



(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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All the Way to State
Football 2025
Rebels Mustangs

Christmas Greetings
Special Edition
Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Tuesday, December 16, 2025

McKENZIE, TENNESSEE

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Home of Bethel University

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First responders from various emergency and public service departments assisted children as they shopped for Christmas. The third annual event is coordinated by McKenzie Fire and McKenzie Police departments. Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner

Third-Annual Shop With a First Responder is Biggest Yet

BY LYNDSLEY SUMMERS
lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (December 15) — Christmas came early for 75 children in the McKenzie area, thanks to the

collective efforts of the McKenzie Police Department, McKenzie Fire Department and many individuals who contributed to the third-annual Shop With a First Responder Christmas event for city children.

Preparation for this year's Shop With a First Responder began as early as August, with first responders, businesses and community

See SHOP on Page 2

HHS Field to be Named After Coach Swenson

BY RUSSELL BUSH
bush@mckenziebanner.com

HUNTINGDON — Five days after winning their second state football championship in school history, the Huntingdon Mustangs celebrated at the Carroll County Civic Center with their annual banquet that occurs at the end of each football season. Eric Swenson, who became the all-time wins leader as a head coach at Huntingdon High School in the last game of the regular season, was honored by the school board and was presented a plaque by Director of Schools, Jonathan Kee. Kee also announced the playing surface at Paul Ward Stadium will be named in Swenson's honor and will be called Eric Swenson Field. Swenson surpassed the late Coach Paul Ward's winning record in the Mustangs' win

over Union City, bringing his total to 170 victories as head coach. His record after the run through the playoffs stands at 175-52 after finishing the season with a 14-1 record and a state championship. Senior Broox Bennett was named Most Valuable Player by the Huntingdon Quarterback Club. The vote came from all the QB Club members. QB Club President Marcus Beal stated that eight different players received first-place votes, making it one of the closest votes in years. Bennett was a standout at linebacker, recording 115 tackles despite missing three games, with 63 assists and 52 solo tackles. Bennett had 24 tackles for a loss and five sacks. He also intercepted two passes

See HHS on Page 3



Director of Schools Jonathan Kee announced that the playing field at Paul Ward Stadium will be named Eric Swenson Field. Coach Swenson and wife, Anissa, held a commemorative item denoting the renaming of the field and his record-breaking accomplishment as the most winning coach at Huntingdon High School. Photo by Russell Bush/The Banner

Bethel University Holds Winter Commencement

McKENZIE (December 13) — Bethel University held its December Commencement ceremony on Saturday, December 13 at 10 a.m. in the Rosemary & Harry L. Crisp, II Arena. President Perry Moulds presided over the ceremony. The event celebrated 214 graduates from Bethel University's College of Arts & Sciences and the College of Professional Studies. This semester's graduating class represents 17

associate's degrees, 140 bachelor's degrees, and 57 master's degrees. Each graduate now joins the growing community of Bethel alumni who carry their experiences, growth, and accomplishments into the world beyond campus. Brad Hurley, President of the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, gave the Commencement address. Hurley said, "Today we

See BETHEL on Page 3



Brooklyn Williams of Huntingdon receives her diploma from Dr. Perry Moulds. Williams graduated with a degree in Elementary Education. Photo by Joel Washburn/The Banner



Cole Brown

Brown Honored As Titans' Mr. Football Finalist

NASHVILLE (December 9) — Cole Brown, a junior Rebel quarterback, was honored as one of 30 outstanding high school football players in Tennessee at the Tennessee Titans Mr. Football Awards luncheon on Tuesday, December 9 at Nissan Stadium. Cole, his family, coaches, and MHS Principal Kelly

See BROWN on Page 2

HUNTINGDON Beer, Liquor Changes on Council Agenda

The Huntingdon Town Council meets Tuesday, December 16, at 5:15 p.m. inside Huntingdon City Hall. In the meeting, the council will hear a grievance or petition from Cyril Ostiguy regarding Ordinance Number 650 — the ordinance limiting the number of liquor permits within town limits.

See AGENDA on Page 3

McKENZIE COUNCIL IDB Retirees Honored at Meeting

BY LYNDSLEY SUMMERS
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McKENZIE (December 11) — Thursday night, the McKenzie City Council presented resolutions honoring Dennis R. Coleman and Ricky Price for their years of service on the McKenzie Industrial Board. Coleman, the outgoing secretary, served the McKenzie Industrial Board for 11 years. Price, the outgoing vice-chairman, served the McKenzie Industrial Board for seven years. Both of their terms end December 31.

See RETIREES on Page 3

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Above, Santa Claus visits shoppers Officer Kyle Beauchamp and Cameron Belk. Below, Former Tennessee Titan Avery Williamson (center) shops with Amon (left) and Dorothy Jones (right). Photos by Joel Washburn/The Banner



Shop

...From Front Page

organizations hosting fund-raisers and making charitable donations. Since then, the first responders received approximately \$30,000 to purchase Christmas gifts for children whose families were identified as those who could use some assistance at Christmas. Children had to attend a McKenzie school to be considered for the program. Each child had a budget of \$300 to purchase gifts for themselves. A portion of the receipts was donated to the McKenzie Beta Sigma Phi in their annual Angel Tree program. In total, the Police, Fire, and Beta Sigma Phi are assisting 137 children this

Christmas. The Monday, December 15, shopping event began at Long Heights Baptist Church, where children were assigned a police officer, firefighter, Huntingdon PD officer, Huntingdon firefighter, Carroll County Sheriff deputy, THP officer, EMT or paramedic, TWRA officer, Homeland Security officer, Benton County Sheriff deputy, Drug Task Force officer or McKenzie Rotary Club member with whom to shop at Walmart-Huntingdon. A caravan of emergency vehicles, with both blue and red emergency lights activated, traveled from McKenzie to Huntingdon Walmart. The children were encouraged to select clothes and gifts for themselves. Cell phones and gift cards could not be purchased with the

donated funds. Santa was in the store and greeted the children as they shopped. At the checkout counter, Walmart associates marked through the product barcode to prevent the item from being returned for cash or exchange. Mayor Ryan Griffin and Police Chief Ryan White paid for each purchase with the donated money. A receipt was provided for each purchase. Also in attendance were a host of family members of first responders. This year, the first responders also provided holiday meals to Christmas for Kids families, thanks to donations from E.W. James & Sons Supermarkets. The meals include hams paid for by McKenzie's Christmas for Kids donation funds.



Hometown Health Clinic received a \$1,527,592 grant during Commissioner Dr. John Dunn's (back center) visit. Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner

Health Commissioner Visits Hometown Health Clinic, Presents \$1.5 Million Grant

McKENZIE (December 10) — Tennessee Department of Health Commissioner Dr. John Dunn and members of his leadership team visited Hometown Health Clinic in McKenzie Wednesday alongside Senator John Stevens. The clinic hosted these state leaders for a special presentation recognizing Hometown Health Clinic's selection as a Healthcare Resiliency Program (HRP) grant recipient. During the visit, Commissioner Dunn formally awarded the clinic a \$1.5 million HRP grant, presented to Dr. Bryan Merrick, Dr. Terry Colotta and Tammy Etheridge, chief operating officer. Hometown Health Clinic is one of two Rural Health Clinics in the state of Tennessee chosen to receive this significant and highly competitive funding.

The HRP grant will support Hometown Health Clinic's mission to enhance the quality, efficiency and accessibility of integrated primary care services across rural west Tennessee. Grant initiatives include improving access to comprehensive, team-based primary care; redesigning care delivery processes to improve patient outcomes; expanding the use of technology and data; and strengthening community outreach services to empower patients to take an active role in their health. These efforts aim to produce long-term improvements in health outcomes. To fulfill the goals of the HRP grant, Hometown Health Clinic is collaborating with key partners including the Tennessee Rural Health Association under

the leadership of CEO Jacy Warrell and her team, and Forever Communications, represented by Executive Vice President Jared Mims. "We are honored to receive this grant and grateful for the confidence the Tennessee Department of Health has placed in Hometown and our mission," said Etheridge. "This investment allows us to further strengthen the care we provide to families in rural Tennessee and ensures our community has access to high-quality, patient-centered healthcare." Hometown Health Clinic operates nine Rural Health Clinics across Carroll, Benton and Weakley counties, continuing its commitment to expanding access to high-quality rural healthcare throughout the region.



Eighteen people attended the A.I. for Manufacturing workshop, representing a variety of industries. Photo by Joel Washburn/The Banner

State's 'A.I. for Manufacturing' Course Comes to McKenzie

BY LYNDSY SUMMERS
lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (December 10) — Industries from middle and west Tennessee visited Bethel University's Vera Low Center for Student Enrichment Wednesday to attend one of four "A.I. for Manufacturing" training courses held in the state of Tennessee. The courses are a partnership between the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the University of Tennessee Center for Industrial Services (UTCIS), who seek to teach manufacturing leaders a beginner's guide to using artificial intelligence (A.I.) in the workplace. Eighteen people attended the four-hour training course, representing industries as west as Memphis and as east as Mount Juliet. Locally, representatives from McKenzie's Haven Steel and Machine, and Martin's Stanley Black and Decker gained knowledge from the course. McKenzie Chamber of Commerce and Industrial Development Board Director Monica Heath said it was a very hands-on class, with groups working together to solve case problems with and without using A.I. Attendees learned how to



Danny Norman, advanced manufacturing consultant at UTCIS, instructs the A.I. for Manufacturing workshop. Photo by Joel Washburn/The Banner

properly command several A.I. software systems — from ChatGPT, to Google Gemini, to Perplexity — to receive the best results. With each system, though, attendees learned the importance of creating subscriptions. Otherwise, their entries would be less secure, at risk of being repurposed and shared to other users. Heath said her main takeaway from the course was that an A.I. response will only be as good as the information the A.I. software is fed. The course also instilled the notion that, as long as A.I.'s functionality requires human commands, people will not lose their jobs to the

technology. The Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry's vision is for every manufacturing employee to receive A.I. training and to develop a growth mindset. The McKenzie workshop was the third of four beginner courses across Tennessee. The first two courses — one in Nashville and one in Memphis — sold out. The last course is in Pulaski. The Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry and UTCIS will continue their partnership with intermediate and advanced A.I. training courses, to be scheduled at later dates.



