wear.

But I digress slightly. There are so many people I admire; and an unfortunate byproduct of that admiration is that I put them on a pedestal, seeing only the good and blind to the negative qualities.

But really, I am amazed by some people. They walk around not realizing how awesome they are.

We live among superheroes and no one is freaking out like they just met a celebrity, that seems weird to me.

I mean… teachers and first responders… just to name a few.

I know a lady who is both and I love her more than words can say.

People who dedicate their lives and effort to improving their corner of the world in some way… we are lucky to bear witness to their awesomeness. People who give quietly without any expectation of recognition… what beautiful souls.

I feel it is important to tell people when you see something in them that is truly wonderful; but people can only take so much positive feedback about themselves.

What is it about us that we are so damaged we don't let the light in? We marinate in the darkness of our negative self image and pick at the scabs of our self loathing.

And when someone comes along to tell us differently, we crown them a weirdo and run away.

Why not hear about the good parts of you from someone who noticed?

Historically, I seek out the toxic people who are quick to point out my shortcomings, but never admit if I do anything right. Sometimes it is necessary to remove negative people from your life, no fighting, no hate, just distance and prayer. You can love someone but protect yourself from damage. If it risks your mental health, it is too steep of a price.

As of late, I've surrounded myself with a new group of people who are positive and uplifting. It feels weird to let the light in, but also cathartic.

I highly recommend giving yourself some grace, listening to the positive feedback, and loving yourself and all your flaws and strengths. You are beautifully and wonderfully made.

As I tell my daughter when she says something bad about herself, "You are perfect, because God made you, and God doesn't make mistakes."

So today, don't check the comment section, leave the keyboard warriors to beat up on someone else, cut out the negativity like a cancer, pull the weeds out of your garden, and tell the person in the mirror, "I love you and you are doing your best."

Armand Hebert, VP of Rotary; Morgan and Alonna Tosh, representing Mary's Kids; and Ricky Price, president of McKenzie Rotary.

Non-Profit Supports Henry School Children

The passion to help children continues in Henry, Tennessee, through a non-profit organization that bears the name of its late founder.

Alonna Tosh and Morgan Tosh spoke to the McKenzie Rotary Club on Tuesday, July 22 about the work of the area non-profit organization.

Mary's Kids is based in Henry, Tennessee, and provides Christmas gifts to underprivileged children attending Henry Elementary School.

This organization was started in 1995 by the late Mary Marten. Mary became an orphan at the young age of 5 and remained in an orphanage until her late teens. Her difficult childhood instilled in her a love for children and a heart that wanted to give back.

Mary was twice widowed but was undeterred in her support of the children of her community.

Each year, Mary's Kids raises money to purchase Christmas gifts for children who are not chosen by other local organizations. Their families are also provided a food box with enough food for a nice Christmas dinner. Children are selected by the Henry School guidance counselor, teachers, and administrators.

Like many schools in the area, Henry School is designated as a Title 1 School, where many students receive free or reduced-cost meals at school due to their parents' low income.

Each year, approximately 70 children and their families are supported by the organization.

Each year, the volunteers of Mary's Kids raise about $40,000 through fundraising and grants. They receive support from the community, from area churches, and the Henry Volunteer Fire Department.

LIFELINE Blood Services Announces Critical Appeal

JACKSON (July 22) — LIFELINE Blood Services announced an urgent need for all blood types, reporting that their blood supply is less than one day's worth.

"Our collections have really been low; possibly due to the extreme heat, to the busyness of summer, etc. We urgently ask our donors to step up and make the time to donate today. Our west Tennessee patients are counting on us," said Melinda Reid, marketing manager with LIFELINE Blood Services.

Until Labor Day, anyone 18 years or older who donates at LIFELINE Blood Services has a chance to win a 2022 Ford Mustang convertible from Joe Mahan Ford in Paris.

LIFELINE Blood Services, located at 183 Sterling Farms Drive, is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome. The Dyersburg Center is located at 1130 HWY 51 Bypass, Suite 19 and is open Saturday and Wednesday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday through Tuesday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. No appointment is necessary to donate whole blood.

Annually, the Center collects approximately 26,000 blood products (red cell units, platelets, plasma, etc.) to meet the needs of patients. Of that total, 75 percent of those products are usually collected on bloodmobiles. Lifeline also provides reference lab and cross-matching services to healthcare facilities. For more information, visit lifelinebloodserv.org.

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Obituaries

BETTY McCLELLAND 1942 – 2025

McKENZIE — A memorial service for Betty McClelland at Kingdom Hall will be announced later.

Mrs. McClelland, 82, died at her residence on Saturday, July 26, 2025. She was born in Oil City, La., on October 28, 1942, to Burtis and Vera Pearson.

She is survived by her husband, Carl McClelland; three daughters, Paula (Tim) Shelton of Houston, Texas, Pam (Don) Crews of Jackson, and Vicky (Rick) Baptist of Knoxville; one sister, Dot Rishton of Atlanta, Ga.; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents; siblings; and two sons, Mark Aguirre and Mike Aguirre.

Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home.

ALAN GRANT HINSON 1972 – 2025

TREZEVANT — Funeral services for Alan Grant Hinson were Monday, July 28, 2025, at 4 p.m. at Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home. Interment was at Trezevant Cemetery.

Mr. Hinson, 52, died at his home on Friday, July 25, 2025. He was an employee on a riverboat and a graduate of West Carroll High School. He was born on September 2, 1972, in Jackson to Willie Grant and Brenda Seavers Hinson.

He is survived by his mother, Brenda; and sister, Roxanne Young.

He is preceded in death by his father, Willie Hinson; and grandparents, Clifton and Ann Seavers, and Luther and Ophelia Hinson.

Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home.

JERRY BUFORD HOLMES 1944 – 2025

McKENZIE — A Celebration of Life is Saturday, August 2, 2025 at 1 p.m. at Lakeside Senior Living, 390 Dr. Smith Rd., McKenzie.

Jerry Buford Holmes, 80, died peacefully on February 18, 2025. Jerry was born on July 12, 1944, in McKenzie, to Buford and Lula Mae Holmes.

Jerry is survived by his four children: Kim Weaver of Piperton, Tenn., Karen Zane of Los Angeles, Calif., Robert Holmes of Park City, Utah, and Clayton Holmes of Paris, Tenn. He was equally proud of his nine grandchildren.

Jerry is also survived by his sisters, Bertie Douglas and Joyce Sullivan, both from Huntingdon. Jerry was predeceased by his brother, Dale Holmes and sister, Shirley Lesseg.

Chase Funeral Home.

SAMUEL SANDERS 1931 – 2025

HUNTINGDON — Mr. Samuel C. Sanders, 93, of Huntingdon, died on Saturday, July 26, 2025, at Baptist Memorial Hospital.

He was born on November 4, 1931, in Huntingdon, to the late John and Esther Comer Sanders.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Dorothy A. Sanders; three of his children: Ray C. Sanders, Samuel C. Sanders Jr., and Sherry Jane Sanders; and siblings, Reba Hall, Ravanell Britt, John Sanders Jr., Charles Kenneth Sanders, Paul Sanders, Naomi Dillahunty and Jean Barnhart.

