



(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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McKENZIE, TENNESSEE

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AJ's Cafe Burns in Huntingdon

Owners Plan to Rebuild

HUNTINGDON (November 12) — AJ's All-Star Cafe, located at 12660 Lexington Street, in downtown Huntingdon, was heavily damaged by fire on Wednesday morning, November 12.

Huntingdon Fire Chief John Fordon, said the fire originated in the kitchen when grease ignited. Attempts to extinguish the fire slowed

See BURNS on Page 2



Christmas Open House Brings Holiday Joy to McKenzie

McKenzie was the place to be this weekend, with ten retail, entertainment and food locations across the city offering special deals and festive fun during Christmas Open House.

With visits from the Grinch, Buddy the Elf and Santa Claus himself, the annual event was the perfect, family-friendly opportunity to explore McKenzie's businesses, new and old, and get started on holiday shopping.

On Broadway, The Happy Book Stack, McKenzie City Florist & More, McKenzie Taproom & Restaurant and Congetta's Chi-italian extended their hours to welcome customers into their shops.

On Cedar Street, The Silly Goose Children's Shop and Cedar Street Studio Boutique filled their floors with holiday gifts of all types.

See HOUSE on Page 3



The Grinch visited The Silly Goose Children's Shop Saturday night during Christmas Open House. Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner

McKENZIE ELEMENTARY HONORS VETERANS



The Rebel Singers performed patriotic songs.

U.S. Marine Andrews Speaks to MES Students

MCKENZIE (November 11) — Lesa Andrews, a retired sergeant with the U.S. Marines, was the featured speaker at the McKenzie Elementary School Veterans Day Program.

Her speech followed the pre-

sentation of the flags, the Rebel Singers performing three patriotic songs, and student essays written and presented by Cason Hernandez, Carli Kintner, Liliana Parades, Hazel Tippitt, Avery Winston and

Briley Stafford.

Andrews, a retired Gunnery Sergeant from the United States Marine Corps and a current substitute

See MES on Page 3

Local Areas Awarded \$1.2 Million in CDBG Funds

NASHVILLE (November 13) — Governor Bill Lee and Deputy Governor and Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development (TNECD) Commissioner Stuart C. McWhorter announced 44 communities will receive Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), totaling \$26.5 million statewide, to assist with infrastructure and beautification

See CDBG on Page 3

Commission Declares Seat Vacancy for District 3

BY JASON R. MARTIN
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HUNTINGDON (November 10) — The Carroll County Commission met on Monday, November 10. During the meeting, Mayor Joseph Butler noted the death of Commissioner Larry Spencer of District 3. With the death, Spencer's seat was declared open and would be filled during the January 13 meeting.

See VACANCY on Page 3



Jim Seaton is Trezevant's new codes enforcement officer.

Trezevant Names Codes Enforcement Officer Seaton

TREZEVANT (November 11) — Trezevant Mayor and Council hired Jim Seaton as the codes enforcement officer (building inspector), approved a statute to regulate tiny houses, heard Devin Stafford is the new fire chief, and discussed allowing fireworks to be sold and discharged in the city.

See SEATON on Page 3



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(L to R) McKenzie Fire and Rescue Chief Brian Tucker, Mikayhla Vincent, Police Chief Ryan White, and Tiesia Dowland. Vincent, Dowland and Sgt. Cody Coleman (not pictured) received a proclamation for their bravery from Police Chief Ryan White. Photo by Carol Barker/McKenzie Police

First Responders Lauded for Bravery

BY JASON R. MARTIN
jmartin@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (November 13) — On Thursday night, the McKenzie City Council praised the bravery of three local first responders, Tiesia Downland, Mikayhla Vincent and Sergeant Cody Coleman. The event mentioned occurred on November 5, 2025, when a female, Celina Rose Louise Engles, from Mississippi, entered into McKenzie City Hall requesting help.

It was suspected that the female was mentally ill. As Sergeant Coleman went to run the individual's ID, Engles pulled a handgun from her purse. Sergeant Coleman attempted to restrain her and take her to the ground, working to control the firearm. Dispatchers Dowland and Vincent helped restrain the subject and control the handgun. While Engles was on the floor, the handgun came loose, and Sergeant Coleman advised Vincent to kick it away. Engles was successfully restrained without injury to anyone. EMS responded to the scene. Engles refused



Mayor Ryan Griffin read a proclamation to Charli Weatherford regarding her success on the golf course this year. Photo by Jason R. Martin/The Banner

medical treatment.

She was charged with three counts of Aggravated Assault of First Responders and Resisting Arrest.

Also receiving a proclamation was McKenzie High School golfer Charli Weatherford. Weatherford competed in the 2025 Class A Girls Golf Championship at Sevierville Golf Club last week and earned an eighth-place finish (tie) among 46 competitors.

The senior shot a day-one 78 and improved to a 77 on day two for the top-ten finish. Weatherford earned the state berth by claim-

ing the individual title in the Region 7A tournament two weeks earlier. She was also the individual champion in the District 14A tournament.

Additionally, in the meeting was the approval of the second reading for Ordinance 574, which deals with Occupational Safety and Health.

City employee Christmas bonuses were approved in the amount of \$100 for full-time status and \$50 for part-time employees.

The next regular meeting of the McKenzie City Council is December 11 at 6 p.m. at McKenzie City Hall.

Carroll County Christmas Parades

The Christmas season has arrived. Several Carroll County towns have announced the dates of their highly-anticipated Christmas parades, beginning December with festive

celebrations.

The Town of Clarksburg's Christmas parade is Thursday, December 4, at 7 p.m.

The City of McKenzie's Christmas parade is Saturday, December 6, at 4 p.m.

The Town of Huntingdon's Christmas parade is Monday, December 8, at 6:30 p.m.

The Town of Trezevant's Christmas parade is Monday, December 8, at 7 p.m.



Members of the McKenzie Police Department and McKenzie Fire and Rescue joined the staff at Hometown Hangout to raise funds for the Christmas for Kids program. Pictured are (L to R) Front Row: McKenzie Fire Assistant Chief Roger Christian, Chief Brian Tucker, Captain Daniel Tucker and firefighter Nathan Nanney. Back Row: MPD Sergeant Cody Coleman, Patrolman Jayden Rembert and Patrolman Dalton Raspberry; Hometown Hangout staff Payton Ognibene, Lilli McGee, Alyse Lowe, Emma Smith and Kylie Reynolds; and MPD Sergeant/SRO Andy Weaver, Assistant Chief Trey Boucher and Chief Ryan White. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

Hometown Hangout Supports McKenzie Police, Fire's Christmas for Kids Program

BY BRAD SAM
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McKENZIE (November 15) — Hometown Hangout hosted members of the McKenzie Police Department and McKenzie Fire and Rescue Saturday for a special fundraiser to support the first responders' Christmas for Kids program.

The initiative seeks to make the holidays merrier for underprivileged children in the area.

The local heroes were on hand to greet customers and help out the Hangout staff as the charitable endeavor brought out a great crowd.

A portion of the eatery's sales for the night went directly to the program, and donations were also accepted.

Several emergency vehicles with lights flashing were parked at the Hangout for customers to check out up close and also to draw in some passersby.

Hometown Hangout's Ashley Beeler told The Banner, "We have found that the community's been so good to us, so we always appreciate the opportunity to give back."

McKenzie Police Chief Ryan White told The Banner, "The Christmas for Kids program is a collaboration between the police and fire departments. It's a 'shop with a first responder' program. This is the third year in a row we've done this. It's been a great collaboration with the whole community."

Chief White said that they helped 53 kids last year, and

he expects that number to rise to around 60 this year.

Fire Chief Brian Tucker added, "It's something we started back several years ago. We had to get away from it for a brief period, but we've been fortunate enough for the last two or three years to resume the program. We kind of hoped it would start out with a bang and it has. It's getting bigger every year. We'll be making a donation to Angel Tree as well, so we could be helping 75 to 80 kids this year by the time it's said and done."

More businesses and organizations will contribute with the program. The next fundraiser will be at McDonald's on Monday, November 24 during lunch.



McKenzie High School Veterans Day Speakers — (L to R) Back Row: Tobey Brooks, Sergeant Andy Weaver and Carlton Townes. Front Row: Ryan Toombs, Madelyn Morris, Kinsley Wilson, Gracie Aird, Sophie Cole and Madeline Gottshall. Photo by Joel Washburn/The Banner

Sgt. Andy Weaver Speaks to McKenzie High School Students

McKENZIE (November 11) — McKenzie High School students and faculty honored America's veterans Wednesday during the school's annual Veterans Day program. A long list of student leaders led the program's opening remarks before turning the stage over to Sergeant Andy Weaver, a 16-year member of the U.S. Army National Guard.

Sgt. Weaver, a 23-year veteran police officer, is a school resource officer at the McKenzie Special School District. During his time, Sgt. Weaver has deployed to Iraq in support of "Operation Iraqi Freedom" and to Poland in support of NATO's "Operation Atlantic Resolve." A McKenzie native, Weaver has two children, Rena and Gatlin, with his wife of 14 years, Callan Weaver.

Carlton Townes, a senior, welcomed all veterans and students to the program before introducing the Boy Scouts of America, who

demonstrated the posting of colors. The McKenzie High School band performed the national anthem, and Townes followed by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Tobey Brooks read a brief history of Veterans Day to attendees, and Townes read a poem titled "It's the Veteran." Student Council officers Ryan Toombs, Madeline Gottshall, Gracie Aird and Kinsley Wilson read explanations of American conflicts including World War I, World War II and the wars in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait and Bosnia.

McKenzie High School principal announced the names of each veteran in attendance, allowing attendees to recognize and honor their efforts.

The McKenzie High School band performed patriotic music for the veterans, and Sophie Cole followed with a solo song.

Townes then introduced Sgt. Weaver, who addressed

the veterans and students in attendance.

Following Sgt. Weaver's speech, Student Council officers Gracie Aird, Madeline Gottshall and Ryan Toombs each read poems "They Did Their Share," "Heroes," and "Honor Our Military," respectively.

Principal Spivey then announced the school's winning "Voice of Democracy" essayist: Madelyn Morris. Morris read her essay to attendees.

Lola Barton performed "Taps," the traditional military funeral hymn, on her trumpet in memory of fallen soldiers.

The Boy Scouts of America performed the removal of colors, and Brooks read the closing remarks, thanking veterans for their service and sacrifices.

Principal Spivey dismissed students and veterans from the program shortly after, inviting the present veterans to lunch in the school cafeteria.

Army Veteran Speaks to Middle School Students

BY LYNDSY SUMMERS
lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (November 11) — Wednesday morning's Veterans Day program at the McKenzie Middle School was a celebration of veterans and their families, thanks to honored speaker Staff Sergeant Anthony Arvizu.

Kellett (David) Hochreiter, eighth-grade social studies teacher and a United States Army veteran, welcomed attendees to the program and led the Pledge of Allegiance. The middle school band performed the National Anthem, and then 14 middle school students read "Ordinary Americans Who Answered the Call."

A small choir of middle school students sang "God Bless the U.S.A." by Lee Greenwood, directed by music teacher Mrs. Veda Haney.

Hochreiter returned to the microphone to introduce the morning's guest speaker.

"Mr. Arvizu comes from a long line of military veterans, and service through our country is a core part of his family's identity," said Hochreiter.

At 36 years old, Staff Sergeant Arvizu has served 12 years in the United States Army. He and his wife, Angela, who has served 17 years in the United States Air Force, share five children: Savannah, Kassidee, Jace, Jake and Jacob. He and his family have experienced life in California, England, Texas and Japan before moving to McKenzie.

"When you're in the military, it's a sacrifice," Arvizu said. "But it's not just a sacrifice for what I do as a soldier for this great country and the people of my country. It's a sacrifice that shouldn't go unnoticed with the wives and children because they're along for the ride for all of this journey."



Guest speaker Staff Sergeant Anthony Arvizu (center) is pictured with his daughters, Savannah (left) and Kassidee (right). Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner

Arvizu explained he and his family recently moved to McKenzie to give his children the ability to settle down and grow roots. His two oldest children, Savannah and Kassidee, are middle school students and were in attendance.

Arvizu asked students to stand if they had grandparents, parents, aunts, uncles or cousins who served in the military. When a large majority of attendees stood, he said, "You all have something in common. Every day, make sure you thank those loved ones who have made that ultimate sacrifice. Be proud of what you belong to. This is why we did what we did...This is why I joined the United States Army and served 12 years for my country. And I wouldn't change it in a heartbeat."

At the conclusion of Arvizu's speech, students Sami Mathis, Madilyn Milam and Nevaeh Herris volunteered to read their V.E.W. Patriot's Pen essays.

Each year, more than 60,000 students in sixth through eighth grade enter the V.E.W. Patriot's Pen contest. The essay contest encourages young minds to combine their knowledge of American history with their own experiences in modern American society by drafting a 400-word essay expressing

their views on a patriotic theme chosen by the V.E.W. Commander in Chief. This year's theme: How are you showing patriotism and support for our country?

Mathis began, sharing that she shows devotion to her country by respecting the flag, respecting the law and respecting her freedoms.

Milam read next, sharing how people can show respect, loyalty and love to America by respecting differing opinions and standing alongside decisions made by the country's leaders.

Herris then read her essay, sharing that she shows patriotism and support for America by serving her community, staying informed, forming her own political views and supporting local and American businesses.

Rebecca Jones, middle school interventionalist, then announced the names of all veterans in attendance, encouraging the veterans and their families to stand for recognition.

Student Deacon Barden read the story of "Taps," then the McKenzie High School band performed the traditional military funeral hymn.

Jones gave the program's closing remarks and invited attending veterans to her classroom for breakfast.

Burns

...From Front Page

the blaze before it rekindled and expanded.

Chief Fordon said the staff evacuated the customers and staff as firefighters responded in approximately 30 seconds from their fire

station, just two buildings away.

Firefighters attacked the fire from inside the building and established an overhead deluge stream from the ladder truck to keep the fire from spreading to other parts of the building. The kitchen and the nearest dining room were heavily damaged. The entire build-

ing was heavily damaged by smoke.