Honoring the accomplishments of Cole Brown at the Mr. Football Awards — (L to R) Front Row: Kelly Spivey, MHS Principal; Lane Brown, Lorrie Brown, Jace Brown, Cole Brown — holding plaque, Josie Brown, Coach Keith Hodge and Coach Trey Cantrell. Back Row: Beau Brown and Chad Brown. Photo by Joel Washburn/The Banner

Brown

...From Front Page

Spivey attended the lunch from McKenzie High School. The awards were divided into six classes in Division I, and three in Division II (private) schools. The Kicker of the Year award was also presented. From West Tennessee, Graham Simpson of Westview in Martin was the lone Mr. Football. The other top honors went to middle and east Tennessee athletes. Division I, Class 1A finalist was Cole Brown, McKenzie High School. 6'1", 185-pound quarterback and defensive back. He's a junior and three-year starter for McKenzie High School. In his junior year in the regular season 2025, Brown had 2,125 passing yards with 26 touchdowns and a 74.5% completion percentage, 659 rushing yards with 18 touchdowns for 44 total touchdowns this season, 55 tackles, 8 tackles for loss, 2 sacks, and punting with 10 punts for 456 yards with a 45-yard average. Cole has been selected to the all-region team three times and has earned all-state honors during his career. His head coach is Keith Hodge. His parents are Chad and Josie Brown. Jaiden Bunch of Coalfield High School was also a finalist. Jaden is 5'10", 185-pound running back and defensive back, and outside linebacker. He's a senior and a three-year starter for Coalfield High School. In 2025, Bunch has 2,108 all-purpose yards with 31 total touchdowns, 135 rushing attempts for 1,534



Mr. Football Finalist Cole Brown with school officials at the Titans Mr. Football Awards in Nashville (L to R): MHS Principal Kelly Spivey, Cole Brown, Head Coach Keith Hodge and Assistant Coach Trey Cantrell. Photo by Joel Washburn/The Banner

yards with 25 touchdowns and an 11.4 yards per carry average. He had four receptions for 67 yards with one touchdown, ten tackles with one and a half tackles for loss in the sack, 11 punt returns for 252 yards with three touchdowns, and four kickoff returns for 255 yards with two touchdowns. Jaden earned all-region honors his senior year. He was named the 2024 Region 2A Offensive Player of the Year and selected to the 2023 first-team All-Star Preps Underclassman team. His head coach is Benson Napier. DaYon Cooper from South Pittsburg High School was selected as Mr. Football for Class 1A. He's 6'1", 175-pound wide receiver, running back, quarterback, and defensive back. He's a junior and a three-year starter for South Pittsburg High School in 2025. Cooper has 37 carries for 421 yards with five touchdowns, 29 catches to go with it for 681 yards and 10 touchdowns, averaging 23 yards per reception. He also has three kickoff returns for 104 yards and a touchdown. He has been named to the all-region team three times and was twice an All-State selection.

Graham Simpson of Westview High School in Martin was named Mr. Football Class 3A. Graham, a 6-foot, 180-pound quarterback, is a sophomore and a two-year starter for Westview. This year, he completed 140 of his 175 passes for over 2,200 yards and 25 touchdowns with only three interceptions and 23 carries for 150 yards and a touchdown. He was named Max Prep's Freshman Player of the Year, Region 7 3A Offensive Most Valuable Player last year, and the Region's Most Valuable Player this year. He was a finalist for this award last year. His head coach is Matt McCott. The Mr. Football winners were: DaYon Cooper, South Pittsburg, Class 1A; Zach Groves, Class 2a, East Robertson; Class 3A, Graham Simpson, Westview; Class 4A, Caden Baugh, Greenville; Class 5A, Cooper Newman, Sevier County; Class 6A - Kelvin Perkins, Southwind; Division II, Class 1A - Jared Curtis, Nashville Christian School; Class 2A - Kaedyn Marable, Battle Ground Academy; Class 3A David Gabriel Georges, Baylor; Kicker of Year, Tommy Bauchiero, Brentwood Academy.



McKenzie Fire Department Received Record Number of Calls in November

BY LYNDSY SUMMERS
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McKENZIE (December 11) — During Thursday night’s McKenzie City Council meeting, McKenzie Fire Chief Brian Tucker shared that the city’s fire department received 90 calls in November — a call number he said was the largest recorded on file.

Of these calls, 45 were categorized as varying types of medical incidents. Twelve calls required patient lift assistance. Eleven calls were related to vehicular crashes. Ten calls were alarms. Five calls were investigative incidents — four for smoke and one for hazmat. Three calls were fire incidents. Of those, one was a vegetation/

grass fire, one involved a passenger vehicle and one was a fire outside city limits. There was one call involving a controlled burn, one involving a smoke scare, one involving hazmat and one involving a rescue.

As of November, the McKenzie Fire Department has responded to 700 calls in 2025.



Top, The ceremonial changing of the tassel signifies graduation for those receiving an undergraduate degree. Above Left, Lillian Hampton of McMoresville receives her degree in English. Above Right, Nicholas Lyons of McKenzie receives his degree in Biology. Below Left, Brad Hurley, president of the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, was the commencement speaker. Below Right, Jacey McClure of Dresden and Andrew Carpenter of Savannah display their diplomas. Jacey graduated with a degree in Education, and Andrew with a degree in Business and Global Studies. Photos by Joel Washburn/The Banner



Bethel

...From Front Page

gather to celebrate a triple milestone, a day that marks the culmination of years of dedication, hard work, and perseverance. This commencement celebrates commitment, confidence, and success, and honors the challenges overcome. Each one of these women and men was led to this place today, and we come together to celebrate the remarkable accomplishments of all our graduates.

“Each individual here has achieved something significant, completing a journey marked by long hours of study, tests, and late nights. Your commitment to personal and academic growth deserves our recognition.

“Your success is a testament to your strength, vision, and unwavering commitment. At commencement time, we also express gratitude to your professors and mentors. Thank you for inspiring, guiding, and challenging these graduates to reach their fullest potential.

To the families and friends who have supported each graduate on this journey, your encouragement has been invaluable.

“And to the graduates, today is your day, and you

have truly earned this moment. As a soon-to-be alumnus of this great institution, I encourage each graduate to show their appreciation to Bethel University by considering annual donations. Your generosity helps sustain scholarships and provides Bethel with new opportunities that make our institution a beacon of action. In addition, I urge you to promote the Bethel University professional and personal network, ensuring that its legacy continues to flourish for generations.

“Commencements are a time of excitement. Today is not the end, but it is the beginning. Today is filled with dreams, potential, and a future of hope and prosperity.

“Your potential is truly unlimited. Go forth and do great things. The world you are stepping into is filled with both challenges and opportunities. You may face uncertainty, but let the experiences you’ve earned here embrace change. Continue to learn, remain curious, and be willing to take risks. Pursue your passion, and forge your own path.

“Commencements are a time in which you receive advice. So if I didn’t do that, I wouldn’t be doing my job. So, never forget to say thank you. Saying thank you may seem like a very small act, but its impact is truly far-reaching. It strengthens

relationships, improves mental health, and creates a more positive and cooperative environment. Making gratitude a regular part of your interaction enriches everyone’s lives, especially the lives of those around them.

“As Alex Haley told a group of college seniors, the world does not owe you anything but an opportunity. You will be given opportunities in your life. Your task is to accept the challenge and do your best. We should never fear failing, because we have all failed.

“But the real question is, how do you handle it? The world is not fair, but your challenge is to make lemonade out of lemons. You will never know when the next opportunity will arrive. Be ready and take the challenge. Every journey, if it’s one hundred feet or twenty-six miles, begins with the first step. We must never fear to take that first step” concluded Hurley.

Following the Commencement Address, each graduate crossed the elevated platform to receive his or her diploma from Dr. Moulds.

Bethel University is a four-year higher education institution located in McKenzie, Tennessee. It is a Christian university, affiliated with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.



Above, SENIOR MUSTANGS — Jayden Gordon, Broox Bennett, Braylin Dearmon, Silas Sharp, Owen King, Jeramyah Cannon, and DJ Armour. Below Left, SENIOR CHEERLEADERS (L to R): Korra Doyle, Aubrie Harris, Claudia Cooper, Isabella Souza, and McKenzie Drinkard. Below Right, Senior linebacker and running back, Broox Bennett, was named Most Valuable Player by the Quarterback Club at the football banquet. Photos by Russell Bush/The Banner



HHS

...From Front Page

for the year. On offense, he was primarily the blocking back but ended the season as the leading receiver with six catches for 218 yards and three touchdowns.

Bennett was the only player to receive an individual honor as the coaches decided that the championship was a team effort and it would not be fair to single any player out because the championship came because of 38 players pulling together and overcoming all odds.

Each Mustang player received a certificate and a plaque from the TSSAA for their participation in the

state championship game.

Instead of awards, the coaches recognized different aspects of the team with stats. Broox Bennett was recognized along with Maddox Holmes and Silas Sharp for snaps on punts and extra points. Hayes Eubanks punted for an average of 33.4 yards per punt with no returns. Also recognized for special teams, Ethan Raffield was 7 of 7 on PATs and Greyson Anderson was 67-72 on PATs and 4 of 6 on field goals. Anderson also had 38 touchbacks for the year. Colt Wood had 11 tackles on kickoffs for the season.

Offensively, the Mustangs rushed 545 times for 4,250 yards, a 7.7 average yards per rush. The Mustangs passed for 25 of 46 for 595 yards and 17 TDs. Tyreke Hutch led the team in rushing with 85 carries and 1,215 yards and 19 TDs. Braylin Dearmon 158-1,172 yards and 13 TDs, Kenton Smith 136-803 and 17 TDs, Hayes Eubanks 83-407 and eight TDs. The Mustangs scored 563 points for the season, an average of 37.5 points per game.

Defensively, the Mustangs gave up 190 points for the season for an average of 12.7 points per game. The Mustangs’ defense posted three shutouts and held five opponents to seven points or fewer during the season.

Named captain and co-captains by their teammates were Broox Bennett (Captain), Silas Sharp, and Tyreke Hutch (Co-Captains).



Ricky Price (center left) and Dennis R. Coleman (center right) received resolutions from McKenzie Mayor Ryan Griffin (left). Also pictured is City Recorder Jennifer Waldrup (right). Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner

Retirees

...From Front Page

“The City of McKenzie thrives because of individuals who stepped forward to serve their community with dedication and vision,” said Mayor Ryan Griffin, reading from Price’s resolution.

Mayor Griffin recognized Price’s steady judgment, community-minded approach and support for projects that create opportunity for the people of McKenzie.

Outgoing chairman Joel Washburn also retires from the McKenzie Industrial Board December 31. He will receive a resolution for his service in the McKenzie City Council’s January meeting.

The council appointed John Hodgson and Chris

Nelson for six-year terms on the Industrial Development Board in Coleman and Price’s places.

In November, Mayor Griffin said he intended for LaDonna Herrin to fill the third vacancy.

The McKenzie City Council also appointed Elizabeth Russell Owen to the Planning Commission Board.

Before council members dispersed for the night, they each publicly thanked Jennifer Waldrup and the city’s department leaders for their work making the past weekend’s McKenzie Hometown Christmas celebration a huge success.

Agenda

...From Front Page

Mayor Chad Edwards will present Eric Swenson and the Huntingdon High School Football Team — 2025 TS-SAA Class 2A State Champions — with Pinnacles of Excellence.

In new business, the council will have a public hearing relating to the proposed amendment to the Zoning Map to rezone a portion of the property located at 20150 Main St and the proposed text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to revise the established criteria for single-family uses in B-3 Districts.