He is survived by two daughters, who lovingly carry on his legacy: Samantha A. Gruszkowski of Crown Point, Ind. (husband Joe), and Sandra C. Sanders of Sarasota, Fla. He was a proud grandfather to six grandchildren. He also leaves behind one great-granddaughter; brother, Dwight (Susan) Sanders of Huntingdon; and one daughter-in-law, Amy Sanders of Huntingdon.

He shared a special bond with his dear friend, Kathie Parrish of McKenzie, who remained faithfully by his side in the later years of his life. A graveside service was Monday, July 28 at Long Rock Cemetery in Huntingdon.

Dilday-Carter Funeral Home.

ROY SHACKLEFORD 1943 – 2025

JACKSON — Mr. Roy Eugene Shackelford, 81, of Jackson, died Thursday, July 24, 2025.

Funeral services were Monday, July 28, 2025, in the Chapel of Chase Funeral Home. Interment was in New Bethel Cemetery in Cedar Grove.

Mr. Shackelford was born December 2, 1943, in Cedar Grove, to the late Earnest Shackelford and Ruby Woodard Shackelford. Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, James Shackelford.

He is survived by a daughter, Lisa Burgess (Cameron) of Nashville; a son, Steven Shackelford (Lucretia) of Jackson; and two brothers, Harold Shackelford (Emily) of Olive Branch, Miss., and Glynn Shackelford (Kay) of Bradford. He also leaves three grandchildren.

SUE CROCKETT 1945 – 2025

HUNTINGDON — Mrs. Sue Crockett, 79, of Huntingdon, died Wednesday, July 23, 2025, at Jackson Madison County General Hospital.

Funeral services were Sunday, July 27, 2025, in the Chapel of Chase Funeral Home. Interment was in Flatwoods Cemetery in Camden.

Mrs. Crockett was born November 29, 1945, in Hornbeak, Tenn., to the late Aubrey and Mary Katherine Hudson Beard.

She is survived by her husband of 62 years, Jim Crockett, of Huntingdon; a daughter, Diana Walker (Matthew) of Huntingdon; a son, Larry Crockett (Gina) of Nashville; a sister, Jo Ann Beard, of Knoxville; and three grandchildren.

ASHLEY WILSON 1995 – 2025

McKENZIE — Mrs. Ashley Wilson, 30, of McKenzie, died Tuesday, July 22, 2025, at Vanderbilt University Hospital.

Memorial services were Sunday, July 27, 2027, at New Hope United Methodist Church in Hollow Rock.

Mrs. Wilson was born February 15, 1995. She was preceded in death by three sons, Theodore Wilson, Luscian Wilson and Doninick Wilson; and paternal grandmother, Mildred Pardue.

She is survived by three sons, Zander Wilson, Liem Wilson and Linken Wilson; father, Charlie Pardue, II, of Hollow Rock; mother, Kimberly Barrs of Ripley, Tenn.; two sisters, Debbie Pardue of McKenzie, and Jan (James) Brotherton of Hollow Rock; and one brother, Billy Joe (Leeanna) Pardue of Hollow Rock.

The Dixie Celebrates 20 Years Of Arts Education with Series

The Dixie Carter Performing Arts Center announces the lineup for its 20th Season Education Series, continuing a proud tradition of enriching the lives of West Tennessee students through live theatre and performing arts. With offerings for learners from Pre-K through 12th grade, the 2025–2026 series blends literature, science, history, and imagination to support educators and engage young audiences across the region.

This milestone season includes nine diverse performances, each paired with classroom connections and optional study guides to support learning beyond the theatre walls. Performances begin in October 2025 and run through March 2026.

2025–2026 Education Series Lineup:

The Legend of Sleepy Hollow — Monday, October 20, 9 and 11 a.m. Grades 4–Adult. Language Arts, History and Character Education. A spooky and faithful retelling of Washington Irving's classic, just in time for Halloween.

Bethel University Renaissance Theatre presents Newsies — Wednesday, November 5, 9:30 a.m. Grades 11–12 and Theatre Groups. Literature, Music, Drama, and History. This high-energy Broadway favorite, based on the 1899 Newsboys Strike, encourages students to stand strong and speak up. Sponsored by Huntingdon Insurance / S&S Insurance.

I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas — Tuesday, November 25, 9 and 11 a.m. Grades K–6. ELA, Science, Theatre and Music. A heartwarming holiday tale set in the Cincinnati Zoo, filled with hope, family, and festive cheer.

Doktor Kaboom! Look Out! Science is Coming! — Wednesday, December 3, 9 and 11 a.m. Grades 3–7. Science, Theatre, and Health. An explosive and hilarious introduction to scientific thinking from the one-and-only Doktor Kaboom. Sponsored by Carroll Bank & Trust.

Aesop's Fables — Wednesday, January 28, 9 and 11 a.m. PreK–Adult. Literature, Science, and History. A dynamic, theatrical adaptation of classic fables, with timeless life lessons and engaging characters.

Let It Shine: Civil Rights Movement — Thursday, January 29, 9 and 11 a.m. Grades 3–Adult. Black History, History, and Social Studies. This powerful production brings key Civil Rights figures and events to life through storytelling and song. Sponsored by Carroll Bank & Trust.

Hare and Tortoise — Wednesday, February 11, 9 and 11 a.m. PreK–3rd. Language Arts, Science, and Social/Emotional Learning. A lively and music-filled retelling of the classic fable that celebrates friendship, patience, and perseverance. Sponsored by Tippitt Farms & Renfroe Farms.

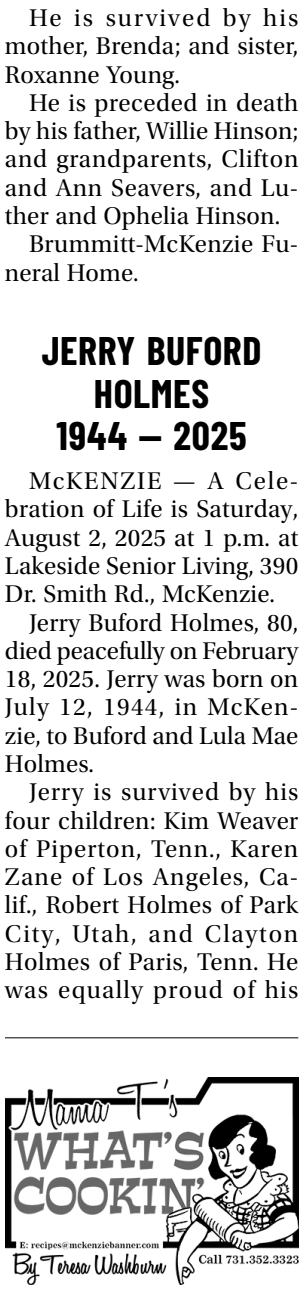
The Giver — Thursday, February 26, 9 and 11 a.m. Grades 7–12. Literature, Social Studies, and Science. A moving stage adaptation of Lois Lowry's award-winning novel exploring memory, freedom, and individuality. Sponsored by West TN Public Utility District.