Firefighters from Huntingdon and Carroll County stations 1,4, and 11 remained on the scene until approximately 12:30 p.m.

Jason Postlethwait, owner, plans to reopen in the coming months and is now working to remove the burned debris from the building.



McKenzie City Florist & More owner Courtney Satterfield (center) is pictured with her son, Copelan (right), and lead floral designer Ashlee Simer (left). Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner

House

...From Front Page

Also throughout McKen-zie, MJ Mercantile, Phipps Pharmacy Retail & Gifts, Petals Azola and War Zone Ax-N-Tag had special holi-day hours and deals.

Christmas Open House is the first of many holiday celebrations in McKenzie. Holiday fun continues with the city’s Hometown Christ-mas December 4-7 and a Christmas parade Saturday, December 6.



Violinist Iris Shepherd went store to store playing holiday music. Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner

MES

...From Front Page

teacher, shares her per-spective on the meaning of service and Veterans Day. She emphasizes that mili-tary service is about team-work, relying on others, and being someone others can depend on, all while protecting the country. Andrews connects these military values to everyday acts of good citizenship she observes in students, such as helping others, showing respect, and being kind. She encourages students to show their appreciation to veterans through sim-ple gestures, such as say-ing “thank you,” writing notes, or asking about their experiences. The speech concludes by reiterating that service is not limited to wearing a uniform and that by being good citizens, students honor the spir-it of service that veterans represent.

Military service is not just about wearing a uniform, marching, or following or-ders. It is fundamentally about teamwork, learning to rely on others, and being a reliable person yourself.

Key aspects include help-ing, protecting, doing one’s best even when it’s difficult



Marine veteran Lesa Andrews was the featured speaker at McKenzie Elementary School.

or unobserved, and serving others.

Sacrifices in Service

Service often involves being far from home and missing family.

It can include demanding routines, such as waking up long before sunrise.

Veterans made these sacrifices because they be-lieved in serving others and protecting the country for everyone back home.

Connecting Service to Everyday Citizenship

Service in Daily Life

The spirit of helping, caring, and working hard seen in the military is also present in the school community.

Acts of good citizenship are a form of service.

Examples of Student Citizenship are helping

a friend pick up dropped items, holding a door open for another person., say-ing “thank you” or “good morning,”standing up for someone who is having a tough day.

Simple Ways to Show Gratitude to Veterans — students can thank veter-ans in small but mean-ing-ful ways by simply saying “Thank you for your ser-vice” is greatly appreciated; writing a thank-you note or drawing a picture is also a cherished gesture; asking a veteran about their job or where they served is a way to connect, as they often have incredible stories.

Veterans Day is a time to remember all the men and women who served, both at home and far away. It acknowledges their hard work, strength, and belief in something bigger than themselves.

Service Without a Uni-form — A person does not need to wear a uniform to make a difference. Anyone can contribute by caring about others, doing their best, and helping where they can. The freedom, safety, and gratitude en-joyed today are thanks to the service and sacrifice of veterans.

At the conclusion of the program, MHS trumpet player Lola Barton played “Taps.”

Vacancy

...From Front Page

The following resolutions were approved:

Resolution 11-01-2025 allows for the submission of an application and to commit matching funds for the Historic Develop-ment Grant Program. If the grant is approved, the funds would be used to-wards ADA compliance on the court. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$525,000 with a required lo-cal contribution of \$25,000.

Resolution 11-02-2025 authorizes the clerk of ev-ery court in Carroll County having jurisdiction of state misdemeanors and felo-nies shall include in every misdemeanor and felony cost bill, a charge of \$12.50 that must be remitted to the county government set out in T.C.A. § 16-2-506 for District Attorneys General.

Resolution 11-03-2025 authorizes the clerk of ev-ery court in Carroll County having jurisdiction of state misdemeanors and felo-nies shall include in every misdemeanor and felony cost bill, a charge of \$12.50 that must be remitted to the county government set

out in T.C.A. § 40-3-106 for Public Defender.

Resolution 11-04-2025 amended the Grant Fund Budget \$4,752.54 for Pri-or Sheriff’s Office Highway Safety Grant.

Resolution 11-05-2025 amended the Grant Fund Budget \$22,000 for the Of-fice on Aging Senior Center.

Resolution 11-06-2025 amended the Grant Fund Budget \$500,000 through the ThreeStar Grant. The grant funds would be used to purchase and de-ploy Tennessee Advanced Communications Network (TACN)-compatible com-munication equipment.

Resolution 11-07-2025 amended the Grant Fund Budget \$150,000 for the Sheriff’s Office. The grant provides a school resource officer for Carroll Academy.

Resolution 11-08-2025 amended the Grant Fund Budget \$28,628 for the Sheriff’s Office. The funds are part of the Tennessee Highway Safety program.

Resolution 11-09-2025 amended the Grant Fund Budget \$495,106 for the Carroll County Airport. The funds are from three grants for the purchase and in-stallation of a backup gen-erator, for design services to construct a corporate

hangar expansion, and for design services to con-struct an agriculture apron expansion.

Resolution 11-10-2025 amended the Grant Fund Budget \$303,334 for the Pre-vention Coalition Grants. There are two grant funds, the State Opioid Response grant and the Strategic Pre-vention Framework grant.

There was a debt report for the Carroll County Elec-tric System dealing with revenue and tax bonds for Series 2025. In the re-port, a debt issuance of \$9,650,000 was listed with a “True Interest Cost” rate of 3.77372%.

Notaries elected were: Brooke E. Cary, Brett D. Huss, Laverne Jackson, Fred Morris, Raven Trevathan, and Deborah A. Welbon.

The Carroll County Com-mission meets in the con-ference room at the Car-roll County Government Complex on High Street in Huntingdon.

The Carroll County Commission will not meet during December unless there is a need for a spe-cial-called meeting. The next regular meeting is January 13 at 7 p.m. in the conference room of the Car-roll County Government Complex in Huntingdon.



Manpower owner Lynn Marshall cuts the red ribbon surrounded by Manpower representatives, McKenz officials and McKenzie High School students. Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner

Manpower Returns to McKenzie

BY LYNDSEY SUMMERS
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MCKENZIE (November 14) — Friday afternoon’s ribbon-cutting at the Rail-Yard Workspace was a wel-come home celebration for Manpower, an employment agency supporting the Paris, McKenzie and Huntingdon workforce.

Manpower spent many years in McKenzie before relocating to Paris. Nearly fifteen years later, the agen-cy has returned with em-

ployees stationed on the third floor of the RailYard Workspace.

Manpower owners Lynn and Jeff Marshall were in attendance alongside repre-sentatives from Manpower’s Professional Office and of-fices in Dyersburg, Martin, Selmer, Jackson, Hopkins-ville and Clarksville.

“Not only are we coming back to McKenzie after a little time away, but we’re coming back together,” said co-owner Jeff Marshall. “It’s really nice to be back here.”

Also at the ribbon-cutting were McKenzie Mayor Ryan Griffin, McKenzie Chamber of Commerce and Industrial Development Board Execu-tive Director Monica Heath and a number of McKenzie High School students.

“We’re so thankful that you chose to invest in McK-enzie,” said Mayor Griffin, “and we look forward to supporting you.”

With Manpower’s move, all offices at the Rail-Yard Workspace are now occupied.

Area Stores Offer Holiday Food Bags for Charity

Recognizing the finan-cial struggles some families endure during the holiday season, two local stores are offering charity food bags for the holidays. Save A Lot and E.W. James & Sons are each donating bags of food to local donation centers for families in need.

McKenzie Save A Lot’s “Bags for a Brighter Holi-day” initiative is donat-ing bags of food to United Neighbors. The bags, which cost customers \$5.49 to do-nate, contain potted meat, corn muffin mix, macaroni and cheese, green beans, sweet corn, stuffing mix and vanilla pudding.

To donate a Save A Lot holiday bag, customers need to tell the cashier, who will bag the holiday donations. Customers then



need to drop the purchased holiday bag in the donation bin near the store exit.

Similarly, E.W. James & Sons has two holiday meal donation options. These holiday meal bags go to the Carroll County Carl Perkins Center.

For \$10, customers may

donate jellied cranberry sauce, cornbread stuff-ing mix, corn muffin mix, homestyle butter mashed potatoes mix, green beans, cut sweet potatoes and macaroni and cheese.

For \$20, customers may donate cake mix, butter-cream frosting, marsh-mallows, jellied cranberry sauce, cut sweet potatoes, macaroni and cheese, cornbread stuffing mix, corn muffin mix, cream of mushroom soup, french on-ion crisps, butter mashed potatoes mix, green beans and corn.

To donate, customers need only inform the ca-shier while checking out. The cashier will bag the holi-day meal and drop it along-side other donated bags near the store entrance.

Seaton

...From Front Page

City Attorney Charlie Trotter recommended the city employ a codes en-forcement officer and grant him the authority to issue citations for violations. He also suggested a more for-mal process for citizens to apply for building permits.

The Board voted to hire Jim Seaton, former codes officer for McKenzie, and to grant him the authority to issue citations. A more formal process for applying for permits and issuing ci-tations will be reviewed for potential adoption by the Council in the future.

The roles and authority of the building inspector, the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA), and the city court in enforcing ordinances were clarified by Attorney Trotter.

Councilman Dan Di-eringer said he would serve on a committee to develop a new, standardized permit application process to track better and regulate business activities, construction, and



Trezevant City Attorney Charlie Trotter speaks to the Trezevant Mayor and Council.

changes to building use.

The Board discussed amending zoning ordinanc-es for various purposes, in-cluding allowing the repu-rposing of non-residential structures, such as churches and schools, and defining regulations for tiny houses, recreational vehicles, and accessory buildings.

- Specific legal frame-works were referenced as the basis for the town’s authority to enact these ordinances.
- A roll call vote was taken on the second reading of a zoning ordinance amend-ment as it relates to tiny houses. The vote was four to

one, with Don Barger cast-ing the dissenting vote.

- Fireworks Ordinance and Enforcement
- The Council addressed the seemingly unenforce-ability of the current fire-works ban, noting that ille-gal discharges of fireworks were already occurring. The sale of fireworks is also un-lawful, leading to lost tax revenue.
- They debated amend-ing the ordinance to allow and regulate short-term fire-works sales through per-mits as a way to generate revenue,

A possible amendment to the fireworks ordinance is being considered by the Board, with a decision post-poned until January.

- A lawsuit involving Mr. John Quinn and Ms. Steph-anie Ledsinger was settled, requiring the relocation of reptiles, now housed in the former funeral home, to a new location in Rutherford.

A town van, used by the fire department, is unusable due to a recurring, undiag-nosed brake failure, posing an operational risk as the vehicle is unreliable for nec-essary functions.

CDBG

...From Front Page

improvements.

McKenzie and Gleason were two local commu-nities awarded with the grants. McKenzie received \$814,894 for water system improvements, and Gleason received \$400,000 for sewer system improvements.

McKenzie Mayor Ryan Griffin extended his thanks to TNECD for the grant and said the \$814,894 will be used to extend fire hydrants to the sewer plant.

“This support will help us provide needed fire pro-tection for our sewer plant, and we’re excited for what

it means for the safety and growth of our community,” said Mayor Griffin.

Gleason Mayor Charles Anderson said the grant money will go toward “wastewater infrastructure improvements throughout our town that are desper-ately needed.”

“We are extremely grate-ful that our application was carefully considered and awarded,” said Mayor An-derson. “Working with our city engineer and contrac-tor, we pledge to use these funds in the most efficient and effective ways. These opportunities don’t come along often.”

Mayor Anderson extend-ed his thanks to grant writ-ers at Northwest Develop-ment District in Martin.

“Ensuring that our local infrastructure is equipped to meet the demands of future economic develop-ment is a top priority for our administration,” said Governor Lee.

The allocation of CDBG funds is based on priori-ties set through the public meeting process at the lo-cal community level. The CDBG program is funded through the U.S. Depart-ment of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and administered by TNECD. Funds are available for water and sewer improve-ments, health and safety projects and other improve-ments to enhance the qual-ity of life in Tennessee’s rural communities.



Members of the MHS Class of 1979 with Karen Camp — (L to R) Lynda Galey Hickman, Hoppy Johnsonius, Karen Camp, Mary Ann Bush Garner, Sonja Ellis Eiland and David Hickman.

MHS Class of '79 Honors Memory of Karen Camp

McKENZIE — Members of the McKenzie High School Class of 1979 honored the memory of the late Karen Camp with a donation to the McKenzie High School Alumni Association. They were honored to meet and greet her during the MHS Homecoming festivities on Friday, September 19, 2025.

She was a beloved teacher and the class of 1979's

class sponsor. In the year 2024, she and her husband, John, both retired teachers at McKenzie, were honored to serve as the grand marshals of the McKenzie High School Homecoming Parade. Mrs. Camp died on October 21, 2025. Donations were made to the Alumni Association (MHSAA) for a scholarship in her honor to go to a de-

serving student in the class of 2026. A committee from MHSAA selects recipients for the scholarship. MHSAA is in its early years and is designed to benefit both the alumni and the students of McKenzie Special School District. Donations can be made to McKenzie High School Alumni Association, 114 W. Bell Ave., McKenzie, TN 38201.