The council will vote on several ordinances:

Ordinance No. 647, an ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Huntingdon to revise provisions governing single-family residential uses allowed in B-3 (Central Business) Districts, second and final reading;

Ordinance No. 648, an or-

dinance amending the official Zoning Map of Huntingdon, Tennessee, to rezone a portion of the James Realty (Cash Saver) property (20150 Main Street) to B-1 (Neighborhood Business) zoning designation from its existing designation of R-2 (Medium Density Residential), second and final reading;

Ordinance No. 649, an ordinance to amend Title 8, Alcoholic Beverages of the Huntingdon Municipal Code as set forth in Ordinance 586, Chapter 2, Beer, amending Section 18-211. Interference with public health and safety, prohibited, second and final reading;

Ordinance No. 650, an ordinance to amend Title 8, Alcoholic Beverages of the Huntingdon Municipal Code, Chapter 1, Intoxicating Liquors, adding Section 8-117, Limitation on number of permits, second and final reading;

Ordinance No. 651, an ordinance to amend Chapter 2, Personnel Regulations, Title 4, Municipal Personnel of the Huntingdon Municipal Code, as it pertains to an employee probationary status, second and final reading;

Ordinance No. 652, an ordinance amending the Official Zoning Ordinance of Huntingdon, Tennessee, to create provisions governing Specialty Smoke and Vape Shops, first reading; and

Ordinance No. 653, an ordinance to amend Chapter 2, Personnel Regulations; Title 4 Municipal Personnel and Chapter 18, Water & Sewers, Chapter 1, Water of the Huntingdon Municipal Code, as it pertains to Department of Finance and Administration Office hours, first reading.

The council will consider water bill adjustments for the Huntingdon Housing Authority and for Lindsey Vaughn.

The council will also consider appointments to the ADA Access Advisory Committee and consider the request from the Utility Department for the purchase of a 2026 Ford Maverick Pickup from Mid-Tenn Ford Truck Sales, Inc. in the amount of \$29,514.24.

This is the Huntingdon Town Council’s final meeting of 2025.



McKenzie Rotary President Ricky Price, Rotarian Ed Perkins, and FFA Instructor Lindsey Parham stands with McKenzie FFA students Coleson Cook, Wade Chandler, Dylan Barton, TJ Johnson, and Kellen Finley.

McKenzie FFA Visit Rotary Club

McKENZIE (December 2) — Members of the McKenzie High School Future Farmers of America Chapter visited McKenzie Rotary Club on Tuesday, December 2 to speak about the modern-day curriculum in agriculture, special projects in which they work, and what their plans are for the upcoming growing seasons.

The McKenzie High School FFA chapter, led by instructor Ms. Lindsay Parham, is revitalizing its agriculture program with hands-on projects that engage students and serve the community. The program has evolved significantly since its early days, replacing an old, dilapidated greenhouse with a modern, handicap-accessible facility in 2014, now known as the Ben T. Surber Agricultural Complex.

The FFA program emphasizes practical experience through a variety of innovative projects:

Greenhouse Operations: Students cultivate and sell spring plants, including flowers and vegetables, as a key fundraiser. This includes creating large decorative baskets for events like Mother's Day.

Irrigated Mum Mat: The chapter constructed an irrigated mat to grow

approximately 260 mums each fall. This efficient, low-maintenance system uses a timer and can deliver fertilizer and fungicides directly to the plants.

Hydroponics: A portion of the greenhouse was converted to house a Dutch bucket hydroponic system. Students grow tomatoes, peppers, and cucumbers, which are donated to the school cafeteria. They also manage a vertical grow tower for lettuce inside the classroom, learning to test and adjust pH and nutrient levels.

Animal Husbandry: Students learn animal care by hatching chicks and raising them in a mobile chicken coop. These projects provide students with a direct connection to agriculture, many of whom are disconnected from farm life despite living in a rural area.

Soil Science: Through hands-on labs, students collect soil samples from various locations—such as adjacent cotton and athletic fields—to analyze and compare nutrient levels.

The FFA chapter actively collaborates with the community and other educational institutions:

Fall Frenzy: To promote their mum sales and connect with the community, the FFA hosts a “Fall Fren-

zy” event featuring a petting zoo with animals like a donkey, puppies, and a chinchilla.

Downtown Beautification: In partnership with the city, students planted and maintained the large, self-watering pots in downtown McKenzie.

UT Martin Dual Enrollment: The program offers a dual enrollment course with the University of Tennessee at Martin. Students can earn college credit by participating in labs at the UTM campus, covering topics such as turfgrass management and plant pathology under the guidance of Dr. Wes Totten.

Industry Certification: All students in the agriculture program work toward their OSHA 10 General Industry certification, earning a valuable credential.

The program has, in the past, offered boater and hunter education courses. By combining modern agricultural techniques with community service and career development, the McKenzie FFA is building a robust program that prepares students for the future.

Rotary President Ricky Price expressed an interest in the local service club partnering with the FFA on local projects.

THE WIT AND WISDOM OF DAVID JOHNSON

Medication and Anxiety

In previous decades, the go-to medication for anxiety was a benzodiazepine, either valium, klonopin, or Xanax. They do a really good job of pushing down the terrifying symptoms of anxiety and panic. I'm just not a big fan of using benzos, as they are called, because they're so addictive but also because they get in the way of people learning coping tools for managing their symptoms.

Many people who use Xanax will say, “I started having a panic attack, so I took a Xanax and immediately felt better.”

If that's a true statement, and I don't doubt that it is, the reason they felt better wasn't because of the Xanax. It hadn't even reached their stomach yet, or been digested, passed into the

intestines and into the blood stream. That process takes at least thirty minutes (or more). The relief they felt was psychological.

In recent years, numerous studies have shown medications in a class known as SSRIs are more effective in managing anxiety (Paxil and Zoloft are a couple of well-known ones). The major difference between these medications and benzos is they do not work quickly. You have to take them for several weeks before they reach a therapeutic level in your blood stream. But after that, they maintain a steady level, not the up and down spikes of a benzo.

Combinations of medications are also found to be helpful in helping manage

anxiety.

I need to quickly add there are people whose anxiety is so severe that neither coping tools nor SSRIs are enough to manage their symptoms. In those cases, using a low dose of klonopin seems to work best and is warranted.

All of the information I've shared in this particular post is not meant to advise you on what to do about medications because I'm not a doctor. It's my hope you'll be able to have a more informed conversation with your medical provider about what is best for you.

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

HUNKER DOWN WITH KES

Christmas Came Early This Year

We were completely stopped. Not moving. Stationary. Neither of us were surprised. It was Atlanta after all. I-85 to be more precise. We were just passing through, like 19 hundred million other folks, on what I suspected to be a normal Friday afternoon.

I was thinking about Mom and my granddaughter. My Christian Mother used to joke—with the traffic and busy airport—The Rapture would have to go through Atlanta. And we were here, not moving, because we were on our way to see Avery Lee dance in “The Nutcracker.”

KABOOM! Our van bounced forward. My head hit the dash and ricocheted backwards. Thankfully some engineer had designed a headrest on the seat. It kept my noggin from landing in the back of the van!

As our whiplashing heads finally dwindled to a nod, Cathy broke the stunned silence. “We've been hit.” Maybe the understatement of the century!

The traffic, as if on cue, started to flow back to its normal NASCAR speeds. We didn't dare open a door; it would immediately be twisted and tangled into modern art by the hands of the rushing automobiles.

I turned and asked Cathy how her life had been with me so far. We had time to get reacquainted. We talked of the days of yore, cloth diapers, raising teenagers, and friends galore. We cried again remembering the stark quietness surrounding us when our youngest left for college. We thanked God for good health, children that don't write home for money, and the unadulterated joy of grandchildren.

I was almost disappointed when this interstate road hero drove up, magically stopped six lanes of traffic, and gently guided

us to the quasi safety of the small space beside the far-right lane. “The police will be along shortly,” he proclaimed as he drove out of sight.

He reminded me of Santa Claus in brown Carhartt overalls sporting an iridescent yellow marked jacket. And he was gone just as quickly.

I immediately examined the damage. And was remarkably amazed at how little there was. Did I exaggerate the crash? Did my head not fall off my shoulders!

Larry was the guy in the middle car. He lived in nearby Suwanee. Heck of a nice guy. And so was Charlie, who was driving a small pickup, pulling a small pickup. Charlie ran into Larry who was knocked into us. Both of their vehicles showed a bit more of the accident than mine did. We exchanged driver licenses because one of them mentioned we should. It felt strange to me. And embarrassing! I almost couldn't get my license out of the billfold. It hadn't been removed in years.

We were on the side of the interstate holding our wallets, waiting for the police to arrive, and getting acquainted. Somehow, we got to showing each other family pictures. Then they pulled their phones out and got serious about sharing their lives!

Of course, I don't own a cell phone. But I got to telling them about me and Leon and David Mark chasing those crazy hunting dogs of Uncle Rufus right through Marvin Winslow's prized Rhode Island Red hen house back home.

I had that story down to where those fellas could see the feathers flying when the police arrived.

I was a might anxious about big city cops. Both turned out to be the nicest officers on the Atlanta

force. They did not treat us as an inconvenience, but as real people. I was dying to ask Peggy if her middle name was Sue but Cathy spied my thought and discreetly shook her head no.

Took'em a while to fill out the report, then they hurried down to our car and Peggy said we could go. We didn't have much damage and it clearly was not our fault.

I protested fairly vehemently, “Listen, this is a bucket list thing for me. What a lifetime achievement to have in my memoirs! It may not be skydiving or a Loretta Lynn sighting, but not everyone can boast of a genuine downtown Atlanta interstate crash.”

We'd only been delayed for a couple of hours. Was that long enough to qualify as a bucket list item?

Everyone agreed it was. We all shook hands; Peggy hugged my neck and gave me her number in case we ever got hit again passing through....

Here's the Christmas part. God blessed all of us in that nobody got hurt. I don't care about a dent in a piece of tin. We met a bunch of new friends. Cathy and I had some wonderful personal remembrances. And I acknowledged the many, many times we have driven through this busy city without one problem.

I marveled “all over again” at the grace, love, and protection of our Holy Father.

We got to the “Nutcracker” with time to spare. Avery was a star. And the second song of the evening was Brenda Lee singing, “Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree.”

Wow! An interstate traffic accident in Atlanta, Avery on stage, and Brenda Lee belting out a yuletide classic...you talk about a once in a lifetime trifecta!

Respectfully,
Kes
kasley45@aol.com

LIS Honored at 2025 ACEC Engineering Awards

PARIS (December 2) — L.I. Smith & Associates (LIS) received the Grand Award in the Surveying and Mapping Technology/ Large Project category at the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) Engineering Excellence Awards in November. The honor recognizes LIS's contributions to the recently completed Crump Boulevard Interchange in Memphis and was presented during the annual gala at The Four Seasons Hotel in Nashville.

The ACEC Engineering Excellence Awards gala is an annual celebration of engineering achievements and honors projects worldwide that demonstrate innovation, creative problem-solving and engineering's unique ability to improve our world. The Grand Award represents the highest level of recognition, highlighting projects that exemplify engineering excellence and meaningful community impact.

LIS will submit their winning project to the national competition in 2026, where it will be considered alongside top projects from across the country.

The interchange at E.H. Crump Boulevard and I-55, one of downtown Mem-

phis's busiest and most vital corridors, is a key Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) project that addressed long-standing traffic congestion, safety concerns and mobility challenges.

LIS served as the surveying subcontractor to Bell & Associates Construction, providing construction lines, stakes, grades and detailed 3D grading models to support the work overseen by TDOT. The 3.5-year project, completed in April 2025, transformed the interchange into a safer, more efficient roadway that will benefit commuters, freight traffic and the community for decades.