The Jungle Book — Wednesday, March 11, 9 and 11 a.m. Grades K–4. Literature, Geography, Social Skills. The Panto Company USA brings Kipling's beloved story to life with vibrant costumes, music, and excitement. Sponsored by FirstBank.

Tennessee Arts Commission STS Grant Applications Open August 12 — Educators planning to attend with their students are encouraged to apply for the Student Ticket Subsidy (STS) Grant through the Tennessee Arts Commission, which helps cover the cost of tickets and transportation. The grant application portal opens Tuesday, August 12, and funds are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. Early application is strongly encouraged.

"This 20th season is more than a celebration—it's a recommitment to our region's students and teachers," said Trudy Radford, Education Coordinator at The Dixie. "We're proud to provide programming that not only entertains but also supports classroom learning and sparks imagination." Tickets are on sale now at DixiePAC.net for school systems and will go on sale Mon, August 4, at 10A CT for individuals and homeschool groups. Student tickets are $12 each and teacher/parent tickets are $15 each. A complimentary teacher ticket is given for every 10 student tickets purchased.

Visit DixiePAC.net or contact The Dixie's Box Office, M-F, 10-4, 731.986.2100, for the full series details, grade recommendations, and study guides. For STS grant information, visit tnartscommission.org.



Milky Way Cake

6 Milky way candy bars
1 cup Wesson oil
4 eggs
1 1/2 cup buttermilk
1 stick margarine
2 cup sugar
2 1/2 cup flour
1/2 teaspoon soda

Melt margarine and add to bars; stir until it gets creamy; set aside. Mix Wesson oil, sugar and eggs. Add flour; add melted candy and margarine mixture. Blend all well. Bake at 350 degrees. Makes about four 9 inch layers.

Icing:

2 cup sugar
6 oz. semi-sweet chocolate chips
1 stick margarine
1 small can evaporated milk
1 cup marshmallow cream

Cook sugar and milk to soft ball stage. Add chocolate chips, marshmallow cream, and margarine. Stir until all is melted. Spread on cake layers.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

McKENZIE SENIOR CENTER EVENTS

Exercise class weekdays at 9 a.m.

Billiards every day, 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Canasta every Monday and Friday afternoon 12:30 p.m.

Line Dance class every Monday and the first and third Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

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

Dominoes every Wednesday and Saturday, 12:30 p.m.

Game Day every Sunday at 3 p.m.

OLIVE BRANCH CEMETERY DAY

Olive Branch Cemetery is hosting its cemetery day to elect board members, host a potluck fellowship, and accept donations on August 8, noon to 2 p.m.

NIGHTS ON BROADWAY ON THURSDAYS

McKenzie's downtown summer music series Nights on Broadway continues Tuesday, August 7 with the band Longshot. Music begins at 7 p.m. Spectators sit on the town square facing the stage on Banner Row; lawn chairs are encouraged.

Nights on Broadway continues with Fajita Brothers performing Thursday, September 4. Flashback performs Thursday, September 18.

CARROLL ARTS, INC. UPCOMING EVENTS

Carroll Arts, Inc. has a packed schedule of events.

The Southern Fried Funnies are back! Performances are set for Thursday, August 21 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, August 23 at 2 p.m. at the McKenzie Park Theatre. Admission is $5.

Other upcoming events include: Storytelling during the Huntingdon Heritage Festival in September; A Mistletoe Christmas Program during McKenzie's Christmas Celebration in December; the 15th Annual Trivia Bowl in January 2026; and a new event announcement coming later this year. For more information, please email carrollartsinc@gmail.com.

McKENZIE YOUTH SOCCER REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Online registration is now open for the McKenzie Youth Soccer League fall season, and in-person registration begins next month.

The online registration form is available on the McKenzie Youth Soccer League Facebook page.

In-person registration will be held at the depot building on Saturday, August 9 from 9-11 a.m.; Tuesday, August 12 from 6-8 p.m.; and Saturday, August 16 from 9-11 a.m.

A coaches meeting is Saturday, August 23, and the season begins Saturday, September 6.

Pictures will be taken on Sunday, September 7.

A tournament will be played Saturday, November 1 and a closing ceremony held Monday, November 3.

MHS CLASS OF 1975 TO HOST REUNION

McKenzie High School Class of 1975 is hosting a reunion in celebration of 50 years following graduation. Class members were the last to graduate from the three-story high school just weeks before it was razed to make room for a parking lot.

The reunion is in conjunction with the MHS Alumni Association Decades Reunion on Friday, September 19, where alumni from many classes gather for an informal reunion before the Homecoming football game featuring the McKenzie Rebels.

Members of the Class of 1975 will gather on Saturday, September 20, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for lunch and socializing at First Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Class members can obtain more information by emailing mckenziehigh75@gmail.com.

CARROLL COUNTY REPUBLICAN RALLY

Carroll County Republicans are hosting a rally at the Inclusion Park, Mustang Drive, Huntingdon, on August 2, 10:30 a.m. It includes music, food, and a rally.

Congressman Tim Burchett is one of the guests.

UPCOMING 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.

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 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. 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 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.

MHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER MEETING

The McKenzie High School Alumni Association hosts a meeting on Tuesday, July 29, at 6 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church fellowship hall. Volunteers are needed to help with making all activities of the MHSAA Decades Reunion (September 19-20) a success. Updates on activities of the weekend will be discussed, and sign up sheets will be available for different volunteer opportunities. Those interested are encouraged to attend the meeting, and the alumni association would love for you to get involved!

CARROLL DEMOCRATIC PARTY MEETS

The Carroll County Democratic Party meets the third Thursday of every month at 6:30 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. No meetings in February and July.

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.

Parisian THEATRE
Jim Adams Drive
Paris, TN • 642-1696

FANTASTIC FOUR (PG-13)
Tues. 4:30 (3D), 7:30
Wed. 1:30, 4:30 (3D), 7:30
Thurs. 4:30 (3D), 7:30

SMURFS (PG)
Tues. 4:30, 7:30
Wed. 1:30, 4:30, 7:30
Thurs. 4:30, 7:30

I KNOW WHAT YOU DID (R)
Tues. 4:35, 7:35
Wed. 1:35, 4:35, 7:35
Thurs. 4:35, 7:35

SUPERMAN (PG-13)
Tues. 4:30 (3D), 7:30
Wed. 1:30, 4:30 (3D), 7:30
Thurs. 4:30 (3D), 7:30

JURASSIC WORLD: REBIRTH (PG-13)
Tues. 4:25 (3D), 7:25
Wed. 1:25, 4:25 (3D), 7:25
Thurs. 4:25 (3D), 7:25

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON (PG)
Tues. 4:25 (3D), 7:25
Wed. 1:25, 4:25 (3D), 7:25
Thurs. 4:25 (3D), 7:25

A4365/30-1

INFOLINE 731-642-7171

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Carroll County Fair Schedule Announced

The Carroll County Fair Association recently announced the 2025 schedule for the Carroll County Fair. The schedule boasts a jam-packed week including pageants, a Mud Drag, a carnival, petting zoo, monster truck rides, a dog show and more. The annual fair is Saturday, August 2, through Saturday, August 9, in Huntingdon.