Gasoline Prices Increase During Week

NASHVILLE (November 17) — Average gasoline prices in Tennessee increased 8.8 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$2.66/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 3,821 stations in Tennessee. Prices in Tennessee are 2.6 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand unchanged compared to a year ago. The national average price of diesel has increased 4.1 cents compared to a week ago and stands at \$3.769 per gallon. According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Tennessee was priced at \$2.19/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$9.66/g, a difference of \$7.47/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.19/g while the highest was \$9.66/g, a difference of \$7.47/g. The national average price of gasoline has fallen 0.4 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.03/g today. The national average is

up 1.1 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 1.1 cents per gallon higher than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country. Historical gasoline prices in Tennessee and the national average going back ten years: November 17, 2024: \$2.66/g (U.S. Average: \$3.02/g); November 17, 2023: \$2.94/g (U.S. Average: \$3.30/g); November 17, 2022: \$3.22/g (U.S. Average: \$3.72/g); November 17, 2021: \$3.09/g (U.S. Average: \$3.42/g); November 17, 2020: \$1.83/g (U.S. Average: \$2.12/g); November 17, 2019: \$2.28/g (U.S. Average: \$2.61/g); November 17, 2018: \$2.40/g (U.S. Average: \$2.62/g); November 17, 2017: \$2.30/g (U.S. Average: \$2.55/g); November 17, 2016: \$1.97/g (U.S. Average: \$2.15/g); November 17,

2015: \$1.96/g (U.S. Average: \$2.14/g) "With oil prices mostly stable near the \$60 per barrel level, we've seen the national average move very little over the last few weeks. Roughly half of all states saw prices rise in the last week, while the other half saw prices fall," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "The West Coast should soon see notable price relief as wholesale prices drop amidst seasonally declining demand. With refinery maintenance nearing completion, we'll likely see supply improve—and I'm hopeful this will bring the national average solidly below \$3 per gallon by Christmas. As for Thanksgiving travel, GasBuddy's Travel Survey, to be released tomorrow, will highlight some surprising shifts in travel behavior this year." SOURCE GasBuddy

Tennessee Children Seek Adoptive Families

November is National Adoption Month, and Youth Villages of Paris is seeking families to provide loving, forever homes for hundreds of children in state custody who are awaiting adoption. Youth Villages is a national nonprofit, based in Memphis, that provides help for children and young people across the United States who face a wide range of emotional, mental and behavioral problems. Youth Villages' four West Tennessee offices — in Dyersburg, Jackson, Memphis and Paris — currently serve 250 children in foster care. Across Tennessee, there are more than 8,000 children in foster care. The nonprofit's primary goal is to match children in the foster care system with a stable, permanent home. It isn't always possible for foster children to reunite with their family of origin, so Youth Villages prepares foster children and prospective parents for adoption. "Children of all ages and backgrounds deserve the love and security of a forever family," said Jeremy Breithaupt,

director of in-home services at Youth Villages. "I've seen many teenagers and sibling groups who struggled to find hope throughout their time in foster care begin to experience healing through adoption." The average age of youth in full guardianship of the state is 14, and many have been in the foster care system for several years. While they receive counseling and support throughout this time, the care of a permanent family will help them reach their full potential. To adopt a child from the foster care system, couples or single parents must become certified foster parents and welcome the child or sibling group into their home for six months before adoption will be considered. Youth Villages provides prospective foster and adoptive parents with intensive training, ongoing support and financial assistance to ensure they can meet the needs of the children in their care. To learn more about becoming a foster parent, attend a free, one-hour virtual

information session in November to discover the qualifications and expectations of foster parents, learn more about the training process to become foster parents, understand the ongoing support Youth Villages provides throughout the adoption process, ask questions and meet other families exploring the journey of fostering. Youth Villages has two virtual sessions remaining in November: Saturday, November 22 at 10 a.m. and Monday, November 24 at 6 p.m. Additionally, Youth Villages hosts a screening of "Instant Family," starring Mark Wahlberg, at the Parisian Theatre December 2 at 6 p.m. with free admission and concessions. A foster care and adoption Q&A session will follow. For more information, visit youthvillages.org/adoption or call 1-888-MY-YV-KID. As the holidays approach, a Youth Villages urges the community to come together to make a difference in a child's life.

HUNKER DOWN WITH KES

Knowing Where Our Bread is Buttered

There is something special about a local weekly newspaper. It's news about your friends and neighbors. It alerts you to upcoming events...that actually pertain to you. It will give you every single detail on how Homer Cunningham got his 1955 Dodge pickup entangled with a telephone pole alongside that sharp curve out on the Shiloh Road. Most often it would include a front-page picture of the vehicle, tilted sideways in the ditch, with the right side still resting against the pole. It was almost like you were at the scene of the accident! Now, we got the Commercial Appeal out of Memphis every single morning. It was twice as big as our weekly McKenzie Banner, but it mostly told us about the drought that was wreaking havoc with the Kansas wheat farmers. Or, there would be a big picture of President Eisenhower greeting some sultan from Istanbul. Didn't none of us give a whistling hoot about a drought unless it was wilting the cotton in our backyard, and you can just imagine how much we cared about a high up mucky-t-muck from Turkey visiting with Ike. From the Memphis paper we got news about social life in the city, what Elvis was doing, and how the ducks were faring at the famous Peabody Hotel. Didn't none of that hold a candle to us walking the railroad tracks all the way out to Chestnut Avenue to get a firsthand look at the damage to Mr. Homer's old Dodge. The Banner informed us when Mrs. Luther Purvis was out of town, visiting her cousin in Jackson. It was a regular feature to give us the details if someone was lucky enough to go on a trip. You might think this mundane. But it allowed us to keep up with everybody, and it introduced us to places like Tupelo, Mississippi, Cowan, Tennessee, and Paducah, Kentucky. We read the obituary every week. It was not done

out of morbid curiosity. It was more like a roll call of the dearly beloved. You remembered your first encounter with them, or the last. You remembered one's coconut cake. Or another's whittling ability, or when the recently departed put the chain back on your bicycle in front of Bailey Moore Wrinkle's Hardware store. The first time I saw my name in print was in The Banner. It was in the sports section, after a Little League baseball game. I read it over and over and over. They had spelled it correctly. Everybody in town was going to read it. And that made me feel good. Special even. There is NOTHING on earth that can replace a smalltown weekly newspaper! And you can bet the old gray mare, your last dime, and the family farm that I am not the only person that has been touched by "local" news and events. I moved to Port St. Joe in August of 1969. I knew exactly one person in the whole place. Walter Wilder was kind enough to offer me a job teaching and coaching at the high school. The first week in town I got my hands on a copy of The Star. It was informative, had lots of news and pictures about the people and scenes from around town, and an obituary. The sports section was huge. And the Garden Club, just like back home, had their own little space to report on what they were planting and what they were planning. I captured the heartbeat of the town reading The Star each week. I shopped at the stores that advertised in the paper. I "met" a lot of folks for the first time in The Star. The editor had a column that was witty, poignant, informative, and "down home." That is a lot to accomplish in any single newspaper article! Yet he did it week after week. I was impressed with everything about this weekly newspaper. But more than that, it immediately made me feel welcome, comfortable, at home....

The Commercial Appeal couldn't do that in a hundred thousand years. It gets tougher on small newspapers every day. The internet is fraught with instant up to the second news, or what they tell us is news. The big networks have their own versions. It is hard to compete with Fox and CNN. But understand this. None of them can tell you the best place to buy live chickens in your little town. None of them are interested in what time the high school football game kicks off next Friday. They never one time visited Cliff Sanborn's garden and reported on the size of his tomatoes. And they've never eaten one pancake, or contributed one dollar, to the annual Kiwanis breakfast fundraiser.... It's not that we are uninterested in the wider world. It's just not our priority. We care more about what happens down the street, the small personal victories of our fellow citizens, and the general kindness that abounds in our midst. One milestone for any of us, is a milestone for all of us! The hometown paper isn't trying to change the world, tell you who to vote for, or how to live.... They hope to bring a smile, maybe a little sunshine, and slow you down a mite. And connect you to the community. Getting your name and picture in the "about town" section is an added bonus. Each week these papers touch our hearts with precious stories of daily life—of people we know—written with humor, dignity, love, magic, patience, and care. I pray that spirit of "we're all in it together" brings us ever closer. And the tradition of a great local newspaper, who cares about YOU, lives on forever....

Respectfully,
Kes

kesley45@aol.com

PS: I had one last thought. If it hadn't a'been for The Tombstone Epitaph, we might not have ever heard of Wyatt Earp, or Doc Holliday, or the O.K. Corral.

U.S. Mint Ends Penny Production

The U.S. Mint pressed its final pennies on Wednesday, November 12, marking the end of the 230-year-old coin. Once used to buy snacks and knickknacks, the penny has less use in the modern American economy. The cost of production — nearly four cents per penny — is more expensive than the coin's one-cent value. While billions of pennies remain in circulation

and remain legal tender, new pennies will no longer be made. Some businesses across the country have cited penny shortages, however, and have responded by rounding change up or down to the nearest five or ten cents if customers are unable to pay with the exact change. The discontinuation was an order by President Donald Trump, who called penny production "wasteful" in

an online post in February. The production cost of a penny is less than that of any other coin, according to an article from the Associated Press. The nickel costs nearly 14 cents to make, despite being worth five cents. The dime costs less than six cents to produce, and the quarter costs nearly 15 cents. The last U.S. coin to be discontinued was the half-cent in 1857.

It's 'Deer Season' on Tennessee Roads, Too

NASHVILLE — Deer season is in full swing across Tennessee, and not just for hunters. State troopers say it's the time of year when drivers are most likely to encounter deer where they are not hunting them. November is historically the peak month for deer-related crashes in Tennessee. The Tennessee Highway Patrol reminds drivers to slow down, stay alert and watch for wildlife — especially in rural areas and at dawn and dusk. In 2024, there were just over 8,000 deer-related crashes statewide, including

465 injury crashes and five fatalities. The majority — 7,571 — involved property damage only. "Deer activity spikes every fall, and November is always our busiest month for these kinds of crashes," said Tennessee Highway Patrol Colonel Matt Perry. "Drivers should stay focused, reduce their speed and expect the unexpected. If you see one deer, there's a good chance more are following." Most of these crashes happen on rural roadways, where limited lighting and higher speeds make it harder to avoid collisions.

The Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security offers safety tips for drivers: Stay alert; slow down in areas marked with deer-crossing signs; if a deer runs in front of you, do not swerve; brake firmly and stay in your lane; use high beams when it's safe to do so to help spot deer near the roadway; always buckle up. Seat belts reduce the risk of serious injury in every type of crash. Report deer-related crashes to law enforcement.

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Obituaries



JOE RUSSELL SHOOTER 1946 – 2025

Joe Russell Shooter, formerly of McKenzie, Tenn., died on November 13, 2025, with family by his side at The Arbors in Union City, Tenn. Joe was born on July 29, 1946 in Lumberton, North Carolina. The son of the late Iola Shooter Corbin and Walter H. Shooter. He grew up in McKenzie, Tenn. and graduated from McKenzie High School. He attended Bethel College and graduated from UT Health Sciences Center in Memphis as a Medical Technologist. He worked at William F. Bowld Hospital and retired from Le Bonheur Children's Hospital after a 50-year career in the medical field. He was a member of First Baptist Church in Senatobia, Mississippi. Joe will be remembered for his dedication as a Christian father to his daughter, Mary, who was the light of his life. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, November 18, 2025 at Forest Hill Funeral Home and Memorial Park - East in Memphis, Tenn. Burial will follow at Forest Hill Cemetery. Visitation for family is at 12:30 p.m. and for friends from 1-2 p.m. He is survived by his daughter, Mary Shooter of Union City, Tenn.; two sisters, Becky Scates and Tenia King (Jimmy) of McKenzie, Tenn.; three nieces, Jennifer Clay (Cary), and Cheryl King of Nashville, Tenn., Amber Fern (Micah) of Searcy, AR, nephews Jeff Wilson and David King (Jeri Lynn) of McKenzie, Tenn.; Mother-in-law Gerry Holliday, Brother-in-law, George Holliday, Sister-in-law Geri Lynn Jewell (Trey and Erin), all of Memphis, Tenn. In addition to his parents, Joe is preceded in death by

his wife, Patsy, his father-in-law, George Holliday and brother-in-law, Larry Holliday all of Memphis, Tenn. Joe will be sadly missed by other family members, friends, and caretakers.

Forest Hill Funeral Home and Memorial Park - East in Memphis, Tenn. has charge of the arrangements, 2440 Whitten Road, Memphis, Tenn. 38133. For more information, call 901-250-3976. +

DONNA HARVEY LACEY 1956 – 2025

McKENZIE — A Celebration of Life for Donna Harvey Lacey is Saturday, December 13, 2025, at 3 p.m. at Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home. The family will receive friends on Saturday, December 13, 2025, at 2 p.m. Mrs. Lacey, 69, of McKenzie, died peacefully at her home after a long illness on November 8, 2025. She was born in Lowell, Mass., on January 6, 1956, to the late Donald Harvey and Pauline Boutin Harvey. She spent her early life in Massachusetts and graduated from college at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell. Following that, she married her husband, Frank, and they relocated to McKenzie in 1984. Many trips were made between McKenzie and Massachusetts to visit her family, whom she loved very much. In McKenzie, she was able to stay at home and raise her children, who, along with her husband and grandchildren, were the most important things in her life. Once the children were all in school, she returned to college and received her master's degree in Special Education at Bethel University. Education was important to Donna. She worked as a special education teacher at McKenzie Middle School for 19 years. All the students knew the colorful Miss Donna! She worked tirelessly to support her special education students. After retirement, Donna and her husband enjoyed making regular trips to see their three children and four grandchildren who live in Tampa, Fla., Chattanooga, and Boulder, Colo. She is survived by her husband, Frank Lacey; her children, Ryan (John Paul - husband) Hampstead, Rory (Jennifer - wife) Lacey,

and Randy (Hannah - wife) Lacey; four grandchildren, Cyrus, Hilary, Elle, and Poppy; a sister Doreen (John - husband); and niece and nephews, Hans, Marla, and Zachary.

Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home.

ROBERT SCOTT 1939 – 2025

HUNTINGDON — Mr. Robert Scott, 86, of Huntingdon, died Monday, November 10, 2025, at his home. Funeral services were on Monday, November 17, 2025, in the Chapel of Chase Funeral Home. Burial with military funeral honors was at the West Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery at Parkers Crossroads. Mr. Scott was born January 1, 1939, in Huntingdon, to the late Curtis and Lula Nell (Mitchell) Scott. He was a veteran of both the Air Force and the Army National Guard. He was also preceded in death by his first wife, Eleanor Scott; and second wife, Dorothy Scott; a son, Bobby Scott; and a sister, Dianne Cannon. He is survived by his two daughters, Cathy Lewis (Mickey) and Angela Sanders, both of Huntingdon; one stepson, Mike Sanders (Sandi), of Bells; five grandchildren, Kelli, Kassi, Brittney, Kelsey, and Leah; and nine great-grandchildren. Chase Funeral Home, Huntingdon.