The project included multiple bridges, ramps and a modern roundabout, as well as two flyover bridges, the reconstructed Wisconsin Street Bridge, 14 retaining walls, a 2,700-foot noise wall and nearly 17,340 linear feet of new roadway. By combining precision surveying with innovative technologies such as drone surveys and 3D grading models delivered directly to field tablets, LIS enhanced project efficiency, minimized rework and ensured accuracy. Survey crews completed beam profiling, camber verifica-

tion and staking for drilled shafts, geo piers, retaining walls, drainage systems and traffic signals, with all layouts verified against TDOT specifications.

Through this integration of traditional expertise and modern innovation, LIS helped TDOT deliver a safer, more efficient interchange while supporting the project's on-time completion.

L.I. Smith & Associates is a full-service, integrative engineering and surveying company that provides services to the public and private sectors. Licensed in 12 states throughout the Central and Southeast regions, LIS has an experienced team that can provide multistate coverage for projects of all sizes in land development, infrastructure design and surveying services.

LIS combines industry expertise with new, cutting-edge technology to provide innovative solutions to real-world problems. LIS is a certified Tennessee Small Business Enterprise headquartered in Paris, Tenn., with a branch located in Nashville.

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Obituaries

JERRY ‘TOOTHPICK’ BOWDEN 1939 — 2025

McKENZIE — Funeral services for Jerry “Toothpick” Bowden are Tuesday, December 23, 2025, at 1 p.m. at Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home. The family will receive friends on Tuesday, December 23, 2025, at 12 p.m. until service time. Interment will follow at Shiloh Cemetery, McKenzie.

Mr. Bowden, 86, died at his daughter’s residence on Saturday, December 6, 2025.

He retired from Republic Builders, was a referee, and

coached several baseball teams.

He was born to Elijah and Minnie Bowden in McKenzie on March 10, 1939, and is a graduate of Webb High School.

He is survived by his daughters, Melinda Bowden of McKenzie, Sherrye (Derrick) Jeanmarie of Hughesville, Maryland and Minnie (Greg) Neal of Memphis; two sisters, Helen Bowden and Alice Bowden; and eight grandchildren, Charity Coleman, Jeri Coleman, Xavier Williams, Shani Jeanmarie, Quentin Bowden, Elijah Jeanmarie, Travatia Bowden, and Zaria Bowden.

He is preceded in death by his parents; wife, Mae Kathyrene Bowden; and a sister, Myrtle Mae Bennett.

The Honorary Pallbearers, his team of young men, are: Randall Adkisson, Allen Brown, Mark Cooper, Chris Edlin, Billy Hollowell and Todd Owen.

Special thanks to Daisy Dudley and Kimberly Bell.

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

ALVA TEGETHOFF 1937 — 2025

McKENZIE — Mrs. Alva Lee Tegethoff, 88, died Sunday, December 14, 2025, in Henry County Health and Rehabilitation in Paris.

A funeral service to celebrate the life of Mrs. Tegethoff was on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, at 2 p.m. in the chapel of Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home, with her grandson, Steven Thompson, officiating. Burial followed in Mt. Olivet Cemetery. The Tegethoff family received friends at the funeral home on Tuesday from Noon until the service hour.

She was born on October 26, 1937, in Carroll County, to the late Virgil Tegethoff and Roberta Wilkinson Tegethoff. Mrs. Tegethoff worked for many years and retired from Magnolia Manor Assisted Living in McKenzie.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband,

Alton Tegethoff; daughter, Cristal Conway; and three brothers, Joe Wilkinson, Ricky Wilkinson and Edward Wilkinson.

Survivors include three grandchildren, Tandi Conway, Steven Thompson, and Angel Cooke; and two sisters and one brother, Carol Tidwell, Ann Camp, and Bruce Wilkinson. Other survivors include six great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home.

JENNIFER CAROL REED 1982 — 2025

McKENZIE — Jennifer Carol Reed, 43, died on De-

cember 6, 2025, at Jackson General Hospital. The family will have a Celebration of Life on January 31, 2026, at 12-4 p.m. at McKenzie Church of Christ Fellowship Hall.

She was born on January 31, 1982.

Ms. Reed is survived by three children, Jesse Reed, Tabitha Reed, and Dallas Gober-Reed, all of McKenzie; two brothers, Randy Reed and Brady Reed; and one sister, Mechelle (Richard) Carnell. She is also survived by several people she calls family, Angel Lawrence, Amber Snead and Ed Soto, Becki Johnson and Holly Bunine.

Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH AT JOHNSON TEMPLE

The seventh annual Christmas Day Lunch is at Johnson Temple CME Church, 915 Walnut Avenue, McKenzie. Everyone is welcome to come and dine between the hours of 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Pastor Wilma Pearson.

McKENZIE SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER EVENTS

December Events

Wednesday 12/17 — Dominoes at 12:30 p.m., Senior Movie at 2 p.m. “Wicked for Good”, Park Theater.

Saturday 12/20 — Karaoke and Dancing at 6:30 p.m.

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!

McKENZIE TOPS MEETS WEEKLY

Win over weight with support and encouragement by meeting with the McKenzie Chapter of TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) each Monday at 3 p.m. in the McKenzie Church of Christ gymnasium. The first meeting is free. For more information, call 731-352-7309. If no answer, leave a message.

CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT SERVICE AT FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN

McKenzie First Cumberland Presbyterian Church is hosting a candlelight service on December 24, 7 p.m. at the church, 16835 Highland Drive.

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.

December 19 — Last day of fall semester for Carroll County schools.

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 on the fourth Tuesday of each month, 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. residents 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 Of-

fice 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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West Carroll 3-2-1 Update

December 2025

We dedicate this month’s update to Ms. Jane Cole. She clearly demonstrated how caring for others is a lifelong calling.

Here are three highlights, two quotes, and one challenge for this month.

3-Highlights from Across the District

Fellowship & Service: More than 100 plates were served and over 100 food boxes assembled at the West Carroll Community Spaghetti Dinner. Dr. Adam Douglas shared that this gathering reminded students & families that they are valued & supported.

75-Year Legacy of McMoresville Auction: The Annual McMoresville Auction returned to continue a tradition that supports our PTO. Entertainment was provided by primary students led by Mr. Jonathan Wheeler.

Learning from Local Heroes: WCES students interviewed local veterans and wrote reflections on their conversations. They also recorded a podcast episode featuring local veteran Mr. Charlie Turner. Thank you to our veterans for sharing the meaning and importance of this national holiday.

2 Quotes from Our Principals

“We are proud of every student who represented West Carroll at the State Beta Convention. The BETA motto is ‘let us lead by serving others.’ I am privileged to see our BETA students live that out each day.” — Dr. Jessica Williams, WCES

“The trip to watch the TN Titans was more than a football game. It was a salute to the resilience. These players understand that before you can celebrate victories you have to be willing to do the hard work of building the foundation.” — Dr. Adam Douglas, WCHS

1 Challenge for Our Community

I am grateful for the families & staff who *keep* showing up to support our West Carroll community & students. School culture does not just happen. It grows from the everyday choices of those who stay, work, & support our students and school.

This week, consider a quiet moment with your child to ask, *“What are we doing to help our school become stronger this week?”*

Ideas & thoughts are welcome at preston.caldwell@wcssd.org.

Join us for our January board meeting on Jan. 8, 2026.

Preston Caldwell

wcssd.com/321



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Thank You

The family of the late Evelyn Wilson wishes to express their sincere appreciation for cards, calls, flowers, food and other expressions of sympathy during her illness and passing.

Especially do we thank her many loyal friends, Bro. Alan Trull and Bro. James Smith for their consoling words and Brummitt Funeral Home for their efficient services. May God bless each of you.

Shep & Troy Wilson
Teresa & Gerald Hall
Chris & Kimberly & family
Whitney & Dustin & family
Joan & Joe Robertson

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Wed. 7:25
Thurs. 7:25

ZOOTOPIA 2 (PG)

Tues. 7:25
Wed. 7:25
Thurs. 7:25

WICKED: FOR GOOD (PG)

Tues. 7:20
Wed. 7:20
Thurs. 7:20

NOW YOU SEE ME, NOW YOU DON’T (PG-13)

Tues. 7:35
Wed. 7:35
Thurs. 7:35

ETERNITY (PG-13)

Tues. 7:30
Wed. 7:30
Thurs. 7:30

PREDATOR: BADLANDS (PG-13)

Tues. 7:35
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SCAN ME!

Walkers Commended for Mount Olivet Restoration Efforts



McKENZIE (December 11) — The Mount Olivet Cemetery Board held its annual Christmas dinner Thursday at the McKenzie Senior Citizens Center. Two special guests were recognized at the event. Will and Dusty Walker (pictured) were commended for their efforts and their spirit of service. The couple volunteered to reset monuments that were overturned or damaged when the cemetery was vandalized last spring. *Submitted photo.*



The Waters of McKenzie employee Megan King, CNA, (right) accepts gifts for all residents from Mary Kay Beauty Consultant Judy Mehan (right) as part of her Adopt a Grandparent at a Nursing Home for Christmas project. *Photo submitted by Judy Mehan*

Beauty Consultant Delivers Gifts to Local Nursing Homes

Santa Claus isn't the only person delivering presents for the holidays. Residents of several local nursing homes were surprised with gifts from Mary Kay Beauty Consultant Judy Mehan, thanks to her Adopt a Grandparent at a Nursing Home project. Mehan, of Martin, delivered over 300 gifts to residents in nursing homes and assisted living centers in Weakley, Obion and Carroll counties — including The Waters of McKenzie. This project, now in its nineteenth year, is meant to remind each recipient that he or she is remembered and valued. "None of this would be

possible without the support of local businesses and residents who sponsored gifts," said Mehan. She thanked them all for their partnership. Along with a gift, each resident receives a card with the names of everyone who contributed and the towns they reside in. She advised the residents, their families and the staff to read the card so they are sure to recognize businesses that they patron and names of family or friends. Mehan's goal is to bring joy and gifts to local nursing centers every Christmas.

West Carroll Spotlights Students of the Week

WEST CARROLL (December 10) — The West Carroll Special School District announced its newest round of students of the week from its primary, elementary and junior/senior high schools. The three students — Karsyn Jackson, Skylar Riggs and Lily Green — were each nominated for their positive attitudes and willingness to help. Second-grade student Karsyn Jackson is West Carroll Primary School's student of the week, nominated by Ms. Krystle. "Karsyn is an amazing student all the way around. She constantly has a positive attitude with her work and is always wanting to help others. If she sees another student struggling, she is the first student to offer to help,"



(L to R) Karsyn Jackson, Skylar Riggs and Lily Green.

said Ms. Krystle. "Karsyn also wants to help me as the teacher as much as she possibly can. She is a true leader. She is an absolute joy in the classroom." Fifth-grade student Skylar Riggs is West Carroll Elementary School's student of the week, nominated by April Gonzalez. "Skylar is reading a challenging book, but she is persevering through it. She has mastered comprehension

of what she has read so far. I am proud of the progress she has made this year," said Gonzalez. "She usually does things like this, but recently, she noticed that another student was struggling to carry their belongings from one class to another and offered to help." Ninth-grade student Lily Green is West Carroll Jr/Sr High School's student of the week, nominated by Coach Nickolas Cobb.