Fair week begins on August 2 with a day full of pageants. The Little Miss Carroll County pageant for ages 4 through 6 begins at 9 a.m., with the Little Miss Fairest of the Fair for ages 7 through 9 following at 9:30 a.m. The Junior Fairest of the Fair pageant for ages 10 through 12 begins at 10 a.m. and the Miss Teen Fairest of the Fair for ages 13 through 15 begins at 10:30 a.m. The Fairest of the Fair pageant for ages 16 through 20 begins at 1 p.m. Pageant admission fee for spectators is $5 per person.

Also on August 2 is the fair's newest spectacle: the Mud Drag at 201 Mustang Drive. The Mud Drag features Super Stock, Hot Street, Hobby Stock, and Local Stock Classes driving two passes through 125 feet of mud. Those with the fastest time win. Gates for the Mud Drag open at 4 p.m., and the race starts at 7 p.m. Gate admission is $5, and children 5 years old and younger get in free. Concessions are available at the Mud Drag.

Pageants continue on August 3, beginning with the Fair Friends Baby Show for babies 0-23 months at 2:30 p.m. Directly after, at 3:30 p.m., is the Tiny Mr. and Miss Carroll County pageant for children aged 2 and 3.

Exhibits are open to view on August 3 from 2 to 4 p.m. and August 4 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Exhibits close on Tuesday, August 5, for judging.

The carnival, petting zoo, and Predator Monster Truck rides begin on Wednesday, August 6, beginning at 5 p.m. These activities continue through Saturday, August 9. Admission is free, but bracelets for activities are available for purchase.

The Fair celebrates Senior Citizens Day from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Thursday, August 7.

The Carroll County Fair Dog Show is Saturday, August 9, beginning at 10 a.m. Spectator admission is $5.

As Fair week comes to a close, exhibits are available for pick-up on Sunday, August 10, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Yard SALE
AUGUST 2
8 A.M. - 2 P.M.
FRIENDLY CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
833 WEST WALNUT AVE
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SCAN ME!

Pictured (L to R) 2025 graduates: MyKala Adkisson, Madison Falls, Karemon Williams, Jayden Milton, Kaleb Williams and Peyton Butler were honored at Wingo Missionary Baptist Church. Not pictured is Dakota Drake. *Photo courtesy Bertha Taylor*

Wingo Missionary Baptist Church Aids College-Bound Graduates

COURTESY BERTHA TAYLOR

WINGO (June 22) — Wingo Missionary Baptist Church congregation parents and grandparents honored seven recent high school graduates with lunch, scholarships and care packages for their college dorms.

Each graduate was recognized with a display of their high school achievements.

It was a great honor for the parents and grandparents and a blessing to the community.

Graduates included Peyton Butler of Smyrna, Georgia; Kaleb Williams of Jackson; Jayden Milton of Trezevant; Karemon Williams of Nashville; Madison Falls of McKenzie; MyKala Adkisson of Nashville; and Dakota Drake of Grand Prairie, Texas.

McKenzie High School 1950-60s Alums to Reunite September 20

The McKenzie High School Alumni Association (MHSAA) invites those who attended or graduated from McKenzie High School in the 1950s and 1960s to a casual reunion at the fellowship hall of the First United Methodist Church.

This opportunity to reconnect with friends and former classmates is Saturday, September 20, from 9 a.m. to noon, during the Decades Reunion Weekend. There will be light refreshments.

The MHSAA encourages any McKenzie High students from that era to attend and to reach out to their friends and classmates about the event.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Rebels Release August Scrimmage Schedule

The McKenzie High School Rebel football team will play three Friday scrimmages in August in preparation for the 2025 season.

On Friday, August 1, the team travels to Obion County for a 6 p.m. scrimmage.

On Friday, August 8, McKenzie hosts a scrimmage at Bethel University's Walter Butler Stadium, where they will face Lexington at 6 p.m.

On Friday, August 15, the Rebels will face McCracken County at 7 p.m. at the Henry County Jamboree.

The regular season begins Friday, August 22 as McKenzie hosts rival Huntingdon.

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THE BANNER

McLeese Enters Guilty Plea to Sexual Battery, Providing Alcohol to Minor

PARIS (July 21) — At a plea hearing held at the Henry County Jail this afternoon, Travis McLeese of Paris entered a 'blind plea' of guilty to all three charges before Circuit Court Judge Bruce Griffey: two counts of sexual battery and one count of purchasing alcoholic beverages or beer for a minor. A 'blind plea' is entered by a defendant without a plea agreement with the prosecution, leaving the sentencing decision entirely up to the judge.

McLeese is the former director of the Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce. He was indicted by a grand jury in March on those charges.

Sentencing was set for September 22 and he was ordered to remain in jail until then. Bond had been denied at his last court appearance after he was arrested for DUI in June. The DUI case is being heard in General Sessions Court.

At today's hearing, Morgan Greer appeared for the state and McLeese was represented by Daniel Taylor.

Circuit Court Clerk Bradberry Speaks to Rotary

McKENZIE (July 15) — Sarah Bradberry, Circuit Court Clerk of Carroll County was the featured speaker at the McKenzie Rotary Club on Tuesday, July 15.

Mrs. Bradberry serves the clerk for the Circuit Court, General Sessions Court, and Juvenile Court. Her staff members are responsible for maintaining the court records, receiving and disbursing funds, corresponding with members of the jury and court officers, and dealing with public records.

She is an elected county official and works with Circuit Court Judges Brent Bradberry (her husband) and Bruce Griffey, as well as General Sessions Judge Michael King, all of whom hold elective positions.

Circuit Court Clerk Sarah Bradberry and McKenzie Rotary Club President Ricky Price.

Carroll County Sheriff's Reports

Driving on Revoked — Michael Hollowell, 60, Huntingdon, was arrested for Driving on Revoked on July 19. Deputy Alex Sherwood stopped a vehicle for having an expired registration plate. The driver, Hollowell, also had a revoked driver's license. He was arrested and transported to Carroll County Jail.

Possession of Drug Paraphernalia — On July 20, Deputy Sean Bongiovanni, Deputy Thomas, Deputy Sherwood, and Deputy Flaurr arrived at a home in Yuma to serve multiple arrest warrants: Daniel W. Parker, 27, of Yuma, (Aggravated Assault, Domestic Assault, Tampering with Evidence), Casey L. Hooker, (Domestic Assault) and Joshua K. Reeves (tampering with evidence and accessory after the fact). Deputy Bongiovanni noticed Parker's car behind the residence. They attempted to knock on both doors and nobody answered. He noticed Daniel Parker peek through a window and the deputies gave verbal commands for them to come to the door. After a few minutes, Hooker opened the door, and they were able to arrest her and Parker. Deputies conducted a sweep to look for Reeves and found drug paraphernalia in plain view. They found six glass smoking pipes with meth residue, four smoking pipes with marijuana residue, two small plastic containers with meth residue, two homemade smoking devices, one scale with meth and marijuana residue, and other paraphernalia scattered throughout. Daniel Parker claimed to be the owner of all these items.