DEWEY WAYNE ELLIS 1943 – 2025

GLEASON — Funeral services for Dewey Wayne Ellis are Thursday, November 20, 2025, at 11 a.m. at Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home. The family will receive friends on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, 5-8 p.m., and on Thursday from 10 a.m. until the time of the service. Interment will follow at Liberty Cemetery. Mr. Eillis, 82, died at Jackson Madison County General Hospital on Saturday, November 15, 2025. He was a member of Long Heights Baptist Church, a retired businessman, and a heavy equipment operator. He was born in Greenfield on March 2, 1943, to Benjamin F. and Eva Doster Ellis. He is survived by his wife, Jane Ellis of Gleason; two daughters, Sonja (Dr. Doug) Eliand of Tarpon Springs,

Fla., and Lori (Keith) Robertson of McKenzie; two stepdaughters; Tonya (Jeff) Miles of Troy, and Tammy (Stacy) Collins of Gleason; five grandchildren, Allie Eiland (Lindsay), Lesley (Jonathan) Davidson, Jillian (Andre) Curtis, Luke (Katelyn) Robertson, and Clint (Kelly) Eiland; five step-grandchildren, Mallary (Sam) Beutler, Jacob (Lindsey) Hodges, Rebecca Hodges, Kaitlyn (Seke) Henderson and Keaton (Emily) Collins; five great-grandchildren, Cooper, Callie, Ridley, Thomas and Patrick Ace; and five step-great-grandchildren, Esme, Wilson, Ruth Collins and Millie. He is preceded in death by his wife, Joyce Ellis; and two brothers, William Ellis and Buddy Ellis. The family has asked you to consider a memorial donation to the Long Heights Baptist Church Building Fund if you would like to donate. If you need further assistance, please call Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home at 731-352-4848 or visit our website at brummittmckenziefuneralhome.com. +

JANE COLE 1944 – 2025

McKENZIE — Funeral services for Jane Wilkes Cole were Thursday, November 13, 2025, at Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home. Interment was at Union Academy Baptist Church Cemetery. Mrs. Cole, 81, died at Jackson Madison County General Hospital on Monday, November 10, 2025. She was born on September 10, 1944, in Huntingdon to Hershel B. and Hester Hampton Wilkes. She is survived by her brother Hershel Wilkes of Huntingdon and several nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her parents; her husband, James Cole; daughter, Jennifer Melton; and two brothers, Darrell Wilkes and Larry Dale Wilkes.

JIMMY WHITE 1947 – 2025

McKENZIE — Mr. Jimmy "Jersey" White, 78, of McKenzie, died Saturday, November 15, 2025, at his home. Funeral services are at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, in the Chapel of

Dilday-Carter Funeral Home, with burial to follow in Long Rock Cemetery. The family will receive friends at Dilday-Carter Funeral Home on Wednesday from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Mr. White was born January 22, 1947, to the late Leonard Ray White and Dorothy May Rumley White. He is preceded in death by his 1st wife, Sandra Joan White Hones. He is survived by one daughter, Jennifer Sellers, of Milan, Tenn.; two sons, Josh (Melanie) White, of Huntingdon, and Hayden White, of Baltimore, Md.; one sister, Sandra (Rickey) Wilson, of Huntingdon; one brother, Jerry (Brenda) White, of Huntingdon; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Honoring him as pallbearers will be Jeff White, Timmy White, Clint Wilson, Ethan Sellers, Mac Cooley, Caleb Walker and Billy Johnson. Dilday-Carter Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements, 731-986-8281.

NANCY CROSSETT 1937 – 2025

HUNTINGDON — Mrs. Nancy Sue Crossett, 88, of Huntingdon, died peacefully with loved ones on Sunday, November 16, 2025, at her home. Funeral services are 1 p.m., Thursday, November 20, 2025, in the Chapel of Dilday-Carter Funeral Home with burial to follow in Liberty All Cemetery. The family will receive friends at Dilday-Carter Funeral Home on Wednesday, 5-8 p.m., and on Thursday from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Mrs. Crossett was born March 10, 1937, to the late Thomas Earl Wood and Daisy Avo (Milam) Wood in Carroll County, Tenn., and was preceded in death by her husband, Daniel Dwayne Crossett; six siblings, John Wood, Elizabeth Miller, Ouida Felts, Thomas Wood, Kenneth Wood, and Byron Wood; and one grandson, Jeremy Crossett. She is survived by her daughter, Rhonda Crossett, of Huntingdon; two sons, Danny (Karen Gurley) Crossett, of Jackson, Tenn., and Jimmy (Paula) Crossett, of Huntingdon; brother, Leslie (Pam) Wood of Thurmont, Md.; four grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

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

MARTHA FREELAND 1932 – 2025

BRUCETON — Mrs. Martha Jo Freeland, 93, of Bruce-ton, died Thursday at the Eiffel Gardens Assisted Living in Paris, Tenn., surrounded by loved ones. Services were Sunday at 2 p.m. in the Bruceton First Baptist Church with Bro. Wayne Purcell officiating. Burial was at Prospect Cemetery in Hollow Rock. Mrs. Freeland was born in Hollow Rock, Tenn., on March 20, 1932, to the late Joe Neal Prince and Helen Leverage Scates Prince. She was also preceded in death by her husband, William A. Freeland; and a brother, Kneeland E. Prince. She is survived by two daughters, Jennifer Hawtof (Ivan), of Greenbrae, Calif., and Betsy Evans of Paris, Tenn. She also leaves one granddaughter and one great-granddaughter, both of Paris, Tenn. Bruceton Funeral Home.

DAN REAVES, SR. 1947 – 2025

McKENZIE — Funeral services for Dan Reaves, Sr. are on Friday, November 21, 2025, at 2 p.m. at Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home. The family will receive friends on Friday, November 21, 2025, from 11 a.m. until the time of the service. Interment will follow at Seminary Cemetery. Mr. Reaves, 78, died at his residence on Saturday, November 15, 2025. He was born in Shelbyville, Ind., to Homer and Hazel Williamson Reaves on February 3, 1947. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Connie Brinson Reaves; three daughters, Kathy Gahimer, of St Paul, Ind., and Rachel Reaves and Miranda Reaves, both of McKenzie; one son, Dan Reaves, Jr.; a sister, Marsha Greenwood, of Shelbyville, Ind.; and a brother, Tom (Bonnie) Reaves of Shelbyville, Ind.; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his parents, a grandchild, and a great-grandchild. Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home.



RAISIN SAUCE FOR BAKED HAM

1 cup brown sugar
3 cups water
3 tablespoons flour
3 tablespoons water
1/4 cup lemon juice
1 cup raisins
Cook raisins, sugar, water, lemon juice together for 20 minutes. Dissolve flour in 3 tablespoons water. Add to boiling mixture. Turn heat lower and cook until clear looking. Have ham cooked and sliced. Arrange in Pyrex dish. Pour sauce over ham and let cook until well heated.

CHOCOLATE GRAVY

1 cup sugar
2 tablespoons flour
2 tablespoons cocoa
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
2 cups milk
Mix in saucepan. Cook until thick. Serve over hot biscuits.

CROCKPOT DRESSING

1 cup chopped onion
1 cup chopped celery
1 cup butter (saute onion and celery in this)
1 can cream of chicken soup
1 can cream of mush-

room soup
2 cups chicken broth
Large skillet cornbread (well browned)
4 chicken breasts, cooked and well torn apart sage, pepper, poultry seasoning, salt (if needed)
Mix all ingredients well, crumbling up cornbread first. Place in crockpot on high 45 minutes, then cook on low for 4 hours. Stir well after cooking.

EASY POTATO CASSEROLE

1 (32oz.) pkg hash brown potatoes
1/2 stick margarine
1/2 cup minced onion
1 can cream of chicken soup
1 (16oz.) carton sour cream
1 cup grated cheddar cheese
Combine all ingredients and place in a greased casserole dish. Bake at 350degrees 1hour or until done.

FRIED SWEET POTATOES

5 sweet potatoes
1/4 c margarine
4 tablespoons brown sugar
Salt to taste
3/4 cup milk
Peel and slice potatoes. Melt margarine in a large skillet and dry potatoes over low heat. When almost done, add brown sugar, salt and milk. Simmer over low heat until milk is absorbed.

We do the legwork to keep you informed. The Banner, 731.352.3323

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CARROLL COUNTY E911 BOARD MEETING

The Carroll County Emergency Communication Board of Directors meets Tuesday, November 18 at 5:30 p.m. at 210 Norandal Dr., Huntingdon. Citizens desiring to publicly comment at the meeting on an agenda item must register with the district at 731-986-8911. A copy of the Public Comment Policy may be obtained at the district office at 101 Dillahunty Lane, Huntingdon.

NWTNEDC MEETING NOVEMBER 21

The Board of Directors of the Northwest Tennessee Economic Development Council holds a Joint Governance Training and Board Meeting on Friday, November 21, 2025 from 10 a.m. to

2 p.m. at the Martin Event Center – Room D, located at 89 Central Street, Martin The Governance Training is 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., with a Zoom option available for remote participation during the training only. Lunch will be provided immediately following the training, and the Board Meeting will begin at 12:30 p.m., conducted exclusively in person.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY BAZAAR

Join the Craft Ladies at McKenzie First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 16835 Highland Drive, on Saturday, November 22 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. for the annual Craft/Bake Sale. You'll find all kinds of baked goods plus beautiful wreaths, pillows, throws, aprons, table runners, Christmas decorations and much more! Turkey and dressing casserole tickets are also for sale to be picked up November 22. Contact 731-693-0401 for information.

HUNTINGDON ELKS LODGE HOOP SHOOT

The Huntingdon Elks Lodge annual "Hoop Shoot" contest is Sunday, Novem-

ber 23, 2025 in the Huntingdon Middle School gym. Boys and girls aged 8-13 are eligible to compete. Age is determined by age on April 1, 2026. There are three age categories: 8-9, 10-11 and 12-13. Winners advance to the district contest. If you have questions, please contact Hershel Wilkes at 731-986-1069.

McKENZIE SENIOR CENTER EVENTS

McKenzie Senior Center hosts a Cakewalk and Dinner Saturday, November 22. Dinner is 5 p.m.; chili, cornbread, tea and water are \$5. Cake auction is 5:45 p.m. Bid on our amazing baked goods to add to your holiday table. Cakewalk is 6 p.m.; get a \$5 wrist band to participate in the walks all evening. You can win multiple times.

CARROLL COUNTY CHRISTMAS PARADES

Clarksburg - Thursday, December 4 at 7 p.m.
McKenzie - Saturday, December 6 at 4 p.m.
Huntingdon - Monday, December 8 at 6:30 p.m.
Trezevant - Monday, December 8 at 7 p.m.

A MISTLETOE CHRISTMAS IS DECEMBER 4

Carroll Arts, Inc. presents "A Mistletoe Christmas" show at the Park Theatre in downtown McKenzie, Tenn. on Thursday, December 4 at 7 p.m.

Featuring musical performances by local entertainers, including McKenzie Elementary School's Rebel Singers, Melissa Herris with Dr. Keith Herris, Gina Rainey, Veronica Giaimo Davis, Dana Wyatt with Larry Bullion, Isaac Stephen Walker, and more. Plus, a special visit from Santa Claus! Admission \$5.

For more information, please email carrollartsinc@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS WITH (BETHEL) RENAISSANCE

The annual musical and theatrical production with Bethel University's Renaissance is Friday, December 5, 7 p.m., Saturday, December 6, 2 p.m.; Saturday, December 6, 7 p.m.; and Sunday, December 7, 2 p.m. For tickets, visit bethelrenaissance.com.

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.
November 24 — Ducks Unlimited Banquet.
November 24-30 — Bethel University Thanksgiving break.
November 26-28 — Carroll County School Thanksgiving break.
December 19 — Last day of fall semester.

THE BREAKFAST CLUB AT HOMETOWN HEALTH CLINIC

Everyone is invited to The Breakfast Club every Monday from 9-10:30 a.m. for coffee, snacks, mingling and a light activity. Take the chance to connect and socialize before getting interactive with games, light exercise and fun! Bring a friend and come make new ones at Hometown Health Clinic - Pediatrics/Specialty Entrance. We can't wait to see you there!

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 HUMANE SOCIETY EVENTS

Cat Vouchers
Cat spay/neuter vouchers are always available for \$60. To purchase by phone for use at Paris Vet Clinic, call 731-514-0878 and leave a message. These are available to anyone regardless of residency. We now offer cat vouchers to Carroll County residents for use at the Huntingdon Animal Clinic for \$60. These must be purchased in person at the shelter with cash or card and proof of residency required. However, Carroll Co. resi-

dents can still use Paris Vet Clinic if preferred.

Dog Vouchers
Dog spay/neuter vouchers are still available for \$60 and must be purchased in person at the shelter using cash or card. We have lots of neuters available so those are available regardless of residency. Spay vouchers are currently for Carroll Co. residents only and appointments are backed up into November. 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. We do recommend that you have your pet vaccinated due to exposure to other animals. Puppies must be a minimum of four months of age (older if small breed) at the time of surgery.

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.