"Lilly works extremely hard in Algebra I and is always willing to help others. She always has a smile on her face," said Cobb. The West Carroll Special School District also recognized West Carroll Primary School first-grade reading teacher Katie Ann Thomas as teacher of the week. West Carroll honors three students and one educator each week for their efforts in the classrooms.

West Carroll Elementary Recognizes SOAR Award Recipients

West Carroll Elementary School (WCES) faculty and staff continue to celebrate student achievement through the SOAR Awards program, which honors students who exemplify the school's core values of safety, ownership, achievement and respect. The program recognizes students for academic effort, positive character and meaningful contributions to the school community. For Week 13, fourth-grader Trinley White was recognized for earning the most Class Dojo points at WCES. Her teacher, Beth Hysmith, praised Trinley's dedication. "Trinley is an incredibly hard-working student whose drive to succeed is clear in her scores and behavior. She shows great kindness to her peers and is always willing to lend a helping hand," said Hysmith. During Week 14, fellow fourth-grader Hayley Argo



Week 13-14 SOAR Recipients — (L to R) Leylan Lawrence, Trinley White and Hayley Argo.

earned the most Class Dojo points in the school, earning the SOAR Award. "Hayley is an avid reader who is resolved to read 100 books this year," said Hysmith. "She is a very hard worker in class and always has a positive attitude. She has made so much progress in her math skills and is determined to excel." Leylan Lawrence, a third-

grade student, was nominated for both Weeks 13 and 14 by his teacher, Jennifer Kemp. "Leylan shows outstanding effort and a positive attitude every day. He is a wonderful example of what it means to be a leader in our classroom," Kemp said. "He demonstrates kindness, responsibility and enthusiasm for learning. We are

proud to have him in our third-grade classes." West Carroll Elementary School faculty and staff congratulate these students for their achievements and thank them for modeling the values that help make the school community a place where all students can thrive.

McKENZIE

Garden Club Makes Donation to Gordon Browning Museum

Donna Ward (right), treasurer of the McKenzie Garden Club, presented Jennifer Waldrup (left), Gordon Browning Museum Board member, with a \$500 check Tuesday, December

9. The donation will assist the museum with ongoing renovations, likely going toward purchasing paint or new shelves according to Waldrup. *Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner*



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- One 2023 Ornament
- One 2022 Ornament
- One 2021 Ornament

ORDER FORM

QUANTITY	ORNAMENT NAME
_____	2025 Huntingdon Mustangs 2A State Champs
_____	2025 McKenzie Rebels IA Runner-Up
_____	McKenzie Rebels Precious Metals 5-Pack

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone _____
Email _____

ORDER INSTANTLY! Scan QR codes for card payments or call us at 731.352.3323.
FOR MAIL ORDERS SEND TO: McKenzie Banner, 3 Banner Row, McKenzie, TN 38201

ORNAMENTS \$15 EACH
OR Precious Metals 5-Pack \$60

_____	Subtotal
_____	Tax (TN 9.75%)
_____	Total Check, Cash, or Card accepted

OFFICE USE ONLY Date Received _____
Receipt/Check # _____

READY BEFORE CHRISTMAS IF YOU ORDER BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2025!

McKenzie Baseball Hosts Inaugural Youth Baseball Camp



McKENZIE (November 22) — McKenzie middle and high school baseball hosted the inaugural Youth Baseball Camp Saturday at the MHS indoor athletic facility. A total of 54 participants ranging from four years old to fifth grade learned fundamental baseball skills from MHS and MMS players and coaches. *Submitted photo*



West Carroll Pre-K teachers Ms. Brandee Lents and Ms. Katy Johnsonious and their students Payton Gowan, Evelyn Morris, Waylon Latch, Baylee Hilliard, Skyler Watson and Legacy Miller enjoyed Santa’s visit. *Submitted photo*

Santa Stops for Cookies At West Carroll Primary

SUBMITTED BY CINDY SMITH
cindy.smith@wcssd.org

McLEMORESVILLE — Holiday cheer filled the halls at West Carroll Primary School as students welcomed a very special visitor this week. Santa Claus himself stopped by for cookies and milk, delighting children with his hearty “Ho Ho Ho!” Students eagerly gathered around, sharing their Christmas wishes and assuring Santa they would be on their best behavior as the big day approaches. Teachers and staff said the visit brought joy and excitement to the entire school community. Santa’s annual stop at West Carroll Primary has become a beloved tradition, and this year’s visit was no exception—leaving students beaming and ready for the holiday season.



Santa and student Kaiden Adkisson became quick friends. *Submitted photo*

Gasoline Prices Increase During Week

TENNESSEE (December 15) — Average gasoline prices in Tennessee increased 2.1 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$2.53/g today, according to GasBuddy’s survey of 3,821 stations in Tennessee. Prices in Tennessee are 13.8 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 5.4 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has decreased 5.3 cents compared to a week ago and stands at \$3.618 per gallon. According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Tennessee was priced at \$2.09/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$3.69/g, a difference of \$1.60/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.09/g while the highest was \$3.69/g, a difference of \$1.60/g. The national average price of gasoline has fallen 4.5 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$2.85/g today. The national average is down 22.0 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 12.6 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across

the country. Historical gasoline prices in Tennessee and the national average going back ten years: December 15, 2024: \$2.58/g (U.S. Average: \$2.98/g) December 15, 2023: \$2.75/g (U.S. Average: \$3.05/g) December 15, 2022: \$2.75/g (U.S. Average: \$3.14/g) December 15, 2021: \$3.00/g (U.S. Average: \$3.32/g) December 15, 2020: \$1.91/g (U.S. Average: \$2.20/g) December 15, 2019: \$2.26/g (U.S. Average: \$2.55/g) December 15, 2018: \$2.09/g (U.S. Average: \$2.37/g) December 15, 2017: \$2.20/g (U.S. Average: \$2.43/g) December 15, 2016: \$2.05/g (U.S. Average: \$2.23/g) December 15, 2015: \$1.80/g (U.S. Average: \$2.01/g) “For the third straight week, the national average price of gasoline has fallen, once again setting a new multi-year low,” said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. “Just

ahead of Christmas, the national average stands at its lowest level since March 12, 2021, delivering weekly savings of nearly \$400 million compared to this time last year. Gas prices are now lower in a majority of states, and the good news is that the downward trend may continue into the closing innings of 2025, with further declines likely across much of the country. That’s being driven by refineries wrapping up maintenance and boosting output to near summer highs, increasing oil production from OPEC has pressured crude prices lower as well.” GasBuddy, a PDI Technologies company, is North America’s trusted fuel savings platform, helping consumers fuel up for less for over 25 years. With over 100 million app downloads, GasBuddy delivers real-time prices at 150,000+ stations and tangible savings through Pay with GasBuddy+. It is the most authoritative source of station-level fuel pricing data, updating averages 288 times daily from the broadest mix of inputs—spotter reports, direct station integrations, and transactional data. *SOURCE GasBuddy*



Monica Harrison with Cash Express (right) is pictured with teacher Josephine Wright (left) and a few of her students. *Submitted photo*

McKenzie Middle School Donates 163 Clothing Items to Cash Express

McKenzie Middle School kicked off the month of December with the “Be a Goodie, Donate a Hoodie, Coat or Shoes” clothing drive for Cash Express. From December 1 through December 9, students collected 163 items

total to donate to Cash Express. Fifth-graders collected 69 items, sixth-graders collected 67 items, seventh-graders collected five items and eighth-graders collected 22 items. The school positioned the clothing drive as a chal-

lenge amongst students, promising ice cream to the homeroom with the most donations. Josephine Wright’s sixth-grade homeroom students collected the most items for the clothing drive.



Cafeteria staff Kay Story, Hope Vinson, Tina Seaton and Shelia Hilliard served students, guests and staff. *Submitted photo*

West Carroll Elementary School Hosts Holiday Meal

West Carroll Elementary School recently welcomed families and friends to campus for a special holiday meal, giving students the opportunity to share lunch with their loved ones in a festive and heartwarming atmosphere. The event brought students, guests and staff together to celebrate the season and strengthen the school-family connection. The holiday meal featured a traditional spread that included baked ham, mashed potatoes, green beans, macaroni and cheese, baked apples and a variety of homemade desserts. Cafeteria tables were filled with smiling students who enjoyed both the meal and the special company. “It’s always great seeing our students’ faces light up as their family joins them for lunch,” said Tammy Lovell, school secretary. “Moments like these truly make the holidays special.”



Katrina and Hannah Coleman enjoyed a holiday meal. *Submitted photo*

Students not accompanied by a guest were also treated to a memorable experience, enjoying their meal while watching a movie, ensuring every child felt included and celebrated. The holiday lunch was

a meaningful way for West Carroll Elementary to spread cheer, create lasting memories and remind students that school is a place of community, care and togetherness — especially during the holiday season.

Property Transfers

Bela J. Jr. and Jo A. Bick-sel to Ormond R. Merino in District 11.

Cody Walker as conser-vator to Carol E. and Dean J. Griffith in District 20.

Cody Walker as conser-vator to Brandon Williams in District 23.

Cody Walker as con-servator for Charles J. Harrison, aka Jeff, to Don Barger in District 2.

Michael A. Brown and others to Midway Storage in District 12.

Richard Dean Hatcher as executior to Ricky Lynn and others Hatcher in Dis-trict 1.

Janet Lynn Gibson as executrix to Donald Dwayne Hawkins and others in District 22.

Janet Lynn Gibson as executrix to Rhonda Marvinna Hawkins fka Rhonda Marvinna Faulkner and others in District 22.

Marialfred Acuna to Humble Builders, LLC. No District listed.

Jeremy Brett Kee to Erin J. Payne in District 7.

Richard T. Sr. and Shari L. Fisk to Ryan and Carissa French in District 4.

Karen Annette Gillespie as executrix to Karen An-nette Gillespie and others in District 18.

Michele Love to Zacha-ry Jarrett in District 4.

Christal Marie Reed to Cynthia Marie Szalay in

District 8.

Cody Walker, as con-servator to TJ Stansell in District 6.

Charles Lee and Jenni-fer Johnson to Right Pitch, LLC in District 6.

Charles Lee Johnson to Right Pitch, LLC in Dis-trict 6.

Randy Ray Griffin to Scott Andrew Wilson. No District listed.

Daniel Cooley to Daniel S. and Shawna L. Cooley and others in District 16.

Candice and William Cavender to Cavender Lexington Land Trust. No District listed.

Deborah Meggs to Deb-oraH Meggs and others in District 12.

Clear Recon, LLC to Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC in District 8.

Anthony C. Newman to Benjamin Perry Brandon Newman in District 8.

Cody Walker as conser-vator to Dabbs Rentals, LLC in District 21.

Cody Walker as conser-vator to Copeland and Zoe Haley in District 6.

Cody Walker as conser-vator to Tanner Workman in District 9.

Vickie Inmon to Susan R. Hawks in District 4.

Carroll County Sheriff’s Reports

Domestic Assault Ar-rest — On December 9, deputies responded to a domestic violence call on Ephesus Church Road in Hollow Rock after dispatch advised a female subject was requesting EMS. Upon arrival, deputies found a woman sitting on the front porch in visible pain, with her daughter standing near-by suffering from a bloody nose and visible marks on her neck.