Vandalism — On July 23, Deputy Alex Sherwood was dispatched to Highway 423 in reference to vandalism. The victim advised that unknown subjects threw eggs at his vehicle and that numerous other vehicles and houses were "egged" the same night, some in McKenzie city limits and some in Henry County.

Theft — On July 23, a victim called the Sheriff's Department about a theft that occurred two weeks prior. Stolen items included a redneck deer stand and four trail cameras from his and his friend's hunting property in Cedar Grove.

Theft — On July 23, a victim reported that his 22-foot trailer was stolen from Hwy 70. The trailer was described as homemade 20 ft with a 2 ft dovetail with rectangle-shaped diamond plate fenders. There were various scrap metal items and a zero-turn mower on the trailer. The value of the trailer was $1,500, and the zero-turn mower was worth $4,500.

Domestic Assault — Deborah Graham, 67, Cedar Grove, was reported to have forced her way into the victim's home, where she attacked and choked out the victim.

Theft — On July 24, Deputy Jayden Flaurr was dispatched to Highway 70 for a potential burglary. Two outbuildings showed signs of forced entry. A chainsaw, ratchet set, pancake compressor, nail gun and three containers of coins were reported missing.

Resisting Stop and Arrest — On July 23, Deputies went to Farris Carter Street to serve an arrest warrant on Jason Lott. While speaking with Jason and advising him of the arrest warrant, his brother, Daniel Cody Lott, started yelling obscenities and acting aggressively towards the deputies. Attempts were made to de-escalate the situation with Daniel, but he appeared to be under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance. Daniel threatened the deputies, and the deputies had to use the taser on him before placing him under arrest.

McKenzie Police Reports

Driving on Suspended License — Jimmy L. Fuzzell, 63, Walnut Avenue, McKenzie, was charged with Driving on a Suspended License and Seat Belt Violation on July 23.

Officer Dustin McClure stopped Fuzzell's vehicle and verified his license was suspended. He was cited into court

Theft of Merchandise — Keith Cunningham, 54, Hazel, Kentucky, was charged with Theft of Merchandise on July 20.

Officer Darren Davis was dispatched to Dollar General, Highway 22, where the cashier showed the officer surveillance video of Cunningham taking items of merchandise, including fruit, potato chips, a Bic lighter, lemonade, and a sling chair. Cunningham was observed walking along State Route 22 and was stopped by the officer, who then arrested him and transported him to the Henry County Jail.

Domestic Assault — Tariq H. Jones, 24, Walnut Circle, McKenzie, was charged with Domestic Assault on July 24.

Sergeant Tanner Jackson responded to Park Circle, where the female victim resided, after MPD received a 911 call from the victim. She stated Jones violently pushed items off a kitchen counter in her direction and later assaulted her. The two were reportedly in a relationship. Mr. Jones was arrested and transported to Carroll County Jail.

Illegal Vehicle Squatting — Joshua M. Cochran, 19, Cedar Grove, was charged with Bumper Height Alteration and Illegal Window Tint on July 24.

Officer Dustin McClure stopped Cochran's Chevrolet Silverado because the bumper height was illegal. On the truck, it had a decal that read "Carolina Squat." The driver reportedly told the officer he knew the vehicle's suspension was illegal and he hadn't had time to correct it.

Cochran was cited into court on both charges.

Vandalism — A Stonewall Circle resident was the victim of vandalism to her vehicle caused by an egg thrown on it.

Officer Dustin McClure was dispatched to the residence on July 24, to view the vehicle. A male resident took a photo of the egg on the vehicle and then washed it to prevent additional damage. After the wash, a half-dollar-sized crack was discovered in the paint. The victims indicated they would file charges against the perpetrators. There were additional reports of vandalism by eggs filed by the Carroll County Sheriff's Department outside the city limits.

Huntingdon Police Reports

Aggravated Criminal Trespass — Justin S. Robertson, 47, was charged with Aggravated Criminal Trespass and Public Intoxication on July 13.

Officer Richardson identified Robertson banging on the victim's door on Green Oaks Drive. Robertson reportedly smelled strongly of alcohol and was found to have a bottle of liquor. He was transported to Carroll County Jail.

Domestic Assault — Tera Wiggs, 46, was arrested for Domestic Assault on July 15.

Officer Kristen Lee was dispatched to an altercation occurring in Walmart's parking lot. The victim stated that Wiggs assaulted him, clawing at him and leaving cuts on his fingers while trying to pry the victim's phone away. A store employee witnessed the situation. Officer Lee played Wiggs under arrest.

Shoplifting — Thomas Cannon, 24, was charged with Shoplifting on July 3.

Officer Richardson was dispatched to Walmart regarding Cannon, who had previously been observed shoplifting on January 9 and June 5. He had stolen $369.64 worth of items over time.

Cannon was issued a State Misdemeanor Citation for Shoplifting and given 10 days to book into Carroll County Jail.

Theft of Property — Donald Gordon and Jannaroffer Parker were identified stealing a wallet with over $665 inside at Walmart on July 12.

Warrants were issued for their arrest for theft of property under $1,000.

Driving on Revoked — Ronnie Maxwell, 70, was charged with Driving on Revoked on July 7.

Officer Malachi Arline was traveling eastbound on West Main Street when Maxwell operating a vehicle. Officer Arline had previous knowledge of him not having a current driver's license. Officer Arline pulled Maxwell over and gave him a misdemeanor citation and 10 days to book into Carroll County Jail.

DUI — Angel Arenivar, 34, was charged for Driving Under the Influence and Reckless Driving on July 8.

Officer Dexter Richardson observed a Toyota Tundra traveling at a high speed. The driver, Arenivar, continued to drive at a high rate of speed and eventually pulled over. Officer Richardson immediately detected an odor of alcoholic beverage coming from Arenivar. Arenivar failed a standardized field test. He was arrested and taken to Carroll County Jail.

Carroll County General Sessions

The following cases were heard in Carroll County General Sessions Court on July 23.

The following cases were bound over to the Grand Jury of the Carroll County Circuit Court.

Elizabeth Johnson, Robinson Road, Old Hickory, bound over, Meth - Possession or Casual Exchange; bound over, Casual Exchange - Adult/Minor - Schedule VI - ATT; bound over, Possession of Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia Uses & Activities.

Elizabeth Johnson, Robinson Road, Old Hickory, bound over, Possession of Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia Uses & Activities.

Michael Steed, South Bell Street, Alamo, bound over, DUI: First Offense.

The following cases resulted in a guilty plea or finding.

Laura Ann Darnell, Highway 190, McKenzie, guilty, Drivers License to be Carried and Exhibited, no fine, unsupervised probation for balance, make reasonable efforts to get a valid drivers license.

Daniel D McCarty, Wild Ridge Circle, Memphis, guilty, DUI by Allowing, $350 fine, 11/29 supervised probation until paid in full and compliant, cannot drive in Tennessee for one year, ignition interlock, report to jail on August 1; dismissed, Simple Possession/Casual Exchange.