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Wed. 7:35
Thurs. 7:35
SARAH'S OIL (PG)
Tues. 7:30
Wed. 7:30
Thurs. 7:30
THE CHRISTMAS RING (PG)
Tues. 7:25
Wed. 7:25
Thurs. 7:25
PREDATOR: BADLANDS (PG-13)
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McKENZIE ELEMENTARY Honor, Merit Roll - First Quarter

HONOR ROLL

First Grade
C. Barton: Hunter Brown, Ella Butler, Locklen Caliendo, Hannah Elohim
K. Brown: Caroline Campbell, Addison Carroll
A. Crowell: David Artymovich, Adalynn Ghyers, Harper Johnsonius, Emersyn Langley, William McClain, Robert Sutherby
R. Edlin: Wiley Bradshaw, Amina Brown, Alyston Broyles, Azelynn Johnson, Lark Sczesny, Cameron Turner, Kambrea Winchester
C. Moore: Harper Waddell
Second Grade
E. Bolin: Sean Bomar, Luca Bynum, Piper Russell
L. Brown: Jase Arvizu, Graeme Brown, Jett Estes, Penny Jones, Connor Russell, Hadleigh Veazey
S. Lane: Max Cross, Drake Simmons, Easton Bynum
K. Simmons: Avery Butler, Hudson Wallace, Axel Wilson, Lenox Ferguson, Faith Lynn French
Third Grade
J. Brown: Santiago Padilla, Liliana Paredes, Bailey Smith, Charlie Smith, Kipton Taylor, Hazel Tippitt, Baylin Weimer
M. Spivey: Ruby Allen, Isabella Benson, Rowan Conger, Wyatt Hartz, Cason Hernandez, Briley Stafford, Heidi Workman
M. Taylor: Anderson Murphy, Liam Neville, Kayelynn Riola
C. Wall: Brilee Berry, Landry Chappell, Jensen Cox, Thomas Duggar, Kaitlyn Long, Emerie Monteith, Laylah Waller, Beckman Warren
Fourth Grade
K. Brown: Grant Cunningham, Kyren Sczesny
C. Kee: Liam Sevieri, Easton Webb, Hannah Winstead, Avery Winston
A. Oakley: Jace Brown, Carver Holt
A. Sellers: Ellie Cross, Gatlin Weaver

MERIT ROLL

First Grade
C. Barton: Andie Allen, Zanthravious Arnold, Janelea Dunan, CJ Martin, Malaya Townes
K. Brown: Remington By-

num, Easton Flannery, Nora Foster, Dominick Jones, Zowey Norden, Klay Phillips
A. Crowell: Samson Bell, Mason Case, Emma Hughes, Unique Mumford, Kylie Satterfield
R. Edlin: Josiah Branch, Amelia Brown, Lane Coleman, Harmony Jones, Sarai Olson
C. Moore: Ansley Boyd, Sebastian Guzman, Colton Ham, Ella Manns, Gunnar McKinnon, Harley Smith
Second Grade
E. Bolin: Willow Haberland, Brody Moore, Larissa Staten
L. Brown: Adrian Calderon, Brinley Dodd, Briella Howard, Myrcella Knight, Wyatt Mason, Liam Wilson
S. Lane: Landon Nun-nery, Stella Brown, Avery Meddings, Mason Pruitt, John Wallace
K. Simmons: Nash Williams, Richard Navarro, Mathias Robinson, Isabel Umsted, Mia Norris
B. Turman: Aspyr Becerra, Elizabeth Case, Timothy Coleman, Dominic Gordon, Louie McLearn, Scout Sczesny, Cain Zuniga
Third Grade
J. Brown: Nola Aldridge, Oliver Arnold, Abbi Hudgins, Fran McKinney, Ashima Mendoza, Khloe Prestwood, Luna Tabor, Lucas Ward, Callie Watson, Camden Wilson
M. Spivey: Chase Alexander, Josiah Armstrong, Jordan Baker, Corbin Fowler, Ja'Nya Gordon, Emma Hopkins
M. Taylor: Bentlee Campbell, Leilani Cole, Charlie Dean, Cole Epperson, Beckham Flippin, Isaac Griffin, Carlianna Kintner, Haizley Mann, Alexa Ramirez, Korra Sevieri
C. Wall: Ethan Anderson, Parker Cantrell, Kody Cowan, Calee Hughes, Stella Mason, Caden Solomon, Eva Townes, Claire Veliz, Logan Wilson
Fourth Grade
K. Brown: Ramsey Allen, Isabella Avila, Jazzlyn Carroll, Iaden Fortune, Jana Glisson, Maddox Holmes, Layla Jones, Allison Padilla, Charlee Pierce, Chris Sneed, Lydia Walker, Kings-

ton Wilson
C. Kee: Dax Hickerson, Essie Owen, Marlee Wheat, Lily Ann Wolski
A. Oakley: Amon Aldridge, Avery Barksdale, Briley Cupples, Willow Doster, Maddox Ferguson, Ros McClerkin, Lane Mathis, Ava Moore, Julianne Stafford, Mya Vermillion, Cooper Yeley
A. Sellers: Riley Barksdale, Amelya Becerra, Bryson Butler, Gabriel Johnson, Rachel Parham, Avery Pruitt, Tyler Snead-Soto
PRINCIPAL'S P.R.I.D.E. READING AWARD
First Grade: Hannah Elohim, Easton Flannery, Harper Johnsonius, Azelynn Johnson, Colton Ham
Second Grade: Piper Russell, Connor Russell, Drake Simmons, Axel Wilson, Scout Sczesny
Third Grade: Hazel Tippitt, Wyatt Hartz, Anderson Murphy, Beckman Warren
Fourth Grade: Grant Cunningham, Avery Winston, Carver Holt, Ellie Cross
PRINCIPAL'S P.R.I.D.E. MATH AWARD
First Grade: Hunter Brown, Remington Bynum, William McClain, Wiley Bradshaw, Harper Waddell
Second Grade: Callum Petering, Jase Arvizu, Max Cross, Mathias Robinson, Timothy Coleman
Third Grade: Liliana Paredes, Briley Stafford, Liam Neville, Emerie Monteith
Fourth Grade: Kyren Sczesny, Easton Webb, Amon Aldridge, Rachel Parham
CITIZENSHIP AWARD
First Grade: Malaya Townes, Aurora Neaveill, Oliver Mort, Felicity Smith, Abram Montgomery
Second Grade: Selah Bannuelos, Jett Estes, Devanny Navarro, Isabel Umsted, Alisa Smith
Third Grade: Baylin Weimer, Abbey Doster, Alexa Ramirez, Eva Townes
Fourth Grade: Allison Padilla, Lily Ann Wolski, Ros McClerkin, Alayna Broadway

the West Carroll 3-2-1 Update November 2025
As autumn brings football and festivals, this past month gave us meaningful moments to celebrate the people who make WCSSD such a special place. Here's how:
3-Highlights from Across the District
Honoring the Legacy of 20+ Year Employees: At the November board meeting, we recognized 30+ WCSSD staff who've served for two decades or more. Special shoutout to Ms. Linda Hatfield for **48 years** and still going strong!
Strong Strategic Growth: Our district is seeing steady progress across key goals. **ACT achievement is up 17%**, graduation rate at 98%, chronic absenteeism dropped to 12%, and elementary **achievement increased by 45%** among economically disadvantaged students meeting grade-level goals.
Learning That Connects: Students across the district explored meaningful learning this month, from Veterans Day interviews, podcasts, & essays to ACT Boot Camps. We're also excited because more than 60 students at WCES & WCP have already read 50+ books toward their AR goals.
2 Quotes from Our Principals
"Literacy Night was a celebration of family engagement and joyful learning. When kids read with the people who love them, it sticks." — **Jackie Wester**, WCPS
"The 20-plus year educators have built lasting relationships that impact our students, our families, and the culture of our school. I'm proud to work alongside them." — **Dr. Jessica Williams**, WCES
1 Challenge for Our Community
Celebrate in the Spirit of Thanksgiving
Join us **Nov. 16th** for a district-wide **Community Meal at WCHS** from 4-6pm. Grocery boxes will be available after the meal for any family who needs extra support over the break.
On **Nov. 25th**, come out for the **WCP Thanksgiving Auction**. For almost 75 years, this auction has been a tradition of fun, food, and live bidding that supports the PTO.
Hope to see you at our December board meeting.
Preston Caldwell
wcssd.com/321



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Above Left, (L to R): Michael and Rhonda Walsh were honored by Teresa Carter as the 2025 Volunteers of the Year. Above Right, Bethel University's Softball Team served as volunteer servers during the gala. Volunteer servers included students from: Clarksburg - 11 students; Huntingdon - 3; McKenzie - 4; Bethel University Softball Team - 25; and University of Memphis - 1. Below Left, Ryan McDaniel volunteered his services as an auctioneer during the fundraising event for Habitat. Below Right, Carroll County Mayor Joseph Butler and Huntingdon Mayor Chad Edwards.

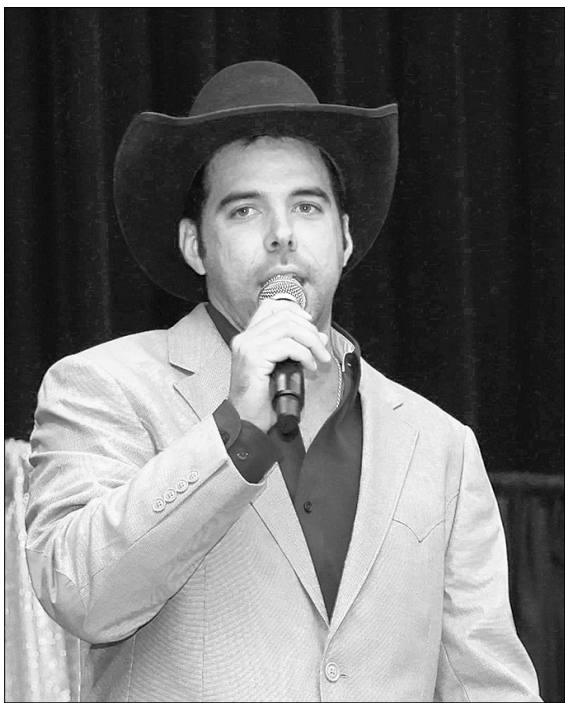
Habitat for Humanity Gala Honors Volunteers, Raises Funds

Habitat for Humanity - Carroll County celebrated another successful year during its annual Gala held at the Carroll County Civic Center on November 13. The event was themed "Denim and Diamonds."

The event is the annual fundraising event that helps fund the construction of modestly priced homes, built with volunteer labor and many donations of time, supplies, and love. The event raised approximately \$30,000.

Event sponsors included: Baptist Memorial Hospital of Carroll County, Carroll Bank and Trust, Centennial Bank, Peppers Ford of McKenzie, Watson Lumber Company, One anonymous donor.

- Friends of Habitat for Humanity Sponsors:**
- The Buttrey Wedding and Event Venue
 - Huntingdon Animal Clinic
 - Huntingdon Missionary Baptist Church Adult Stu-



- dent School Class
- Huntingdon Termite and Pest Control
 - Drs. Krista and Brock Martin
 - Gratitude was extended to the Habitat board of directors, the fundraising

- committee, and all volunteers who worked on houses, prepared food, or helped at the yard sale and home store.
- Event Support:**
- Hometown Hangout of



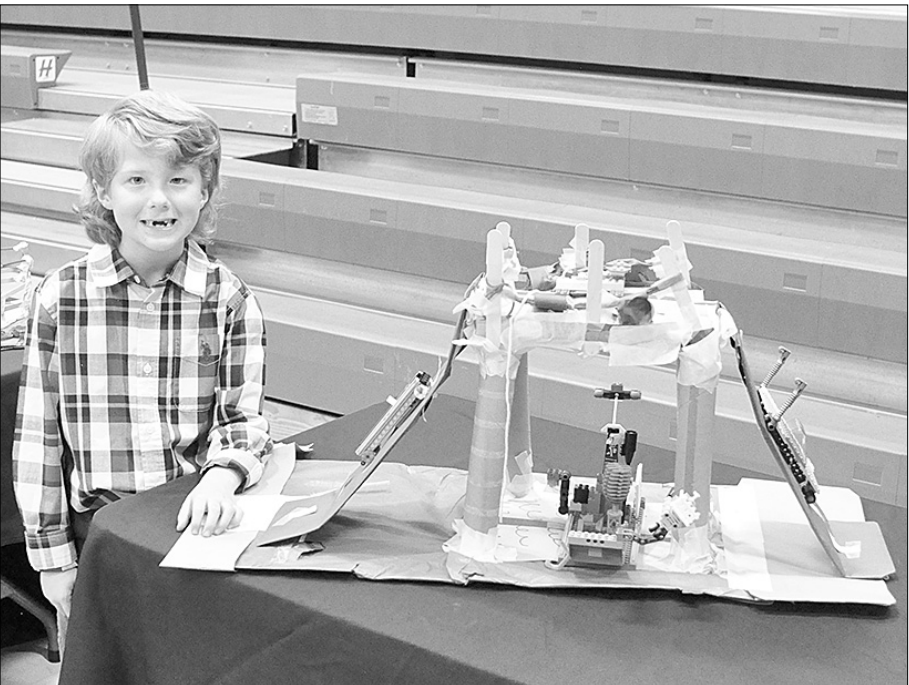
- McKenzie catered the meal.
- Volunteer servers included the Bethel University softball team and students from Clarksburg, Huntingdon, and McKenzie high schools.
 - Paula Atkins was spe-

- cially thanked for her tireless efforts in bringing Habitat to Carroll County.
- Update on Next Habitat Build:**
- A new two-bedroom house is planned for con-

- struction in McKenzie.
- The project is pending the recruitment of a construction manager; this role can be filled by one person or a team.
 - Volunteers, both skilled and unskilled, are needed for the project.
- Volunteer of the Year Award:**
- The 2025 Volunteer of the Year award was presented to Michael and Rhonda Walsh.
 - Michael Walsh was recognized for his extensive contributions since his retirement, including drywall, painting, door installation, and building porches.
 - Rhonda Walsh was praised as the hardest-working board member, contributing to both house builds and the store.
 - The final part of the event was a live auction.
 - The auctioneer is Ryan McDaniel.