Deputies observed that the woman had sustained a large bite mark on her right arm that appeared to be a deep laceration and was bleeding heavily. EMS was requested to the scene to treat both individuals. Deputies were advised the suspect had fled the resi-dence and was last seen heading west on Ephesus Church Road.

Further investigation re-vealed the incident began while the woman was in the bathroom when her son, Drew Logan Autry, 32, of Hollow Rock, began bang-ing on the door and yelling. The door was kicked in, and a physical altercation followed when the daugh-ter attempted to intervene. During the struggle, the sus-pect allegedly struck both individuals before turning his aggression toward the woman, biting her arm and causing significant injury that later required stitches.

The daughter suffered in-juries to her hands, throat, face, and nose. After the altercation, the suspect fled the area.

Deputies conducted a search of the surrounding area while EMS transport-ed the injured parties to Baptist Memorial Hospital in Huntingdon.

The incident remains un-der investigation.

Dogs Not Allowed at Large — On December 9, deputies responded to a residence on Highway 423 in McKenzie after receiving a call regarding dogs pre-venting a driver from exiting a vehicle. Deputies made contact with the reporting party, who stated she was trapped in her vehicle due to neighboring dogs being loose and aggressive. She further advised the dogs had been an ongoing issue and had previously killed animals on her property.

Deputy McClure then went to a nearby residence and spoke with Bradley A. Becker, 58, of McKenzie, in reference to the dogs. While driving to the residence, three dogs were observed standing in the roadway, barking and growling. Beck-er stated he believed all of his dogs were at his home.

Deputies advised Becker

that video evidence showed his dogs on neighboring property. It was noted that Becker had received mul-tiple warnings, including three issued on the same day, regarding the dogs be-ing at large. Becker stated he had shock collars for the dogs but advised he had not programmed them when asked to do so.

Becker was cited into Carroll County General Ses-sions Court for dogs not al-lowed at large, with a court date set for December 17 at 9 a.m.

This incident occurred in Carroll County.

Motor Vehicle Theft — On December 8, deputies responded to a report of a stolen vehicle from a resi-dence on Abbott Lane in Huntingdon.

Deputies were advised that a red 1999 Ford F-150 had been taken from the property earlier that morning.

During the investigation, deputies reviewed surveil-lance footage that showed the truck leaving the prop-erty at approximately 9:54 a.m. No additional activity was observed on the video.

The stolen vehicle was described as a red 1999 Ford F-150 with a faded hood. The truck was en-tered into NCIC as stolen. The case remains under investigation.

NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

WHEREAS, on November 22, 2024, CACHENGO, INC., by a Deed of Trust of record in Trust Deed Book 747, at Page 761, in the Register’s Office of Carroll County, Tennessee, conveyed the following described property in trust to secure the payment of a Promissory Note in the original principal amount of Seven Hundred Twenty Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$720,000.00), payable to MARTY E. ENSLEY, JAMES KILEY PEARSON AND JOHNNY RAY PEARSON; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned was appointed Substitute Trustee by MARTY E. ENSLEY, JAMES KILEY PEARSON AND JOHNNY RAY PEARSON, which appointment will be recorded in the Register’s Office of Carroll County, Tennessee prior to the deed evidencing this sale; and

WHEREAS, default has been made in the payment of said indebtedness and other provisions of the Deed of Trust have been violated, and MARTY E. ENSLEY, JAMES KILEY PEARSON AND JOHNNY RAY PEARSON, the lawful owners and holders of the said indebtedness, have declared the entire amount due and payable as provided by the Deed of Trust in accordance with the terms thereof, and instructed the undersigned to foreclose.

NOW, THEREFORE, the public is hereby notified that the undersigned Substitute Trustee will sell the hereinafter described real estate at public auction, to the highest and best bidder, for cash in hand paid in certified funds paid at the conclusion of the sale, or upon a credit bid from a bank or other lending entity pre-approved by the Substitute Trustee. The auction shall occur at the East door of the Courthouse at Huntingdon, Carroll County, Tennessee, on Tuesday, December 30, 2025, at 1 p.m., said property to be sold in bar of the equity of redemption and subject to the lien of all special assessments against it.

Lying, and being situate in the City of Huntingdon, 4th Civil District of Carroll County, Tennessee, bounded and described as follows; to-wit:

BEGINNING on an existing mag-nail over a buried railroad spike in asphalt, said railroad spike being located 40 feet northwest of the centerline of West Main Street (U.S. Highway 70), being the northeast corner of a tract belonging to Danny Brandon (Tax Map 73-N, Gr. A, Parcel 2.00) and being the southeast corner of the tract described herein; thence with the northeastern line of Brandon, North 47 degrees 59 minutes 33 seconds West, passing an existing iron pin on line at 150.00 feet, continuing with the northeastern line of another tract belonging to Danny Brandon (Tax Map 73-N, Gr. A, Parcel 2.02), passing an existing iron pin on line at the southeastern corner of the Corey Bartholomew tract (included in this description) at 340.00 feet, continuing with the northeastern line of Brandon for a total distance of 465.00 feet to an existing iron pin near the southeastern edge of a field; thence with the southeastern line of Danny Brandon (Tax Map 73, Parcel 15.00), North 37 degrees 09 minutes 57 seconds East, passing an existing iron pin on line at 540.95 feet and continuing for a total distance of 580.95 feet to a point in the centerline of Beaver Creek Drainage Canal; thence with the centerline of Beaver Creek Drainage Canal, South 29 degrees 33 minutes 13 seconds East, passing the northeastern corner of the Corey Bartholomew tract at 150.00 feet and continuing for a total distance of 418.94 feet to a point in the centerline of the canal at the northwestern corner of Patrick Goodwin (Tax Map 73-N, Gr. A, Parcel 1.00 – Deed Bk. 276, Pg. 145); thence leaving the canal and running with the northwestern line of Goodwin, South 40 degrees 59 minutes 06 seconds West, passing an existing iron pin on line at 43.72 feet and continuing for a total distance of 243.72 feet to an existing iron pin; thence with the southwestern line of Goodwin, South 49 degrees 00 minutes 52 seconds East for a distance of 100.00 feet to an existing iron pin in the northwestern right-of-way of West Main Street (40 feet from centerline), said iron pin being located 22.4 feet northwest of the southwestern corner of a concrete bridge; thence with the northwestern right-of-way of West Main Street as follows: South 39 degrees 16 minutes 14 seconds West for a distance of 136.99 feet; thence South 37 degrees 09 minutes 57 seconds West for a distance of 67.88 feet to the point of beginning, containing 4.88 acres. Surveyed by Denny A. Bush, Tennessee RLS No. 1577, on October 29, 2013. Bearings are based on Tennessee State Plane Coordinates, NAD 1983. (Description taken from prior deed of record)

It being the same property as that described in a Warranty Deed from Marty E. Ensley, James Kiley Pearson and Johnny Ray Pearson to Cachengo, Inc., a Tennessee Corporation, dated November 22, 2024, and of record in Warranty Deed Book 417, page 844, Register’s Office of Carroll County, Tennessee.

Map 073N, Group A, Parcel 002.01

The street address of the above-described property is believed to be 19225 Main Street, Huntingdon, Tennessee 38344, but such address is not part of the legal description of the property sold herein and in the event of any discrepancy, the legal description herein shall control.

SALE IS SUBJECT TO TENANT(S) RIGHTS IN POSSESSION, IF ANY.

This sale is subject to all matters shown on any applicable recorded plat; any unpaid taxes; any restrictive covenants, easements, or setback lines that may be applicable; any statutory rights of redemption of any governmental agency, state or federal; any prior liens or encumbrances as well as any priority created by a fixture filing; and to any matter that an accurate survey of the premises might disclose. Other interested parties: None.

Title to said property is believed to be good, but the undersigned will sell as Substitute Trustee only and will assign to the purchaser all covenants of warranty contained in said Deed of Trust.

The sale held pursuant to this Notice may be rescinded at the Successor Trustee’s option at any time. Said sale may be adjourned to another time or may be postponed to another date by public announcement at the appointed time of sale without readvertisement.

This office is a debt collector. This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

This Notice of Sale has been posted by ForeclosureTennessee.com and can be viewed online at ForeclosureTennessee.com.

WITNESS my signature, this the 9th day of December, 2025.

KIZER, BONDS, HUGHES & BOWEN, LLC

BY: STEPHEN L. HUGHES, Substitute Trustee
P. O. Box 320, Milan, TN 38358 (731) 686-119820, 2024

A1767/49-3

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NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

WHEREAS, on August 1, 2024, CACHENGO, INC., by a Deed of Trust of record in Trust Deed Book 743, at Page 900, in the Register’s Office of Carroll County, Tennessee, conveyed the following described property in trust to secure the payment of a Promissory Note in the original principal amount of Four Hundred Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$400,000.00), payable to THE PERKINS CORPORATION; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned was appointed Substitute Trustee by THE PERKINS CORPORATION, the legal owner and holder of the said Note, by appointment executed on November 25, 2025, and recorded in Trust Deed Book 761, at Page 974, in the Register’s Office of Carroll County, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, default has been made in the payment of said indebtedness and other provisions of the Deed of Trust have been violated, and THE PERKINS CORPORATION, the lawful owner and holder of the said indebtedness, has declared the entire amount due and payable as provided by the Deed of Trust in accordance with the terms thereof, and instructed the undersigned to foreclose.

NOW, THEREFORE, the public is hereby notified that the undersigned Substitute Trustee will sell the hereinafter described real estate at public auction, to the highest and best bidder, for cash in hand paid in certified funds paid at the conclusion of the sale, or upon a credit bid from a bank or other lending entity pre-approved by the Substitute Trustee. The auction shall occur at the East door of the Courthouse at Huntingdon, Carroll County, Tennessee, on Tuesday, December 30, 2025, at 1:45 p.m., said property to be sold in bar of the equity of redemption and subject to the lien of all special assessments against it.

Lying, and being situate in the City of McKenzie, 4th Civil District of Carroll County, Tennessee, bounded and described as follows; to-wit:

BEGINNING at a stake at a concrete culvert on the Northwest margin of Highland Drive, being the Northeast corner of this lot; runs thence S 47° 36’ 53” West, 319 feet to a stake being the Southwest corner of this tract at Wilson (Partial 19.02); runs thence 43° 29’ 36” West, 59.97 feet to a rebar; thence N 36° 30’ 34” East, 15.61 feet ;thence N 18° 00’ 00” West, 86.50 feet thence N 16° 00’ 00” East, 107.15 feet to a stake in a drainage ditch; thence S 50° 40’ 14” East, 33.43 feet; thence S 68° 01’ 31” E, 75.25 feet; thence S 84° 53’ 43” East, 50.00 feet; thence N 77° 01’ 16” E 122.50 feet and to the point of beginning. (See Map Attached as Exhibit A) (Description taken from prior deed of record)

It being the same property as that described in a Warranty Deed from The Perkins Corporation to Cachengo, Inc., a Tennessee Corporation, dated August 1, 2024, and of record in Warranty Deed Book 416, page 188, Register’s Office of Carroll County, Tennessee.

Map 012L, Group E, Parcel 019.01

The street address of the above-described property is believed to be 16035 Highland Dr., McKenzie, Tennessee, but such address is not part of the legal description of the property sold herein and in the event of any discrepancy, the legal description herein shall control.