Lamarcus Young, Beaumont Street, Martin, guilty, DUI: Third Offense, $600 fine, 11/29 supervised probation for balance of sentence, alcohol/drug evaluation and recommendations, cannot drive in Tennessee for two years, ignition interlock, report to jail on August 1, may serve in inpatient treatment after 30 days; dismissed, Schedule II Drugs: Cocaine - Attempt; dismissed, Possession of Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia Uses & Activities; dismissed, Driving While License Revoked; dismissed, Improper Lane Change; dismissed, Implied Consent - Enhancement Only.

The following cases were dismissed.

Jacob Gaia, Highway 190, Trezevant, dismissed, Driving While License Suspended.

The following cases were rescheduled.

Angela F Orgain, Michael Williams.

Property Transfers

Marta and Brodie Coughenour to Toby and Martha Umstead.

William T. and Martha L. Putman to Janet L. and Patrick T. Haworth in District 9.

Russel B. Cole to Cindy Hutcherson Cole in District 15.

Jerry David Lessenberry to Angela Bowden.

Joyce S. Addison to Nancy S. Potts in District 6.

Joyce S. Addison to Marilynn Ruth Smith in District 6.

Sharon Koebel to Summer Meadows.

Ray and Nathan Chamberlain to Melvin L. And Karen D. Lynch in District 16.

Jason Philip and Renae Suzette Lynch to Theodore Joseph II and Joan Marie Pillera in District 8.

Daniel Shear to Bradley Shear in district 11.

Mary and Ronald Lee Barnhill to Rakaya Humphreys in District 11.

Brian J. Chilcott to Stephanie Rose Thompson in District 12.

Ricky W. and Stacey D. Hoing to Marco Taaffe in District 12.

Brenda Whitman to Joseph Owens in District 2.

Hope Dretzka to Matthew Dretzka in District 6.

Pamela Gallimore to Edward Steven Cary in District 16.

Jones Farms, Inc to Donald Perkins in District 6.

Stephen G. and Dayna W. Edwards to Beech River MHC LLC.

Kenny L. and Kimberly Price to Kenny and Kimberly Price.

Somath Pon to Lexington Nutrition in District 11.

Rita Hamilton to Keven C. Cushman in District 2.

Martin L. Batte and Lisa A. Batte to Donna C. Hodge in District 16.

Douglas R. and Heather L. Goodrum to Daniel Capua in District 4.

Ester Jean Wilson to Angela Renee Wilson in District 16.

Richard B. and Christie Chappell to Edward Eric and Marcia Anne Hester in District 7.

Area Marriage Licenses

Jerry Scott Pickryl, 57, of Cedar Grove, to Cheryl Ann Whiteman Holliday, 70, of Cedar Grove.

Kathryn Elizabeth Scarbrough, 28, of Huntingdon, to Colton James Moon, 32, of Huntingdon.

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

PROBATE CASE NO: 2025PE146

ESTATE OF: DANNY COLEMAN TURNER, LATE OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Notice is hereby given that on the **21ST** day of **JULY, 2025** Letters Testamentary, of Administration, in respect to the Estate of **DANNY COLEMAN TURNER** deceased, who died **JULY 13TH, 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 21ST day of JULY, 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

MARCUS C. TURNER, Executor/Administrator
DWAYNE D. MADDOX III, Attorney
KENNETH TODD, Clerk & Master

A561/R25950/30-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

PROBATE CASE NO: 2025PE142

ESTATE OF: JOAN EVELYN BAIN, LATE OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Notice is hereby given that on the **10TH** day of **JULY, 2025** Letters Testamentary, of Administration, in respect to the Estate of **JOAN EVELYN BAIN** deceased, who died **JUNE 3RD, 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.

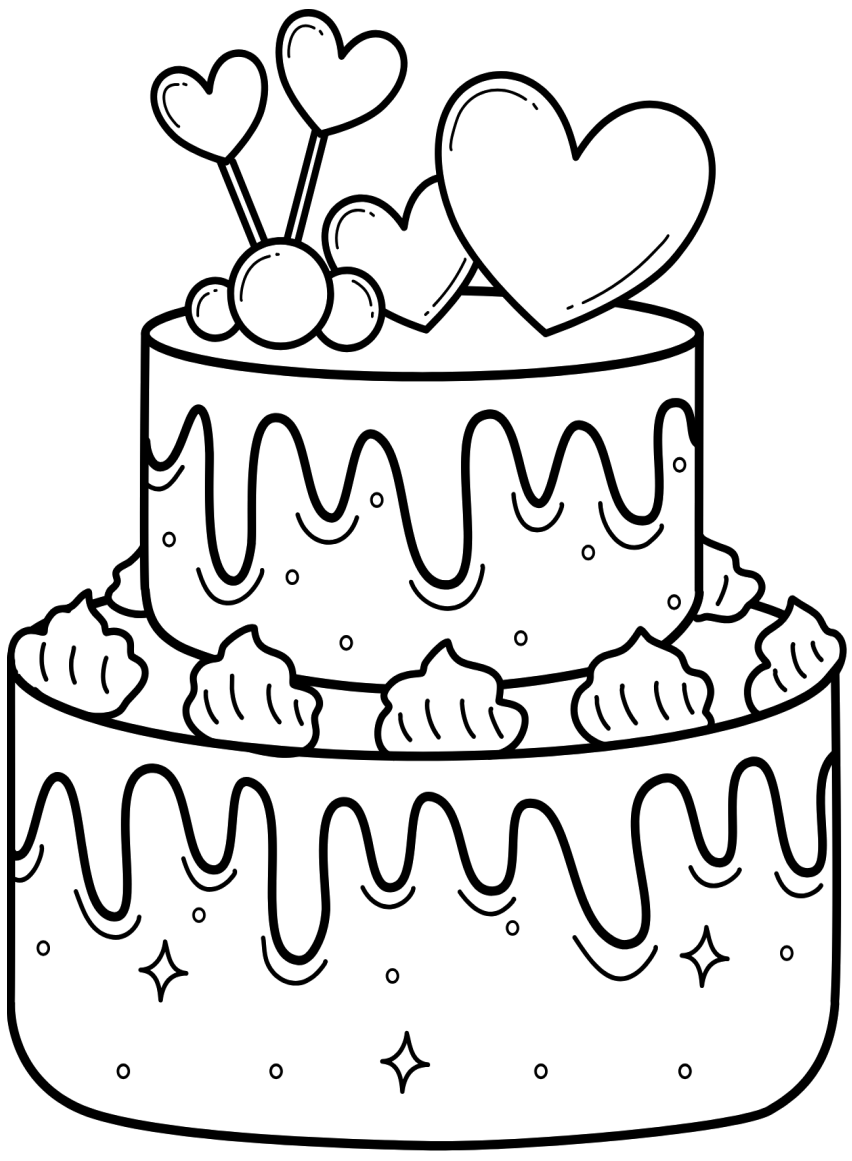
This 10TH day of JULY, 2025.
THIS NOTICE WILL RUN TWO CONSECUTIVE WEEKS.