Above Left, HHS work-based learning students established STEAM Creations, a multifaceted business run solely by the students. Pictured are (L to R): work-based learning facilitator Amanda Pruitt, junior Will Reeves, senior Jacob Martin, junior Mahogany Pratcher and senior Mary Claire Kolwyck. Above Right, HPS Kindergarten student Silas Boane constructed a bridge to display at the STEAM Fair. Primary students are learning about engineering. Below, HMS seventh graders Arianna Henson (left) and Anthony Pearson fabricated a working remote-controlled submarine, which they demonstrated at the STEAM Fair. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner



Huntingdon High School Hosts District-Wide STEAM Fair

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

HUNTINGDON (November 4) — Huntingdon High School hosted a district-wide STEAM Fair Tuesday evening featuring approximately 30 projects by primary, middle and high school students displaying knowledge and skills in science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics.

The theme of the event was "From the Depths to the Stars", giving the students a focal point, albeit broad, of anything from the ocean to outer space.

HHS STEM teacher Spencer Ezell told The Banner that STEAM was relatively new for the schools, in its fifth year at the high school and third at the middle and primary schools.

"With STEAM, what we do is we take all of the things that kids are learning in their other classes, and we put it together for real world scenarios, real world problems. We take those aspects of science, technology, engineering, art, ag and mathematics. That's the point of tonight.

I think the implementation is great for our school district. They have just completely knocked it out of the park. I think they exceeded all expectations. I'm so glad that we got the turnout that we did."

One project on display at the fair was STEAM Creations, a multifaceted business run solely by HHS work-based learning students.

Senior Jacob Martin told The Banner, "This is a chance for us to experiment and teach people, not only from shirt-making and printing to designing, like graphic design and website design, and management. It also teaches a really good work ethic."

"At the school, we've expanded to include a coffee shop which we have every Monday through Thursday. We use that all to teach a bunch of people."

Fellow senior Mary Claire Kolwyck added, "There are little cliques that do different things. There's some that are in the design process. There's some that are in the hands-on stuff like the actual printing of the



shirts. And then there's some that do all the extra stuff, they go and sell and do the websites and plan all of that."

At the fair, the group displayed shirts and earrings they've designed and produced, as well as some of the equipment they use

and a small scale model of a brick-and-mortar shop the students designed.

Among projects from the middle school were some by students in "STREAM", which incorporates robotics into STEAM. One group of students built a rover and coded it to navigate obstacles on Martian terrain. Another group designed and created small, fully-functional submarines.

Huntingdon Primary School STEM teacher LaTasha Woodell applied and received a TVA grant for her students to learn more about different types of engineering. The project is called STEM Impact Academy.

Woodell told The Banner, "Our primary objective is to create a dynamic learning environment where students gain practical STEM skills while also exploring career opportunities and understanding the economic factors that drive these fields. By incorporating this knowledge into our curriculum, we aspire to motivate and steer students toward well-informed career de-

cisions in engineering. We are introducing students to different engineering fields in the classroom, aiming to raise awareness and interest in these careers."

She said the grant supports a series of innovative activities, resources and partnerships designed to bridge the gap between classroom learning and real-world applications.

"The goal is to incorporate design thinking into career development activities and help students explore STEM careers effectively while understanding the economic factors influencing these careers. This approach enables students to develop user-centered career plans, make informed decisions, and adapt to changing job markets. It not only enhances their career readiness but also fosters essential problem-solving skills that are valuable in any STEM career."

She explained that for this event, students explored civil engineering by researching different types of bridges and using materials within the classroom to build their own.



The 2025 McKenzie Middle School Rebel football team. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

McKenzie Middle Celebrates Football Season with Banquet

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (November 15) — The McKenzie Middle School football team celebrated a winning season Saturday with a banquet at Bethel University's Vera Low Center.

Players, managers and coaches enjoyed Chick-fil-A and Block City Pizza, then Head Coach Paul Carroll thanked everyone for being part of the program.

Carroll noted the high school's successful run, and said "You guys should be the ones to continue that." He encouraged the eighth grade players to try out for the high school team. "That's the only way the success continues."

Certificates were presented to each player and manager, and each eighth grader was given a trophy.

Four awards were presented, though Carroll noted that football is the ultimate team sport and that each award winner's performance was backed by the team's effort.

Dierks Ghyers was named Defensive MVP.

Jake Ghyers was named Top Back.

Fisher Allen was the Top



MMS football award winners (L to R): Offensive MVP Seth Stafford, Defensive MVP Dierks Ghyers, Top Lineman Fisher Allen and Top Back Jake Ghyers. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

Lineman.

Seth Stafford earned the title of Offensive MVP.

After the banquet, the team walked over to Walter Butler Stadium to watch the Bethel Wildcat football game.

Eighth grade Rebel players were Jackson Barden, Seth Stafford, Lane Brown, Jaibreon Horton, Dierks Ghyers, Cooper Jones, Kamden Lee, Tyler Davis, Zayden Webb, Ryan Mc-

Cann, Jake Ghyers, McCoy Merrick, Jeremy Sims, Leighem Broyles, Parker Standridge, Fisher Allen, Case Wall, Riley Crafton, Andrew Arnold, Brenton Hickerson and Reid Warman.

Seventh grade players were Kendon Coleman, Harley Davidson, Davon Webb, Mahkyn Gilbert, Mason Davidson, Thomas Howard, Navadius Owens, Deacon Barden,

Cats Capture Conference Soccer Championship

BY DERRICK HUBBLE
Bethel SID

McKENZIE — The Bethel Wildcats are champions once again.

With a dominant 2-0 victory over Cumberland (TN) at Walter Butler Stadium, the Wildcats claimed the Mid-South Conference Soccer Tournament Championship, completing a remarkable postseason run marked by grit, precision, and team chemistry.

From the opening whistle, Bethel looked every bit the title favorite. The Wildcats wasted no time asserting control when Horace Avila Jr. broke through the Phoenix defense just six minutes into the match and blasted home the opening goal, giving Bethel an early 1-nil advantage.

Bethel doubled the lead in the 27th minute as Souleymane Balde connected with a pinpoint assist from Avila Jr., finishing cleanly to make it 2-0. The early cushion gave the Wildcats room to showcase their signature defensive discipline—and they did not disappoint.

Behind a superb effort from goalkeeper Diego Camargo, who recorded two key saves en route to a shutout, Bethel's back line of Ishmael Fuseini, Juan Diego Corral, Sa-Jar Blair and Enock Owusu locked down the Cumberland attack. The Phoenix managed just two shots on target all evening.

Head coach Malang Jarju praised his squad's focus and drive after the final whistle.

"This is what we've worked for all season," Jarju said. "Every player bought it—from the first training session to tonight's final. They earned this championship."

Bethel outshot Cumberland 9-5 and controlled possession for much of the con-

test. The Wildcats showed poise in the midfield through Roberto Rangel and Mohamed Benguellal, while Avila Jr. and Balde's chemistry up front proved too much for Cumberland to contain.

The title marks another milestone in what has been a stellar season for Bethel, who improved to 12-1-2 overall and now turn their focus toward the NAIA National Tournament.

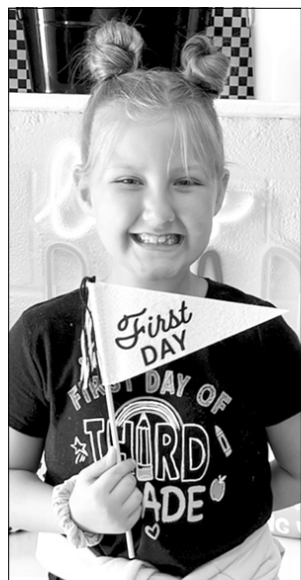
"Winning this conference means everything," Avila Jr. said. "We knew what was at stake, and we wanted to make a statement. Now, it's time to take this energy to nationals."

As confetti fell and the team hoisted the championship banner under the lights of Walter Butler Stadium, one thing was clear—the Wildcats reign supreme in the Mid-South.

The journey to Orange Beach, Ala., begins now as 40 teams have punched their ticket to the First and Second Rounds of the 2025 NAIA Men's Soccer National Tournament, taking place on Thursday, Nov. 20, and Saturday, Nov. 22, at campus sites across the nation. Teams that advance out of those rounds will pack their bags and head to Orange Beach, where final site action will commence on December 1 and continue through December 8, until one team stands alone and is crowned a champion.

The Cats will host Rocky Mountain (MT) and Union Commonwealth (KY) in the McKenzie bracket.

Rocky Mountain and Union Commonwealth will play Thursday at 1 p.m. with Bethel awaiting the winner on Saturday at noon. The Cats are fresh off their Mid-South Conference Championship and are the No. 1 seed in the field.



(L to R) Kash Fuller, Adalee Coffman and Carson Cooper.

West Carroll Spotlights Students of the Week

WEST CARROLL (November 11) — The West Carroll Special School District announced its newest round of students of the week for October 20-24 from its primary, elementary and junior/senior high schools. The three students — Kash Fuller, Adalee Coffman and Carson Cooper — were each nominated for their leadership, participation and willingness to help.

Pre-kindergarten student Kash Fuller is West Carroll Primary School's student of the week, nominated by Ms. Olivia Bryant.

"Kash is a kind friend who is always looking for

ways to help others. He is a great example to his peers and always follows directions quickly. He participates eagerly and is always willing to answer questions during lessons," said Bryant.

Third-grade student Adalee Coffman is West Carroll Elementary School's student of the week, nominated by Ms. Jennifer Kemp.

"Adalee is constantly trying to improve herself in academics and is helpful to others around her," said Kemp.

Sophomore student Carson Cooper is West Carroll Jr/Sr High School's

student of the week, nominated by Mr. Noah Rogers.

"Carson is an outstanding leader in and out of the classroom," said Rogers. "His attention to detail and desire to learn make him an exceptional student every day."

The West Carroll Special School District also recognized West Carroll Elementary School fourth-grade and sixth-grade intervention teacher Jennifer Hames as teacher of the week.

West Carroll honors three students and one educator each week for their efforts in the classrooms.



West Carroll FBLA Students — (L to R) Front Row: Taylor Robinson, Arlexis Perry, Hayden Weaver, Kahli Baum, Hailey Cantrell and Mackenzie Finley. Back Row: RQ Thompson, Hayden Wingo, Caleb Vermillion, Chandler Rimmer, Eli Bryant, Jack Robinson, JW Rushing and Bryler O'Neal.

West Carroll FBLA Students Explore Careers At Tennessee Titans Learning Lab

BY ERIN LEWIS
West Carroll Jr/Sr High School

Students from the West Carroll High School FBLA chapter recently traveled to Nashville to participate in the Tennessee Titans Learning Lab at Nissan Stadium. This opportunity blended business education, leadership and real-world career exploration.

Throughout the day, students met with representatives from multiple departments within the Titans organization, including Client Services and Hospitality, Cause Marketing, Ticket Sales, Group Sales, Member-

ship Services, Equipment and Stadium Operations. Each team shared how their department contributes to the overall success of the franchise and what it takes to manage a professional sports organization.

Students also toured the locker room and tried on equipment, getting a behind-the-scenes look at game-day operations. The experience gave them a better understanding of how teamwork, marketing, finance and operations come together in a large-scale business environment.

Events like this highlight

the valuable opportunities provided through Career and Technical Education (CTE) and the Business and Marketing program at West Carroll, where students connect classroom learning with real-world applications. Through FBLA and similar programs, students develop leadership skills, explore potential careers and gain insight into what it takes to succeed beyond high school. The trip served as both an educational experience and a reminder of the doors that CTE and business education open for West Carroll students.

Carroll County Students Attend Youth Leadership Session

Youth Leadership Carroll County (YLCC) has returned, and with it comes opportunities for 25 high school students to learn key financial and leadership skills to take with them post-graduation.

The program's first session was Wednesday, November 12, at the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce.

Each of Carroll County's five schools were represented by five students, each selected based on their lead-

ership qualities inside and outside of the classroom.

Representing Hollow Rock-Bruceton Central High School are Madison Holder, Brody Huff, Olivia Scott, Sarah Smith and Seth Thomas.

Representing Clarksburg School are Ava Akins, Aylssa Belew, Orion Cary, Jayanna Martin and Nathan Steele.

Representing Huntingdon High School are Wyatt Bergman, Briley Brown, Madison Dill, Keran Gordon and Asia

Melton.

Representing McKenzie High School are Gracie Aird, Carli Beeler, Brody Berryhill, Tobey Brooks and Carlyton Townes.

Representing West Carroll Jr/Sr High School are Kahli Baum, Kalee Coleman, Arlexis Perry, Chandler Rimmer and Hayden Weaver.

YLCC extends through the winter and concludes with a small graduation ceremony during students' final session.



Carroll County's 2025-26 Youth Leadership cohort gathered in front of the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce building alongside chamber employees. Submitted photo

Wildcats Fall to Lindsey Wilson on Senior Day

COURTESY BETHEL SID

MCKENZIE (November 15) — On a day built to honor Bethel's seniors, the Lindsey Wilson Blue Raiders had plans of their own. From the opening kick-off to the final whistle, the visitors controlled the pace and handed the Wildcats a tough 33-14 loss Saturday afternoon at Walter Butler Stadium.

Bethel fell to 4-5 (3-3 MSC) with the defeat, while Lindsey Wilson improved to 9-1 (5-1 MSC) in a performance powered by efficiency, explosiveness and overwhelming time of possession. With the victory and Campbellsville's loss at Georgetown, the Blue Raiders won the MSC title.

What was supposed to be a celebratory Senior Day soon became an uphill battle.

Lindsey Wilson struck quickly, scoring two touchdowns in a span of just under two minutes. Blue Raider quarterback Tate Rice found Max Gainey for a nine-yard touchdown at 10:29, followed by a 10-yard strike to Khia Sherard at 8:51 to make it 13-0.

The Wildcats struggled to find early momentum, with offensive drives stalling and field position tilting heavily in the Blue Raiders' favor. A 33-yard field goal from Jadan Burns stretched the lead to 16-0 midway through the second quarter. With just under two minutes before halftime, Lindsey Wilson added a dagger when Stevin Mack powered in from 16 yards out, pushing the margin to 23-0 at the break.

The second half opened much like the first. Bethel's defense found flashes of toughness, but Lindsey Wilson's efficiency continued to shine. Burns hit his



Wildcat Jordan Cason avoids a tackle for a first down. Photo by Gary Owens/The Banner

second field goal of the afternoon—this one from 27 yards—to make it 26-0.