SALE IS SUBJECT TO TENANT(S) RIGHTS IN POSSESSION, IF ANY.

This sale is subject to all matters shown on any applicable recorded plat; any unpaid taxes; any restrictive covenants, easements, or setback lines that may be applicable; any statutory rights of redemption of any governmental agency, state or federal; any prior liens or encumbrances as well as any priority created by a fixture filing; and to any matter that an accurate survey of the premises might disclose. Other interested parties: None.

Title to said property is believed to be good, but the undersigned will sell as Substitute Trustee only and will assign to the purchaser all covenants of warranty contained in said Deed of Trust.

The sale held pursuant to this Notice may be rescinded at the Successor Trustee’s option at any time. Said sale may be adjourned to another time or may be postponed to another date by public announcement at the appointed time of sale without readvertisement.

This office is a debt collector. This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

This Notice of Sale has been posted by ForeclosureTennessee.com and can be viewed online at ForeclosureTennessee.com.

WITNESS my signature, this the 9th day of December, 2025.

KIZER, BONDS, HUGHES & BOWEN, LLC

BY: STEPHEN L. HUGHES, Substitute Trustee
P. O. Box 320, Milan, TN 38358 (731) 686-119820, 2024

A1767/49-3

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

PROBATE CASE NO: 2025PA229

ESTATE OF: MARILYN LOUISE BISHOP, LATE OF CARROLL COUN-
TY, TENNESSEE

Notice is hereby given that on the **1ST** day of **DECEMBER, 2025** Letters Testamentary, of Administration, in respect to the Estate of **MARILYN LOUISE BISHOP** deceased, who died **JULY 22ND, 2025**, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court Clerk & Master of Carroll County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unma-tured, against the Estate are required by law to file the same with the Clerk of the above named Court on or before the ear-lier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
All persons indebted to the above Estate must come forward and make proper settlement with the undersigned at once.

This 1ST day of DECEMBER, 2025.
THIS NOTICE WILL RUN TWO CONSECUTIVE WEEKS.

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

JULIE K. HESTER & STACY M. FLETCHER, Executor/Administrator
W. KENT JONES, Attorney
KENNETH TODD, Clerk & Master

A561/R26784/49-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE NOTICE TO CREDITORS

PROBATE CASE NO: 2025PE228

ESTATE OF: LINDA HARR, LATE OF CARROLL COUNTY, TEN-
NESSEE

Notice is hereby given that on the **1ST** day of **DECEMBER, 2025** Letters Testamentary, of Administration, in respect to the Estate of **LINDA HARR** deceased, who died **NOVEMBER 7TH, 2025**, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court Clerk & Master of Carroll County, Tennessee. All persons, resi-dent and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the Estate are required by law to file the same with the Clerk of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.
All persons indebted to the above Estate must come forward and make proper settlement with the undersigned at once.

This 1ST day of DECEMBER, 2025.
THIS NOTICE WILL RUN TWO CONSECUTIVE WEEKS.

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

RITA PRUITT, Executor/Administrator
STEVEN L. WEST, Attorney
KENNETH TODD, Clerk & Master

A561/R26785/49-2

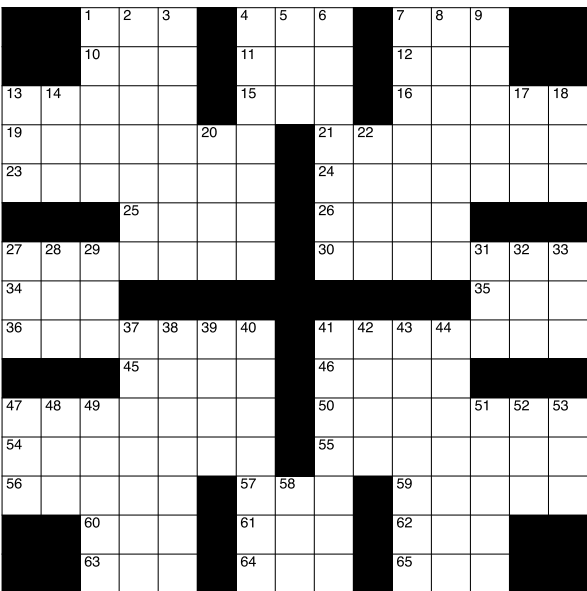
Color A Masterpiece



Weekly Crossword

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. American automotive titan
- 4. Tire term
- 7. Two-year-old sheep
- 10. Indigenous people of Thailand
- 11. Anti-Soviet Cold War group
- 12. Actress de Armas
- 13. Not moving
- 15. Cool!
- 16. Plants of the arum family
- 19. Connected with touch
- 21. Pen stain
- 23. Monetary units
- 24. School kids' art project
- 25. Early Bell Canada executive
- 26. Sword
- 27. Hates
- 30. Fixed in one place
- 34. Pie ____ mode
- 35. Moved swiftly on foot
- 36. Carrier on vehicle
- 41. A path to get through
- 45. "Rule, Britannia" composer
- 46. Spiritual leader
- 47. Flowing
- 50. Respectful compliments
- 54. Cure
- 55. Soft, lightweight fabric
- 56. Building material
- 57. Japanese delicacy
- 59. A way to cause to be swollen
- 60. One and only
- 61. You might get one in summer
- 62. Wreath
- 63. Thus far



- 64. They ____
- 65. Employee reference number

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Policemen (French)
- 2. Toy dog
- 3. Intestinal condition
- 4. Muscular weaknesses
- 5. Helps little firms
- 6. Alphabetical lists
- 7. Takes down
- 8. Facilitates
- 9. Ethnic people of Ethiopia
- 13. Engine additive
- 14. Explorers group
- 17. Written account
- 18. Consumed
- 20. Opposite of first
- 22. No (slang)
- 27. Government lawyers
- 28. NY Giants great
- 29. Small amount
- 31. A way to save for your future
- 32. Fall behind
- 33. Midway between northeast and east
- 37. Head pain
- 38. Wildly popular sport
- 39. "Princess Diaries" actress Hathaway
- 40. Boat race
- 41. About fish
- 42. Nursemaid
- 43. Able to be marketed
- 44. Not as large
- 47. Parts per billion (abbr.)
- 48. Paddle
- 49. Oneness
- 51. Bitter chemical
- 52. Not around
- 53. Very fast airplane
- 58. Main tributary of the Rhine

Week 50

See solution in next week's edition.

Food Service Word Search

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

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Tip
Turn Over
Walk-In
Yield

THIS DAY IN HISTORY



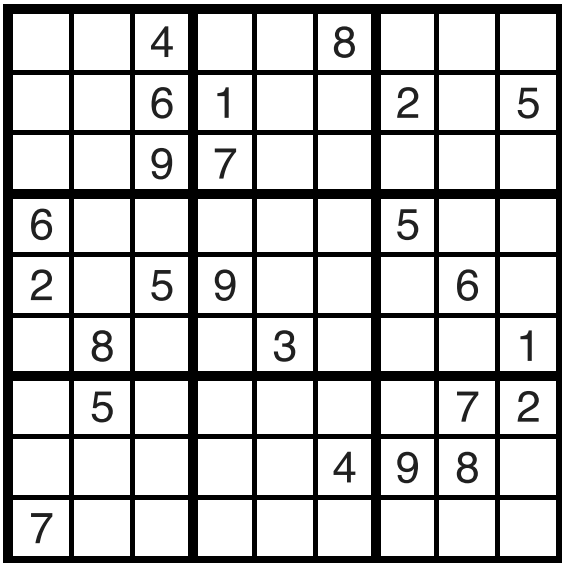
1777: The Continental Army goes into winter quarters at Valley Forge.

1924: The last Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost is sold in London, England.

1941: Adolf Hitler appoints himself as head of the Oberkommando des Heeres.

SUDOKU

WEEK 50



Level: Intermediate

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 food service. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 26 = E)

A. 22 26 17 4 26 17

Clue: Waiter/waitress

B. 24 23 13 19 25 26 11

Clue: Cooking room

C. 17 26 22 13 9 12 17 9 11 13

Clue: Place to dine

D. 19 25 26 19 24

Clue: Restaurant bill

Answers: A. server B. kitchen C. restaurant D. check

LETTER MIX-UP

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

COMPLIMENTARY

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

Riddle Me This

What does a snowman like to eat for breakfast?

Answer: Frosted Flakes.

WORD SCRAMBLE

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

TCIDRE

Answer: Credit

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Answer: Alyssa Milano

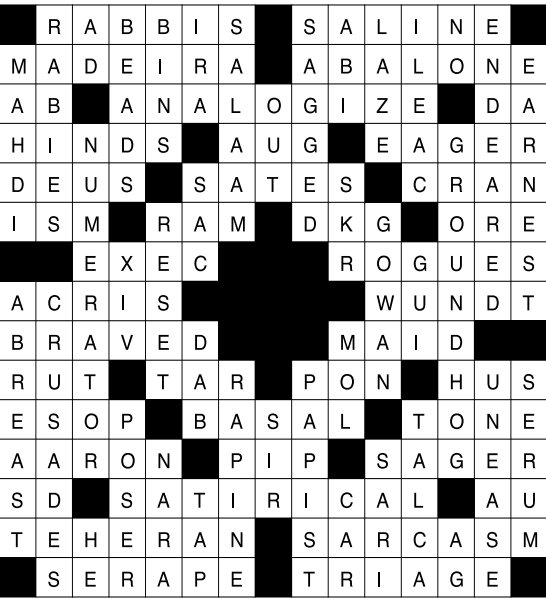
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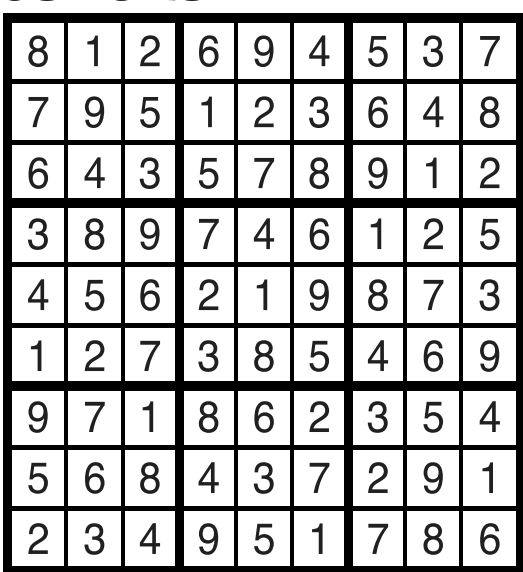


PUZZLE SOLUTION

Week 49 Crossword Puzzle Solution



SUDOKU SOLUTION WEEK 49



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HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL



Above Left, Lady War Eagle Chloe Rimmer fires an open three. Rimmer led the Lady War Eagles with 23 points. Above Right, Lady Bulldog Hylan Leach pulls up on the run for a midrange jumper. Leach led Gleason with 23 points. Below Left, Bulldog Brody Sanders goes strong to the basket. Sanders led Gleason (tie) with 17 points. Below Right, War Eagle Demarion Gilbert shoots for three. Gilbert led West Carroll with 17 points. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner



Gleason Sweeps West Carroll

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

GLEASON (December 12) — Gleason High School hosted West Carroll Friday night for a pair of basketball contests. The opener was a back-and-forth thriller resulting in an overtime win for the Lady Bulldogs, 63-58. The nightcap was also tight until the Bulldogs pulled away in the third for a 59-43 victory.