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

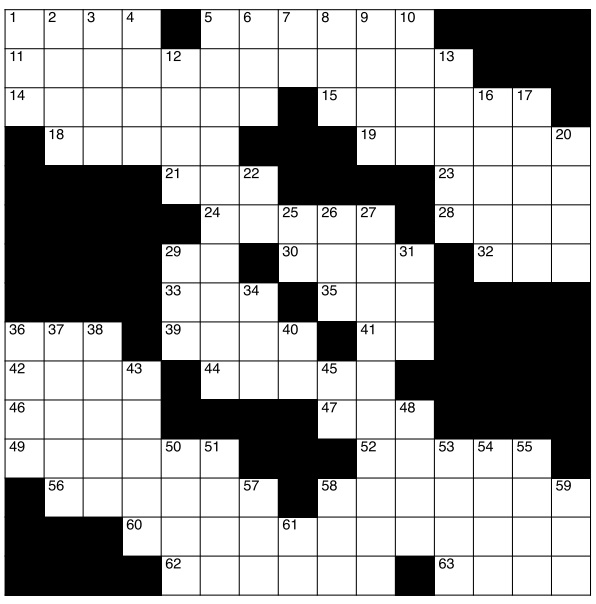
GEORGE ANTHONY RINGOLD, Executor/Administrator
NANCY L. CHOATE, Attorney
KENNETH TODD, Clerk & Master

A561/R25930

Color A Masterpiece



Weekly Crossword



CLUES ACROSS

1. Popular potato snack
5. Guards the Pyramids
11. Furnish anew
14. Herb
15. Preoccupy the mind continually
18. The lowest adult male singing voice
19. NATO commander (abbr.)
21. A major division of geological time
23. New Zealand parrot
24. Notions
28. Lump in yarn
29. Indicates position
30. Lose hold of
32. Hindu honorific
33. Former OSS
35. Electronic data processing
36. Cost per mile
39. Snake-like fish
41. They start the alphabet
42. Taylor Swift's tour
44. Intermediate ecological stage
46. Scarlett's home
47. Of he
49. Ohio city
52. Breakfast item
56. An evening party
58. __ Falls
60. Linked together
62. Mythological spirits
63. Small Eurasian deer

CLUES DOWN

1. Earliest human form: __-Magnon man
2. Flavoring
3. Notion
4. Bundy and Fenwick are two
5. Qualities of sound
6. One who gets paid
7. Expresses surprise
8. O.J. trial judge
9. Pointed ends of pens
10. Shield bugs genus
12. Container for shipping
13. Upper body parts
16. Closes tightly
17. Nigerian World Heritage Site
20. Volcanic island in Fiji
22. Commercial
25. -__: denotes past
26. They __
27. Confraternities
29. A way to gain a point
31. Parts per billion (abbr.)
34. Brew
36. Badgers group
37. Sailing boat
38. __ Polo, explorer
40. Elder citizen (abbr.)
43. Frankish law code
45. Exclamation of surprise
48. Groan
50. It presses clothing
51. Do not allow
53. Gelatinous substance
54. Common Japanese surname
55. Present in nature
57. Electronic countermeasures
58. Last or greatest in an indefinitely large series
59. Commercials
61. News agency

Week 30

See solution in next week's edition.

Tasty Dessert Word Search

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

Blondies
Brownies
Cake
Candy
Cheesecake
Cookies
Cream
Creme Brulee
Cupcakes
Custard
Eclair
Flan
Gelatin
Gelato
Ice Cream
Mousse
Pie
Pops
Pudding
Sorbet
Spumoni
Strudel
Tart
Tiramisu

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY

JUL 30

• **1619:** THE FIRST REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY IN THE AMERICAS CONVENES IN JAMESTOWN, VA.

• **1945:** THE U.S.S. INDIANAPOLIS IS SUNK BY THE JAPANESE SUBMARINE I-58.

• **1990:** NEW YORK YANKEES OWNER GEORGE STEINBRENNER IS FORCED TO RESIGN HIS POSITION AS PRINCIPAL PARTNER OF THE TEAM.

SUDOKU

WEEK 30

		8		6		7		9
			9	3			4	
					8			
	6		8	9				3
					4		1	
						9		8
	4	5	3					
9							2	
	1			7				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 dessert.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 7 = A)

A. 23 7 18 4 2 1
Clue: Cooking food by dry heat

B. 17 14 1 7 12
Clue: Sweetener

C. 11 12 26 7 11
Clue: Special food

D. 5 24 24 18 4 26
Clue: Portable dessert

Answers: A. baking B. sugar C. treat D. cookie

LETTER MIX-UP

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

MILKSHAKE

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

Riddle Me This

Why didn't the turkey finish its dessert?

Answer: Because it was stuffed.

WORD SCRAMBLE

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

PRYSTA

Answer: Pastry

GUESS WHO?

I am an actor and politician born in Austria on July 30, 1947. I decided to pursue a career as a bodybuilder at age 14. I became the youngest person to win Mr. Universe. Eventually I found myself in Hollywood and became a well-known action star, and later governor.

Answer: Arnold Schwarzenegger

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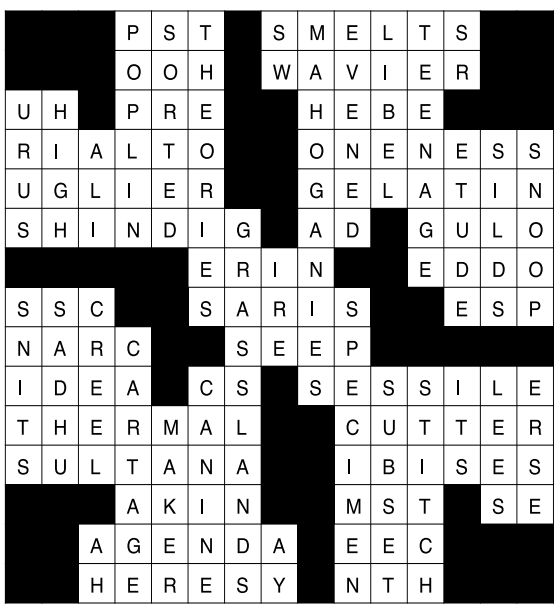
PUZZLE SOLUTION

Week 29 Crossword Puzzle Solution



SUDOKU SOLUTION WEEK 29

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

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Red Caboose Concessions Offer Relief Amid Heatwave

BY LYNDSEY SUMMERS
lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

Savannah Martin purchases ice cream from the Red Caboose after playing at the Splash Pad. *Photo by Joel Washburn/The Banner*

Since opening in 2017, the McKenzie Splash Pad has become an oasis for local children. In the summer months, there's no better place for kids to run around and play. But without nearby water fountains or vending machines, families had to bring their own drinks and snacks if they wanted to stay and play for a very long time.

As City Recorder Jennifer Waldrup sat watching her grandkids play at the Splash Pad, she realized it needed something new. While the kids played, she sat in the hot sun. She thought, "Well, it'd be great to be able to have something to drink."

Waldrup's gaze drifted over to the train caboose sitting adjacent to the miniature water park. It was empty and had just been repainted. She began picturing it as a concessions booth.

In 2023, the City of McKenzie moved a freezer from Hudgins Appliance Repair and a drink cooler from Coke into the old train caboose. Park Theatre employees began working at Red Caboose Concessions during the day.