Moments later, Rice delivered another big play, connecting with Gainey again, this time for a 45-yard strike that ballooned the lead to 33-0. Gainey finished with a monster day: nine receptions, 158 yards and two touchdowns.

Although the scoreboard was lopsided, Bethel's playmakers refused to quit. In one of the game's electrifying moments, Ryan Kirk took a handoff, hit a crease and torched the defense for a 75-yard touchdown sprint at the 4:31 mark of the third quarter, cutting the deficit to 33-7. Kirk was a bright spot all afternoon, racking up 168 rushing yards on 12 carries, averaging an incredible 14 yards per attempt.

Early in the fourth, Bethel struck again—this time on a 64-yard burst from Jarvis Stockton, who made the most of his limited touches with 68 yards on just two carries.

His score brought the

Wildcats within 33-14, where the game would ultimately finish.

Despite the final score, Bethel's ground game was sensational, piling up 296 rushing yards on just 28 attempts. However, the Wildcats were hampered by: just ten first downs; going 0-for-8 on third downs; only 18:02 of possession time compared to Lindsey Wilson's 41:58; and struggles in the passing game (4-13 for 42 yards).

Defensively, Darrien Lewis led the Wildcats with ten tackles, while Brylan Jordan added nine and Malik Brown contributed six with a tackle for loss.

Though the Wildcats couldn't secure a victory for their senior class, the closing moments of the game showed pride, grit and explosive ability that defined the day more than the scoreboard.

Two huge touchdown runs, a determined defensive front and a sideline full of emotion underscored what Bethel football stands for.

McKenzie Police Reports

Driving on Suspended License — Frederick Jon Godfrey, 52, McKenzie, was charged with Driving on a Suspended License on November 12.

Officer Billy Burson initiated a stop on Godfrey's vehicle after observing that the license plate lights were inoperable. A check of Godfrey's license revealed the suspended status due to his failure to file an insurance certificate following a citation in Gleason. Godfrey

was cited in Carroll County General Sessions Court.

Theft — A Bertha Street residence reported the theft of a 22-foot flatbed trailer on November 3.

Officer Timothy Dillon took the report from the homeowner. A neighbor had surveillance cameras at his home and provided video of the suspect vehicle, a gray Dodge 3500 truck.

Theft — A set of tires was stolen from a Grandberry Street home on November 14.

Officer Hayden Rembert was dispatched to the address, where the occupant stated a lady in a red car had taken the tires. Other items reported stolen were a bicycle, tools, and a backpack, also possibly taken by the female.

The complainant was watching the house while the owner was incarcerated in Carroll County Jail.

The case is under investigation.

Carroll County General Sessions Report

The following cases were heard in Carroll County General Sessions Court on November 12.

Anna Claire Campbell, Westwood Drive, Huntingdon, bound over, Implied Consent - Enhancement Only; bound over, DUI by Allowing.

Felicia Elen Sarkozi, Morris Court, McKenzie, bound over, Child Abuse/Neglect/Endangerment.

Robert C. Warren Jr., Morris Court, McKenzie, bound over, Child Abuse/Neglect/Endangerment.

The following cases resulted in a guilty plea or finding.

Bobby Joe Campbell, W. Cherry Street, Milan, guilty, Evading Arrest, \$100 fine, 11/29 supervised probation for 90 days, may become unsupervised probation for balance when conditions are met; dismissed, Driving While License Revoked.

Shayna Casey, Highway 105, Trezevant, guilty, Probation Violation - Booked, no fine, may serve sentence on consecutive weekends, balance extended six months.

James Henry, Replogle Lumber Road, Henry, guilty, Probation Violation - Booked, no fine, 11/29.

Stedman Pettigrew, Hamilton Street, McKenzie, guilty, Violation of Motor Vehicle Ignition Interlock Device, \$250 fine, six months supervised probation, must attend DUI school, alcohol and drug assessment, follow recommendations, provide proof to Probation Department.

Anthony Ronald Turner, Hidden Hills Lane, Huntingdon, guilty, Meth-Possession or Casual Exchange, \$750 fine, 11/29 supervised probation for balance, cognitive behavioral training course, alcohol drug evaluation and recommendations, forfeit knuckles, may enroll and successfully complete long-term inpatient treatment after serving 30 days; dismissed, Tampering With Evidence; dismissed, Driving While License Suspended; dismissed, Prevent/Obstruct Service of Legal Process; dismissed, Prohibited Weapons - Knuckles.

The following case resulted in a pre-trial diversion finding.

Paul R. Pozniak, Shoreline Drive, Huntingdon, pre-trial diversion, Aggravated 911 Calls in Non-Emergency Situations Prohibited, \$500 fine, six months supervised probation for sentence, may become unsupervised for balance upon completion of all conditions of probation, shall complete an alcohol and drug assessment and follow any recommendations, submit proof to clerk's office; dismissed, Disorderly Conduct.

The following cases were dismissed.

Kayla Nicole Glover, Hilliard Drive, McKenzie, dismissed, Financial Respon-

sibility Law; dismissed, Leave Scene of Accident - Property Damage; dismissed, Immediate Notice of Accident.

Kevin R. McMinn, C Street, Jackson, dismissed, Leave Scene of Accident - Property Damage.

Jazzlyn M. Price, Cherry Blossom Drive, Huntingdon, dismissed, Probation Violation - Booked.

The following cases were rescheduled.

Dalton Allen, Joseph Michael Long, James D. Warbritton, James Derrick Warbritton, James Fred Warmath, Candice Kay Wilson.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO SURFACE MINE

Old Hickory Clay Company of 55420 Old Hwy 22, Gleason, TN 38229, (731) 648-5535, intends to apply to the State of Tennessee, Division of Water Resources, Mining Section, for a permit to mine ball clay in Carroll County. The proposed permit of 18 +/- acres is located in USGS Trezevant East Quadrangle, South Fork Obion River Watershed, and is drained by Todd Creek. Any interested parties may contact the Mining Section, 3711 Middlebrook Pike, Knoxville, TN 37921, or at (865) 594-6035, within (30) days of this publication.

R26709/A1660/46-1

CARROLL COUNTY BEER BOARD

NOTICE

The Carroll County Beer Commission has received an application for a beer permit for Rami Abusaada (CG Country Store INC.). Application is for off premises consumption.

The business is located at 3510 US Highway 70, Cedar Grove, TN 38321. The business is bounded north by Highway 104, south by Porter Jones, east by Highway 70, west by Phillip Williams.

A hearing will be held December 9 at 9 a.m. at the Carroll County office Complex conference room, 625 High Street, Huntingdon, TN 38344.

All people who wish to be heard may be present at this time.

A7617/46-2

PUBLIC NOTICE

Corrective Action Plan Submitted for Cornerstone Mart (Facility ID# 7-090092) by Sam Enterprises.

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) is seeking public comments on the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) submitted for Cornerstone Mart on August 28, 2025. The CAP describes the proposal for remediating petroleum contamination in soil and groundwater. Cornerstone Market is located at 15815 Highland Drive, McKenzie, TN 38201.

A copy of the CAP may be viewed at TDEC - Division of Underground Storage Tanks (DUST) Environmental Field Office located at 1625 Hollywood Drive, Jackson, TN 38305 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Comments must be received at the DUST office within 30 days.

R26668/45-4

MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL



Left, Lady Rebel Macy Brooks pulls up for a midrange jumper. Right, Rebel Lane Brown drives to the basket on a fast break. Brown led McKenzie with ten points. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner

Dresden Sweeps McKenzie

BY BRAD SAM

brad@mckenziebanner.com

DRESDEN (November 13) — Dresden Middle School hosted McKenzie Thursday for a pair of basketball contests. The hosts controlled their home court for two strong wins. The Lady Lions won 44-14, while the Lions claimed a 45-18 victory.

Dresden Lady Lions 44, McKenzie Lady Rebels 14

The Lady Lions jumped out to a 7-2 lead after the opening frame, led by Hallie Davis with three points. Charlee Sutton and Annabelle Pickering each had a pair. Macy Brooks scored two for the Lady Rebels.

Dresden had a 12-9 edge in the second quarter, led by Pickering with six points, including a three-pointer. Davis, Sutton and Emzy Collins each had a pair. Lady Rebel Kristy Towne scored eight points, and Presley Shipp hit a free throw. At the half, Dresden led 19-11.

The Lady Lions had an 18-3 advantage in the third, led by Sutton with seven points. Davis scored six, Jencee West hit a three-pointer, and Collins added a pair. Towne had all three McKenzie points. Entering the final frame, the Lady Lions led 37-14.

Dresden capped the win with a 7-0 tilt in the fourth. Laney Scott scored four points, and Davis had three.

Lady Lion Hallie Davis led all scorers with 14 points. Charlee Sutton had eleven, and Annabelle Pickering scored eight with a three-pointer.

Kristy Towne led the Lady Rebels with eleven points.

Lions 45, Rebels 18

Dresden pulled ahead 16-7 in the first frame, led by Cannon West with nine points on a trio of threes. Jon Reece Allman scored five with a three-pointer, and Kyler West had a pair. Lane Brown scored all seven Rebel points, including a three.

The Lions had a 7-5

edge in the second quarter, led by Case West with three points. Allman and Will Forrester each had a pair. Brown hit a three-pointer for McKenzie, and Dierks Ghyers had a pair. At the half, the Lions led 23-12.

Dresden pulled away with a 22-6 advantage in the third, led by Cannon West with four points, including a three-pointer. Case West, K. West and Triston Walters each hit a three, and Allman, Austin Seaton, Ben Pettit and Kaiden Evans each had a pair. Emmitt Hobock hit a free throw. Rebel Navadius Owens scored three points, Mahkyn Gilbert had a pair, and Kenden Coleman hit a free throw. Heading into the final frame, Dresden led 45-18.

A quick fourth quarter was scoreless on both ends.

Lion Cannon West led all scorers with 13 points, including four three-pointers. Jon Reece Allman scored nine, also with a three.

Lane Brown led McKenzie with ten points, including a pair of threes.

COUNTY, SCHOOL BOARD, & MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 2026

Run for office!

- County and school board elections will be on the May 5 Primary & August 6 General ballots.
- City of Clarksburg election will be August 6.
- All other municipal elections will be November 3.

Don't Wait!

- Candidate petitioning time for county & school boards is 12/22/25 - 2/19/26 @ noon.
- Candidate petitioning time for Clarksburg is 1/9/26 - 3/10/26 @ noon.
- Candidate petitioning time for all other municipals is 6/22/26 - 8/20/26 @ noon.



For details contact the Election Office, 731-986-1968, www.carrolltnelections.com
State Primary & General will be August 6 & November 3, 2026, respectively.

County Elections 2026	Board of Education Elections 2026	Municipal Elections 2026
Circuit Court Clerk	County Board of Education	Districts 1 - 3
County Mayor	Hollow Rock-Bruceton SSD	District 15
Assessor of Property		District 16 Bruceton
		District 16 Hollow Rock
County Clerk		District 16 At Large
Trustee	Huntingdon SSD	At Large
Register of Deeds	McKenzie SSD	At Large
Sheriff	South Carroll SSD	At Large
Road Supervisor	West Carroll SSD	Old Atwood
County Commission: Districts 1 - 9		Old County
		Old Trezevant

A927/46-1

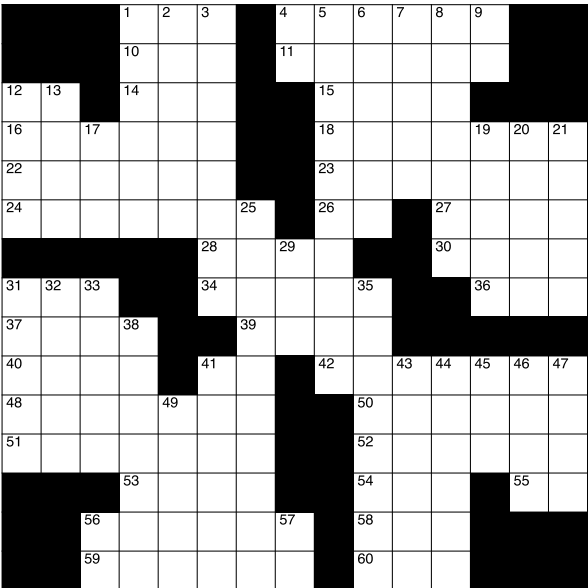
Color A Masterpiece



Weekly Crossword

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Popular broadcast network
- 4. Train line
- 10. Go quickly
- 11. Straightforward
- 12. Canadian province
- 14. Swiss river
- 15. It can be straight or curved
- 16. Edit
- 18. Utter repeatedly
- 22. Gotten up
- 23. Sea vessel
- 24. Agents of one's demise
- 26. Not out
- 27. Something to scratch
- 28. A round water pot
- 30. Slang for cylindrical green fruit
- 31. Promotions
- 34. Masses of matter
- 36. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 37. Nightstand item
- 39. The content of cognition
- 40. Arab ruler
- 41. Northern U.S. state
- 42. Chewed in small bites
- 48. Hawaiian island
- 50. More thin
- 51. Of one
- 52. Rigid bracelet or anklet
- 53. Barbary sheep
- 54. Not even
- 55. Atomic #106
- 56. Haggle
- 58. Boxing's GOAT



- 59. Division of a group into opposing factions
- 60. Vietnamese offensive

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Horse-drawn carriage
- 2. Prejudices
- 3. Peacefully
- 4. University athletic official
- 5. Soldiers
- 6. Large mollusk
- 7. Take out again
- 8. Sour or bitter in taste
- 9. Songwriter Tunstall
- 12. Husk of wheat
- 13. Flexible covering in some birds
- 17. Energy
- 19. Night monkey genus
- 20. Small nails
- 21. Colorless volatile liquid
- 25. In a way, changes integrity
- 29. Mark Wahlberg's stuffed animal
- 31. Remember it
- 32. "Good Will Hunting" lead man
- 33. Pleasant facial expression
- 35. Sea vessel
- 38. Lacking poetic beauty
- 41. Tall, swift and slender dog
- 43. Sports personality Michelle
- 44. Robber
- 45. Liquefied natural gas
- 46. Snakelike fish
- 47. Sediment at bottom of a liquid
- 49. Crimean seaport
- 56. Bad grades
- 57. Popular S. Korean rapper

Week 46

See solution in next week's edition.

Senior Safety Word Search

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

Balance
Bathroom
Caregivers
Cognitive
Elder Abuse
Emergency

Fall Prevention
Fires
Grab Bars
Hearing Aids
Home Safety
Hypothermia

Lighting
Medication
Mobility Aids
Non-Slip
Personal Alarm
Preparedness

Safe Driving
Scams
Security System
Stairlift
Vision

THIS DAY IN HISTORY



1493: Christopher Columbus first sights the island now known as Puerto Rico.

1883: American and Canadian railroads institute five standard continental time zones.

1963: The first push-button telephone goes into service.

SUDOKU

WEEK 46

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

Level: Beginner

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.



Solve the code to discover words related to senior safety. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 17 = E)

A. 19 24 13 7 7 17 23 5

Clue: Slick

B. 19 1 15 11 17 23

Clue: Place to wash

C. 26 20 23 19

Clue: Handles

D. 17 5 17 19 13 12 1 25

Clue: Ability to see

Answers: A. slippery B. shower C. bars D. eyesight

LETTER MIX-UP

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

CAREGIVERS

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

Riddle Me This

Why did they let the Turkey join the Thanksgiving band?

Answer: Because he had the drumsticks.

WORD SCRAMBLE

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

MMEOYR

Answer: Memory

GUESS WHO ?

I am a country singer born in South Carolina on November 20, 1977. I went to the Vanderbilt voice clinic to treat a lesion on my vocal cords. I performed at the Grand Ole Opry in 2001 and have had several top ten hits.

Answer: Josh Turner

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PUZZLE SOLUTION

Week 45 Crossword Puzzle Solution

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

SUDOKU SOLUTION WEEK 45

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

FOR RENT

HOUSES AND APARTMENTS: McKENZIE AREA. www.mckenzie-homefinders.com 731-352-2255. A1219/44-TF

FOR LEASE

AVAILABLE — 4,000 SQ. FT. NEXT TO H&R BLOCK, at Cedar Street Plaza, 1926 Cedar Street, McKenzie. Call 731-352-2189. A5404/20-TF

QUALITY OFFICE SPACE FOR LEASE — From 430 Sq. Ft. to 3,000 Sq. Ft. Highway 79 Highland Mall, across from the post office. Call 731-352-2189. A5404/44-TF

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FOR SALE

FOR SALE

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TSSAA CLASS 1A FOOTBALL STATE PLAYOFFS



Rebel Lelan Gordon dives for a touchdown, avoiding a Greenfield defender. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

Rebels Take Sting out of Greenfield Yellowjackets, Advance to Quarterfinals

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (November 14) — For the sixth consecutive season, McKenzie High School will compete in the state football quarterfinals after a 56-6 second-round win over the Greenfield Yellowjackets.

The Rebels (11-1) will make a two-and-a-half hour trek Friday to face Richland (10-2) for a semifinal bid. Kickoff is 7 p.m.

Rebel fans were stunned as Greenfield took a 6-0 lead on a long pass play to start the contest. It was only the third time this season that McKenzie has been trailing in a game and the first since September 26.

The Yellowjacket lead was short-lived as the Rebels quickly regained the advantage, scoring 56 unanswered points.

Greenfield's opening touchdown drive was 80 yards on 13 plays, including a gutsy fourth-down conversion deep in their own territory. Quarterback Easton Sullivan threw to Eric Teague for a 48-yard score. The two-point attempt failed, and the Yellowjackets led 6-0 halfway through the first frame.

A 25-yard return by Rebel Timmy Arline gave McKenzie great field position at their 40. A six-play drive was capped by a ten-yard touchdown by Arline. Aiden Mason kicked the PAT, and the Rebels had a 7-6 lead with three minutes to play in the first.

McKenzie's defense forced a quick three-and-out, and Sullivan's punt was downed at the Greenfield 36.

Rebel quarterback Cole Brown threw to Avery Brown for a touchdown on the first snap. Mason kicked, and McKenzie led 14-6 with two minutes left in the first quarter.

The Yellowjackets managed a first down, but the drive stalled. On third down, Rebels C. Brown and Aiden Legens sacked Sullivan for a 15-yard loss on the final play of the first frame to force a punt to start the second.

Starting at the McKenzie 47, Arline ran for eight, then Jayden Callis gained three to move the chains. C. Brown kept the next snap for a 42-yard touchdown. The PAT put the Rebels up 21-6 early in the second quarter.

Greenfield went three-and-out again. A great return by Parker Ross into the red zone was marred by a penalty, but the Rebels still had excellent position at the Yellowjacket 25.

A six-play drive saw C. Brown convert a fourth down and later punch it in from the 13. Mason's kick put McKenzie up 28-6 halfway through



Above, Rebel Aiden Callis sacks Yellowjacket quarterback Easton Sullivan deep in Greenfield territory. Below, Rebels Cole Brown and Aiden Legens sack Greenfield quarterback Easton Sullivan for a big loss. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner



the second frame.

Another three-and-out by Greenfield and a good return by A. Brown set the Rebels up at the Yellowjacket 24.

McKenzie scored quickly again on a pass from C. Brown to Legens for a two-yard touchdown. With the PAT, the Rebels led 35-6 with 3:36 to play in the first half.

Greenfield turned the ball over on downs at their 25.

C. Brown threw to Kason Brown for 15, then two plays later found Lelan Gordon for a ten-yard touchdown. Mason kicked, and the McKenzie lead was 42-6 with a minute to play before intermission.

The Yellowjackets ran two plays before time expired.

A. Brown received the second-half kick and made a 46-yard return to start the Rebels at the Greenfield 30.

After one first down, McKenzie turned the ball over on downs at the 16.

The Yellowjackets went three-and-out and punted. A. Brown had another long return diminished by a penalty.

Starting at the 33, Callis ran for eight yards, then went 24 to the end zone. After the PAT, the Rebels led 49-6 late in the third quarter.

Greenfield earned one first down as the quarter ended, but turned the ball over on downs early in the final frame.

C. Brown completed passes to Gordon and Matthew Gaylord, then Callis scored from six yards out. Mason completed a perfect night of

PATs, and McKenzie led 56-6.

The Yellowjackets ran four plays before time expired.

The Rebels had 347 yards of total offense, 172 in the air and 175 on the ground. Greenfield was held to 86 yards total, 68 passing and 18 rushing.

Rebel quarterback Cole Brown was nine of 14 passing for 163 yards and three touchdowns. He also rushed five times for 90 yards and two touchdowns.

Timmy Arline had seven carries for 50 yards and a touchdown. Jayden Callis rushed five times for 39 yards and two touchdowns.

Avery Brown had three catches for 67 yards and a touchdown. Lelan Gordon caught three passes for 58 yards and a touchdown.

Xander Johnsey led the defense with seven solo tackles and four assists, including one for a loss. Cooper Davidson had four solo and three assists. Aiden Legens had four solo and two assists with two for a loss, including a sack.

Dawson Reeder had three solo tackles and five assists, including one for a loss. Cole Brown had three solo and two assists with two for a loss, including a sack. Aiden Callis had three solo and two assists, including a sack. Cayden Gordon had three solo and one assist.

Aiden Mason was a perfect eight-for-eight on PATs and had six touchbacks on nine kickoffs.

TSSAA CLASS 2A FOOTBALL STATE PLAYOFFS



Led by Broox Bennett and Gavin Gray, Mustang tacklers surround a Lewis County runner. Photo by Russell Bush/The Banner

Mustangs Stampede Past Lewis County to Advance to Quarterfinals

BY RUSSELL BUSH
banner@mckenziebanner.com

HOHENWALD (November 14) — The Huntingdon Mustangs are no strangers to advancing to the quarterfinal round of the playoffs, and with the 49-22 win over Lewis County in the second round Friday in Hohenwald, the Mustangs have now reached the quarters for eight of the last ten football seasons. The Mustangs have also qualified for the playoffs for the past 20 football seasons.

Huntingdon's speed proved too much for the Panthers as the Mustang offense piled up 534 yards of total offense for the game. The Mustangs rushed 31 times for 439 yards in the game, with senior Tyreke Hutch rushing eight times for 207 yards and three TDs, all of which came in the first half. Braylin Dearmon was a great compliment to Hutch as he amassed 145 yards on 14 carries and one score. Kenton Smith completed two of two passes for 95 yards and two touchdowns. Gavin Gray led Huntingdon's defense that held a high-scoring Lewis County to 106 yards on the ground and 11 of 25 passes for 149 yards. Gray recorded 20 tackles and a sack. Broox Bennett had 13 tackles for the Mustang defense.

The Mustangs got off to a slow start in the game as Lewis County took a 3-0 lead with 1:39 left in the first quarter on a 33-yard field goal by Henry Sharp. Huntingdon answered with 7:58 left in the first half on an 18-yard run by Hutch and a Greyson Anderson point after to take the lead at 7-3.

Lewis County's Drew Ray erased that lead in 14 seconds, as he returned the ensuing kickoff 90 yards for a touchdown, and a Sharp extra point gave the Panthers a 10-7 lead. The Mustang offense woke up and exploded to score 35 additional points in the game.

Huntingdon started the scoring barrage three plays after the Ray kickoff return. Smith threw a short pass in the flat to Bennett, who broke a tackle and then scampered 77 yards for the score. Anderson tacked on the PAT, and the Mustangs led 14-10.

Following a Panther punt, Huntingdon scored



Above, Tyreke Hutch breaks away for a Mustang touchdown. Below, Braylin Dearmon follows the block of Brayden Davis against the Lewis County defense. Photos by Russell Bush/The Banner



in two plays as Hutch dashed 61 yards for a touchdown, and the Anderson point after gave the Mustangs a 21-10 lead with 2:48 left in the half.

Hutch got in touchdown mode again after the Panthers went three and out and outran the Panther defense for a 76-yard touchdown with 58 seconds left in the half. Anderson was true on the point after, and the Mustangs led 28-10 at the half.

Huntingdon started the third quarter with possession, and it took one play to essentially put the game on ice. Dearmon took the handoff and found a running lane. He stiff-armed a defender and sprinted 72 yards to paydirt to give the Mustangs a commanding 35-10 lead.

An Owen King sack ended a Panther drive at the Mustang 48, and Dearmon picked up 30 yards to the Panther 18. On the next play, Smith found King at the goal line for an 18-yard

scoring toss, and the lead was at 42-10 with Anderson's PAT.

Lewis County scored on its next possession with a 30-yard pass from Caleb Skelton to Kobe Feichtinger and went for two but failed, leaving the score at 42-16. The Panthers forced a Mustang punt and took over at the Mustang 38, and scored seven plays later on a Drew Ray 20-yard run. The two-point conversion again failed, and the score was left at 42-22.

The Mustangs recovered the onside kick, and on the next play, K'Shun Carter found a hole and scooted to the end zone for a 50-yard touchdown run, and Anderson added the final point of the night to make the final score 49-22.

The Mustangs face the second-ranked team in the state this Friday in the quarterfinals as 12-0 East Robertson comes to Paul Ward Stadium for a 7 p.m. kickoff.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Huntingdon Sweeps McKenzie

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

HUNTINGDON (November 11) — Huntingdon Middle School hosted McKenzie Tuesday at Huntingdon High School for a pair of basketball contests. The Fillies were in control from the jump for a 44-6 win. The Mustangs dominated the first half and cruised to a 47-19 victory.

Huntingdon Fillies 44, McKenzie Lady Rebels 6

The Fillies jumped out to a 21-2 lead after the opening frame, led by Kaylee Eatmon with six points. LaKeitha Cason and June Dillahunt each scored five, each with a three-pointer. Ella Atkins also hit a three, and Vivian Singleton had a pair. Kristy Towne had a pair for McKenzie.

Huntingdon shut out the Lady Rebels in the second quarter, 11-0, led by Emma Smith with five points. Atkins and Anderson Pearson each hit a three-pointer. At the

half, Huntingdon led 32-2.

The Fillies blanked McKenzie again in the third, 10-0, led by Ava Martin with a three-pointer and Tinley Johnson also with three points. Atkins and Cason each added a pair. Entering the final frame, the Fillies led 42-2.

The Lady Rebels had a 4-2 edge in a quick fourth on two buckets by Towne. B. Hays had a pair for Huntingdon.

Filly Ella Atkins led all scorers with eight points, includ-

ing a pair of three-pointers. LaKeitha Cason scored seven with a three, and Kaylee Eatmon had six points.

Kristy Towne scored all six McKenzie points.

Mustangs 47, Rebels 19

Huntingdon shut out McKenzie 16-0 in the first frame, led by Noah Webb with eight points. Darius Pratcher scored four, and Hayden Weathers and Jake Harris each had a pair.

The Mustangs had a 10-4 advantage in the second quarter, led by Pratcher with four points. Weathers hit a three-pointer, and Webb also

scored three points. Rebels Jackson Barden and Thomas Howard each had a pair. At the half, the Mustangs led 26-4.

Huntingdon enjoyed an 11-7 tilt in the third, led by Pratcher with four points. Weathers scored three points, and Webb and Davoy Strayhorn each had a pair. Rebel Lane Brown scored three points. Barden added a pair, and Fisher Allen and Dierks Ghyers each hit a free throw. Heading into the final frame, Huntingdon led 37-11.

The Mustangs sealed the win with a 10-8 edge in the fourth, led by Case Raines

and Ivan King with four points each. Raygen Dunbar had a pair. Rebel Kamden Lee scored four points, and Howard and Navadius Owens each had a pair.

Mustang Noah Webb led all scorers with 13 points. Darius Pratcher scored a dozen. Hayden Weathers had eight points, including a three-pointer.

Jackson Barden, Kamden Lee and Thomas Howard led McKenzie with four points each.

**Photos from the game can be viewed online.*