Gleason Lady Bulldogs 63, West Carroll Lady War Eagles 58 (OT)

The Lady Bulldogs jumped out to a 19-8 lead after the opening frame, led by Madi Dean with seven points, including a three-pointer. Hylan Leach scored six on a pair of threes, Brylee Robertson had four points, and Jennah Swatzell had a pair. Lady War Eagles Chloe Rimmer and Hailey Mitchell had four points each.

West Carroll stormed back to take the lead with a 21-8 advantage in the second quarter, led by Rimmer with eleven points, including a pair of threes. Mitchell scored five, Alayna Lovelace hit a three-pointer, and Gracelyn Vernon had a pair. Ahmyre Allen led Gleason with four points, including a three. Robertson and Layla Allen each had a pair. At the half, West Carroll led 29-27.

The Lady Bulldogs cut the deficit with a 12-11 edge in the third, led by Leach with nine points, including a three. A. Allen also hit a three-pointer. Aubrey Ham-

mett led the Lady War Eagles with four points. Rimmer hit another three, and Mitchell and Taylor Robinson each had a pair. Entering the final frame of regulation, West Carroll led 40-39.

Gleason forced overtime with a 15-14 advantage in the fourth, led by Dean with five points. Leach scored four, and A. Allen and Kadence Witherspoon each had three points. Rimmer led West Carroll with five points. Mitchell scored four, and Vernon hit a three. Robinson added a pair. At the end of regulation, the score was 54-54.

The Lady Bulldogs claimed the win with a 9-4 tilt in overtime, led by Witherspoon with five points, including a three-pointer. Leach scored four. Robinson and Mitchell each added a pair for West Carroll.

Hylan Leach led Gleason with 23 points, including a trio of three-pointers. Madi Dean scored a dozen with a three, and Ahmyre Allen had ten points with a pair of threes.

Chloe Rimmer led the Lady War Eagles with 23 points, including a trio of threes. Hailey Mitchell scored 17.

Bulldogs 59, War Eagles 43

Gleason had an 11-8 edge after the first frame, led by Brody Sanders with four points. Kade Sawyers, Parker Morgan and Drake Lehmkuhl each had a pair, and Brock Dilday hit a free throw. Mason Taylor led West Carroll with five points,

and Demarion Gilbert hit a three-pointer.

The second quarter was a 16-16 wash. Sawyers led the Bulldogs with seven points. P. Morgan scored four with a three-pointer, Ashton Morgan and C.J. Reed each had a pair, and Sanders hit a freebie. War Eagle Chandler Rimmer scored six, including a three-pointer. Gilbert had five points, also with a three. Taylor scored four, and Skyler Wilhite hit a free throw. At the half, Gleason led 27-24.

The Bulldogs pulled away with a 16-9 advantage in the third, led by Sanders with nine points. Lehmkuhl scored five with a three, and Sawyers added a pair. War Eagle Bryler O'Neal scored six on a pair of threes. Gilbert added a pair, and Isaiah Snyder hit a free throw. Heading into the final frame, the Bulldogs led 43-33.

Gleason capped the win with a 16-10 tilt in the fourth, led by Sawyers with six points. Lehmkuhl scored four, and Sanders had three points. A. Morgan added a pair, and Trey Mayo hit a free throw. Gilbert led West Carroll with seven points, including a three. Rimmer added a pair, and O'Neal hit a freebie.

Kade Sawyers and Brody Sanders led Gleason with 17 points each. Drake Lehmkuhl scored eleven with a three-pointer.

Demarion Gilbert led the War Eagles with 17 points, including a trio of threes. Mason Taylor scored nine.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL



Above Left, Lady Rebel Jaycee Stafford pulls up for a long jumper. Stafford led all scorers with 21 points. Above Right, Bulldog Kade Sawyers drives into the paint. Sawyers scored 19 points. Below Left, Rebel Nolan Fawcett scores on a fast break. Fawcett led McKenzie with 18 points. Below Right, Lady Bulldog Madi Dean pulls up for a midrange jumper. Dean scored four points. Photos by Joel Washburn/The Banner



Lady Rebels, Bulldogs Split Wins

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

GLEASON (December 8) — Gleason High School hosted McKenzie Monday night for a pair of basketball contests. The Lady Rebels took control in the second quarter en route to a 42-37 win. The Bulldogs pulled away early to claim a 77-51 victory.

McKenzie Lady Rebels 42, Gleason Lady Bulldogs 37

Gleason had a 14-10 lead after the opening frame, led by Ahmyre Allen with eight points, including a three-pointer. Hylan Leach scored four, and Madi Dean had a pair. Molly French led McKenzie with six points on a pair of threes, and Jaycee Stafford scored four.

The Lady Rebels took the lead with a 19-8 advantage in the second quarter, led by Stafford with nine points, including a three. Braylin Auvenshine scored five, also with a three. French hit another three, and Ava Hastings had a pair. Allen and Kadence Witherspoon each hit a three for Gleason, and Leach added a pair. At the half, the Lady Rebels led 29-22.

Gleason cut the deficit with a 13-9 edge in the third, led by Allen with five points. Brylee Robertson hit a three-pointer. Dean and Jennah Swatzell each had

a pair, and Leach hit a freebie. Stafford scored six for McKenzie, and Auvenshine hit a three. Entering the final frame, McKenzie led 38-35.

The Lady Rebels sealed the win with a 4-2 tilt in the fourth. Hastings and Stafford each added a pair. Robertson added a pair for Gleason.

Lady Rebel Jaycee Stafford led all scorers with 21 points, including a three-pointer. Molly French scored nine on a trio of threes.

Ahmyre Allen led Gleason with 16 points, including a pair of threes.

Bulldogs 77, Rebels 51

Gleason jumped out to a 20-11 lead after the first frame, led by Kade Sawyers with eight points, including a pair of three-pointers. Brody Sanders scored six. Parker Morgan had three points, Drake Lehmkuhl had a pair, and Ashton Morgan hit a free throw. Nolan Fawcett led McKenzie with five points, including a three. Eli Vinson hit a three-pointer, and Kason Brown also had three points.

The Bulldogs pulled away with a 21-11 advantage in the second, led by Lehmkuhl with a dozen, including a three. Sanders scored four points. Miami Woolridge and C.J. Reed each had a pair, and P. Morgan hit a

freebie. Vinson hit another three-pointer for the Rebels, and Fawcett also scored three points. Brown and Cayden Ownby each had a pair, and Ethan Bradberry hit a free throw. At the half, the Bulldogs led 41-22.

Gleason enjoyed a 28-12 tilt in the third, led by Sawyers with eleven, including a three. Lehmkuhl scored six, and Sanders had four points. Woolridge hit a three-pointer, and A. Morgan and Reed each added a pair. Brown led McKenzie with six points. Fawcett scored five with a three, and Vinson hit a freebie. Heading into the final frame, the Bulldogs led 69-34.

The Rebels rallied 17-8 in the fourth for a closer final, led by Fawcett and Ownby with five points each, both with a three-pointer. Brown scored four, Vinson added a pair, and Cooper Davidson hit a free throw. Bulldogs Ashton Bell and Jaxson Morgan each hit a three, and Trey Mayo had a pair.

Bulldog Drake Lehmkuhl led all scorers with 20 points, including a three-pointer. Kade Sawyers scored 19 with a trio of threes, and Brody Sanders had 14 points.

Nolan Fawcett led McKenzie with 18 points, including a trio of threes. Kason Brown scored 15 points.

Gleason's Drake Lehmkuhl Reaches 2,000 Career Points



GLEASON (December 12) — Gleason High School senior basketball standout Drake Lehmkuhl was honored Friday for surpassing 2,000 career points. He achieved the milestone on Monday, December 8 as the Bulldogs hosted McKenzie. Lehmkuhl (left) was presented a commemorative basketball by Head Coach Mike Riggs during the girls' game against West Carroll. Photo courtesy Gary Owens

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Stewart County Sweeps McKenzie

BY DAVARION GILBERT
banner@mckenziebanner.com

MCKENZIE (December 12) — McKenzie High School hosted Stewart County Friday for a pair of basketball games. The Stewart County Lady Rebels pulled away for a 44-34 win. The boys kept it close, but Stewart County pulled away with a last-minute, 66-61 win.

Stewart County Lady Rebels 44, McKenzie Lady Rebels 34

The Stewart County Lady Rebels ended the first quarter with a 15-8 lead. Faith Dacus scored eleven with a pair of three-point shots. Neely Cook and Jesslyn Dacus each had two points. McKenzie's Jaycee Stafford had eight points.

Stewart County kept a close 22-19 lead at the end of the second quarter. Stewart County Lady Rebel Jaelyn Newman had four points. F. Dacus hit two free throw

shots, and Neely Cook hit one free throw. Stafford scored six for McKenzie with a three. Molly French scored a three-point shot. Alleigh Britt had a pair.

The Stewart County Lady Rebels kept the lead with a 28-21 score after the third quarter. Stewart County's Cook hit a three-point shot. Newman had a pair, and Kaylie Wallace hit a free throw shot. Stafford had a pair for McKenzie.

The Stewart County Lady Rebels secured the 44-34 win in the fourth, Newman with 12 points. J. Dacus and Wallace each had two free throws. Stafford scored nine for McKenzie with a three-point shot. Addyson Littleton and Braylin Auvenshine each had a pair.

Jaelyn Newman led the Stewart County Lady Rebels in scoring with 18 points, Faith Dacus scored 13 points, and Nelly Cook scored six points.

McKenzie's Jaycee Staf-

ford led all scorers with 25 points.

Stewart County Rebels 66, McKenzie Rebels 61

The McKenzie Rebels started the game with a first-quarter score of 15-6. Rebel Avery Brown scored five, including a three-point shot. Kason Brown scored four points. Nolan Fawcett hit a three-point shot, and Cole Brown also had three points. Stewart County Rebels Liam Kash, Anthony Bisogno and Kyrick Wallace each had a pair.

McKenzie extended their lead to 34-27 at halftime. Rebel Cole Brown scored eleven with a three-pointer. Fawcett had six on two three-point shots. Kason Brown had a pair. Stewart County Rebel Kash scored eight. Bisogno had five with a three-pointer. Dawson Collins and Hargis Cherry each hit a three-point shot. Wallace hit two free throw shots.

The Stewart County Reb-

els took the lead, 46-40, after the third quarter. Wallace scored seven with a three. Bisogno had five points. Cherry hit a three-pointer, along with Collins and Kash with a pair. Kason Brown had four for the McKenzie Rebels. Fawcett hit two free throw shots.

Stewart County extended the lead in the fourth for the 66-61 win. Stewart County Rebel Wallace scored ten, and Bisogno had five. Landon Green had three points, and Zachary Morgan had a pair. McKenzie Rebel Fawcett scored 13 with two three-point shots. Cole Brown had five. Kason Brown had a pair, and Avery Brown hit a free throw.

Nolan Fawcett led McKenzie with 24 points. Cole Brown scored 19 points. Kason Brown had 12 points.

Kyrick Wallace led Stewart County with 21 points, followed by Anthony Bisogno with 17 points and Liam Kash with 12 points.