The Red Caboose offers ice cream sandwiches, fudge bars and Dilly Bars at $1.25, popsicles at $0.75 and cold drinks at $2.50.

As the summer heat endures, Waldrup said she has had to refill the Red Caboose's ice cream stock several times. One man even told her that he prefers to buy his ice cream at the Red Caboose rather than at McKenzie's fast food establishments.

The Red Caboose is open from noon to 5 p.m. and only accepts cash payments. Profits go toward purchasing chemicals to upkeep the Splash Pad.

County Students Attend UTM Governor's School

Paige Costello (left) and Allie Paschall (right) received certificates for completing Governor's School. *Photos submitted by Amanda Paschall*

Two county students — Paige Costello and Allie Paschall— recently graduated from Tennessee Governor's School for Agricultural Sciences at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Both students made lasting impressions through their achievements in the field of agriculture.

Paige Costello, a senior at Huntingdon High School, used her time at Governor's School to dive deeper into animal health and production systems, further solidifying her goal of becoming a veterinarian. She has already made a name for herself through extensive project work in horse science, beekeeping, and leadership with Tennessee 4-H, earning multiple accolades along the way.

As a proud member of Carroll County 4-H, Paige has shown not only a strong scientific aptitude but also a dedication to community and youth involvement.

"Being surrounded by others who care about agriculture as much as I do was inspiring," Paige shared. "Governor's School helped me see how my passion for animal care fits into the bigger picture of agricultural sustainability and public service."

In addition to her academic and leadership roles, Paige is also a member of the Huntingdon cross country team and her school's FFA chapter.

Representing Hollow-Rock Bruceton Special School District, Allie Paschall is a senior and a standout member of both the Hollow Rock-Bruceton FFA Chapter and the Henry County 4-H Club. Allie attended Governor's School planning to pursue a degree in agricultural education, with a focus on ag policy and law.

With strong foundations in plant science, citizenship, communications, leadership, and agricultural education, Allie has been recognized by both 4-H and FFA for her extensive project work. Her experience at Governor's School allowed her to network with like-minded students and explore how agricultural issues intersect with lawmaking, advocacy, and education.

"I want to be a voice for rural communities and help shape the future of agriculture through policy," Allie said. "Governor's School gave me new tools to turn that dream into a plan."

In addition to her academic and leadership roles, Allie is also a member of the Hollow-Rock Bruceton JAG program.

Though their paths differ, both students represent what Tennessee's youth agricultural programs can produce. Their achievements reflect years of hard work in 4-H and FFA and serve as models for other young people pursuing careers in the ag industry.

Dresden's Winn Signs with Rams

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

Dresser Winn

WOODLAND HILLS, Calif. (July 21) — Dresser Winn, a football standout and 2017 graduate of Dresden High School, signed with the Los Angeles Rams Monday.

The quarterback, who won the Class A Mr. Football Award in 2015 and led Dresden to a state championship in 2016, returns to Los Angeles for the third time in his professional career.

Winn, 26, was first signed by the Rams as an undrafted free agent out of the University of Tennessee at Martin in 2023.

After he was waived by the NFL team in August that year, he spent several months on the practice squad for the Canadian Football League's Edmonton Elks.

Winn signed again with the Rams in January 2024 on a reserve/future contract and was again waived in August.

This spring, Winn played for the United Football League's Memphis Showboats, starting four games and passing for 834 yards with three touchdowns. He also rushed for 52 yards and one touchdown.

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Sawyers takes group photos at the end of each bootcamp session to celebrate attendees for showing up. *Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner*

Women Find Community at the Refinery's Morning Bootcamps

BY LYNDSEY SUMMERS
lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

Above, Melanie Sawyers helps Kerri Burden modify the day's exercises. Below, Lacie Watson does a set of reverse lunges. *Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner*

At 5:45 a.m., before the sun has a chance to rise, the Refinery gym parking lot is full. On weekday mornings, the McKenzie gym becomes the most popular establishment in town. While some are in the main room of the gym, working out on the treadmills or by the benches, many find themselves in the back garage, nervous for whichever exercises trainer Melanie Sawyers has in store for them.

When the door to the Refinery's back room opens, the women know how to start their day. Some go straight into stretches. Some stand and chat for a few minutes. But the class officially starts when Sawyers begins reading the day's exercises from the whiteboard.

Most of the women are as scared of Sawyers as they are admiring. The room's speakers blare loud music, but everyone's eyes and ears are focused on Sawyers as she explains and briefly demonstrates the exercises. When she finishes her instruction, the women disperse and get to work, periodically checking the whiteboard for assistance.

Sawyers, more coach than instructor, floats around the room. As she walks past the women exercising, she checks their form and takes photos to document their progress. Sometimes, if she doesn't think they are challenging themselves enough, she'll add more weights to their exercises.

Every participant has their own story, their own testimony, as to why they joined. They also have their own ways of measuring their progress. While body weight is sometimes a contributor, their reasoning goes much deeper. They want a gym community. They want to feel like themselves again. They want to feel young. They want to be healthy. They want to be able to show up for their kids.

When Lacie Watson signed up for bootcamp in March 2025, she and Sawyers messaged a bit about each other's expectations. During that conversation, Melanie asked her, "What is your 'why?'"

"I told her that I wanted to feel good again," Watson said. "I wanted to get stronger. I did want to lose a little bit of weight, too."

During the week of spring break, Watson, a Dresden schoolteacher, decided to take a chance on the class. Her friends were out of town that week, and she thought, "If I'm going to do this, it's now or never." This was her chance to prove she was strong enough to go to the classes, with or without friends.

Sawyers texted her every day that first week. Her messages would vary from "I'm proud of you!" to "You're showing up!" or "You're doing things!"

"I think a lot of women are very hesitant," said Sawyers, "because they think everybody in here has it all figured out...I just work with everybody and try to meet 'em where they're at so they feel comfortable in this space just as much as somebody who's been here for two or three years."

Sawyers, a professional trainer from Gleason, has amassed a large following of women since the day Refinery co-owner Josh Crawford recommended she start teaching morning bootcamp classes.

The classes, which started as two mornings of high-intensity interval training (HIIT) each week, began in January 2024. Now, she teaches four classes, 45 minutes each, from 5-8 a.m., Monday through Thursday. Mondays are dedicated to upper body strength exercises, Tuesdays and Thursdays are HIIT days and Wednesdays are focused on lower body exercises.

Sawyers' coaching has inspired over one hundred local women like Watson to begin their workout journeys. Whether they are signed up for the current session of bootcamp or not, the women stay connected through the bootcamp's Facebook group. They've become a community, even if some barely know each other.

Read more of this story on our website: mckenziebanner.com

Smokey Bear Visits Carroll County Library

HUNTINGDON (July 24) — Smokey Bear visited the Carroll County Library Thursday, along with Tennessee Department of Agriculture Forestry Aide Hunter Todd, to teach kids the importance of fire safety and wildfire prevention. Pictured (L to R) are Miles Coffey, Robin Nance, Assistant Library Director Denise Coleman, Harley Nance, Smokey, Children's Librarian Grace Hawkins, Library Clerk April Newman and Todd. *Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner*