



Judy Smith, Cary Don Smith, Ryan Drewry, Danny Toombs, and Sheila Toombs at the retirement party for Cary Don and Danny from the Carroll County Electric Department. Photo by Joel Washburn/The Banner

Carroll County Electric Honors Retirees

CARROLL COUNTY — The Carroll County Electric Department celebrated a “bittersweet day” as it bid farewell to two of its most dedicated employees, Cary Don Smith and Danny Toombs, who together accumulated 96 years of dedicated service to the department. Cary Don retired after 51 and a half years, while Danny Toombs retired with 44 and a half years of service. Their departure marks a significant loss of institutional knowledge, as General Manager Ryan Drewry noted that the combined experience walking out the door—96 years—is greater than the electric department’s entire 88-year history.

“There is not a person in this room that doesn’t know what the electric department is without Danny Toombs or Cary Don Smith being here because you guys have the most seniority within the system,” Drewry told the crowd of family and colleagues, including their wives, Sheila Toombs and Judy Smith. During the event, Drewry also offered reflections on the retirees’ long tenure, noting the department had been a home and family to them. Judy Smith joked about Cary Don’s post-work life, saying he “will get a work order every day. He’ll just report to a different supervisor”. Adding a bit of humor, Drewry said a cold bologna sandwich was

included in the day’s meal for Danny. To honor their “lifetime of dedication,” Drewry presented both retirees with plaques stating appreciation for their years of dedicated service. They were also given retirement rings. Drewry assured the retirees that they will continue to be missed and thought of, predicting the phone will still ring for questions at times. The celebration concluded with fellowship and a meal provided by Big Daddy’s Barbecue for all attendees, including department associates and the honorees’ families. The event was held at the Colonial Room in downtown Huntingdon.



First-grade teachers dressed as Mario Kart characters and won Best Costumes in a vote on Facebook. Submitted photo

McKenzie Elementary School Enjoys Read Across America Week

McKenzie Elementary celebrated Read Across America week March 2-6 with themed dress-up days and visits from middle school students and community volunteers. Leading into the week, community volunteers helped teachers decorate the school’s hallways with streamers and banners representing Dr. Seuss’ most popular characters, books and quotes. Monday was Cat in the Hat Day, and students were encouraged to wear their favorite hats. Tuesday was Shirt Day. Students wore Dr. Seuss-themed shirts or shirts that read “Rebels Read.” Wednesday was Silly Sock Day, and Thursday was Tourist Tuesday. Friday, students and teachers alike showed out and dressed as their favorite



McKenzie Middle School student Calie Sevick reads to Rachel Hardy’s kindergarten class. Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner

book characters. Middle school students and community volunteers also joined in on the fun, visiting classrooms Friday afternoon to read to students. Also known as Dr. Seuss

Week, Read Across America is an initiative started by the National Education Association (NEA) in 1997 to encourage reading. Each year, the week is timed to coincide with Dr. Seuss’ birthday, which is March 2.



Left, WCES Character Day winners (L to R) Adelyn Damron, William McAlpin, James Parsons and Marcel Vigliano. Right, WCES Hat Day winners (L to R) Atticus Hanks, Layla Anthony, Garrett Hammett and Norah Reynolds. Photos courtesy WCSSD

West Carroll Elementary School Celebrates Read Across America Week

COURTESY WCSSD

West Carroll Elementary School recently celebrated Read Across America Week with a variety of fun and engaging activities designed to promote a love of reading among students. Throughout the week, students participated in themed dress-up days and school wide contests centered on literacy. The dress-up schedule included Dress as Your Favorite Character Monday, Hat Day Tuesday, Wacky Wednesday, Pajama

Day Thursday and Favorite USA Apparel Friday. Each day, grade-level winners were selected to recognize creativity and participation. In addition to the themed days, homeroom classes competed to see who could read the most books and earn the most Accelerated Reader points during the week. The top homeroom in each grade level received a special reward for their reading efforts. Students also took part in a bookmark design contest

and a creative activity decorating the iconic hat from The Cat in the Hat. A highlight of the week was the generosity of the WCES cafeteria staff, who donated books so that every student received one of their own to take home. Read Across America Week concluded with guest readers visiting classrooms to share stories with students, making the celebration a memorable and meaningful experience for all involved.

Carroll, Henry, Weakley Counties Included in Broadband Funding

NASHVILLE — Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee, Deputy Gov. and Department of Economic and Community Development (TNECD) Commissioner Stuart C. McWhorter announced today the approval of a historic broadband expansion through the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) Program. The state-administered broadband investment plan will bring more than \$200 million in BEAD funding to unserved and underserved communities across the state. It completes the infrastructure initiative of former President Joe Biden’s Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which added millions of dollars to extend high-speed fiber optic lines through rural areas - including Carroll, Henry, and Weakley counties. When Gov. Lee took office in 2019, more than 20% of Tennesseans had no access to high-speed internet. That percentage will become zero upon completion of the funded projects, further supporting this administration’s goal of ensuring every Tennessean has access to reliable, high-speed broadband by 2028. The \$202 million in state-administered federal funding awards 128 projects across 74 counties to deliver broadband service to more than 43,000 previously unserved and underserved locations. Additionally, grantees will provide \$200 million in matching funds, bringing the total investment in Tennessee broadband infrastructure for the BEAD Program to more than \$402 million. These projects align with the state’s broader strategy to expand high-speed internet and ensure long-term connectivity for all Tennesseans. “High-speed internet is essential for every Tennessean, which is why we’ve made strategic investments in broadband

infrastructure and digital opportunity programs to expand access to education and skills training,” said Gov. Lee. “From day one in office, I’ve been clear that opportunity should not be defined by zip code, and that includes making sure rural Tennessee is not left behind. I’m proud to announce that once completed, this historic funding will ensure all Tennessee businesses and residents have high-speed internet.” The BEAD Program is a federally funded initiative administered by TNECD in partnership with the U.S. Department of Commerce’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). The funding will support the deployment of high-speed broadband infrastructure in areas that currently lack access to service meeting minimum speed standards, with a focus on long-term sustainability and affordability. “The projects funded through today’s announcement will ensure that all Tennessee residents and businesses have access to broadband,” said Deputy Gov. McWhorter. “High-quality job training starts with access to high-speed internet, and I am proud of the work we’ve accomplished, thanks to the leadership and forethought of Gov. Lee, in investing a total of \$1 billion to expand broadband infrastructure and digital literacy since 2019.” This milestone brings the state’s total investment in broadband infrastructure and adoption programs to \$1 billion since the start of the Lee administration, expanding high-speed internet access to more than 613,000 Tennesseans. TNECD will continue working closely with local governments, internet service providers and community partners to implement BEAD-fund-

ed projects and support successful deployment statewide. Tennessee’s BEAD-funded projects have an anticipated completion date of December 2028. The state broadband accessibility map can be utilized as a resource to search locations, addresses, and the internet service provider that was awarded in the area. Below is a list of local, West Tennessee, recipients for the latest round of funding: A m a z o n L e o \$2,440,400 serving parts of Benton, Blount, Campbell, Cannon, Carroll, Claiborne, Clay, Cocke, Coffee, Crockett, Cumberland, Decatur, Dyer, Fayette, Franklin, Gibson, Giles, Grainger, Hamblen, Hamilton, Hancock, Hardeman, Hardin, Hawkins, Haywood, Henderson, Henry, Houston, Jefferson, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Lewis, Madison, Marion, Maury, McMinn, McNairy, Meigs, Monroe, Montgomery, Moore, Morgan, Obion, Polk, Rhea, Roane, Robertson, Rutherford, Shelby, Stewart, Sullivan, Sumner, Tipton, Trousdale, Unicoi, Wayne, Weakley, Williamson and Wilson counties Milan Public Utilities Authority \$2,680,054 serving parts of Gibson County West Kentucky Rural Telephone Cooperative Corporation, Inc. \$3,638,795 serving parts of Henry and Weakley counties More information about Tennessee’s broadband programs and the BEAD initiative is available here. Continue to follow TNECD on social media as the department rolls out its “Road to 100” campaign to highlight real stories from across the state about how broadband and digital literacy are transforming lives, supporting small businesses, strengthening education and powering rural communities forward.

Trezevant Public Meeting Regarding IDB is March 12

The Town of Trezevant’s informational public meeting regarding the restoration of the town’s seven-member Industrial Development Board (IDB) is Thursday, March 12, at 6 p.m. at the Trezevant Community Center. The property is currently zoned R1 (Residential). Any proposal to purchase this property must first go through the Planning Commission for proposed rezoning. The newly-formed IDB’s first action upon receiving the property from the city must be to seek rezoning from residential to B1 (Commercial). IDB members are elect-

was introduced in January after a citizen, speaking on behalf of Phil Colwell, proposed purchasing city land next to Pat’s Restaurant — a property officially owned by the IDB — to build a family-owned dismount store. The property is currently zoned R1 (Residential). Any proposal to purchase this property must first go through the Planning Commission for proposed rezoning. The newly-formed IDB’s first action upon receiving the property from the city must be to seek rezoning from residential to B1 (Commercial). IDB members are elect-

ed by the Trezevant Board of Mayor and Aldermen to serve without compensation for staggered two-, four- and six-year terms. Applicants must be qualified to vote in any Trezevant municipal election and willing to complete a conflict of interest statement. The IDB and its meetings are subject to the Tennessee Open Meetings Act, so any applicant elected must be willing to participate in public meetings in connection with his or her service. IDB candidates will be interviewed by the Trezevant Board of Mayor and Aldermen and will receive an orientation and training component to the election process. Interested parties are encouraged to attend the town’s March 12 meeting.

John Stevens’ Capitol Talk is March 13

HUNTINGDON — Senator John Stevens (R-Huntingdon) returns to Carroll County Friday, March 13, for a “Capitol Talk” at the Carroll County Civic Center. His talk follows an 8 a.m. ribbon-cutting ceremony for JM Well Service, also at the Civic Center. The public is invited to attend both events. Stevens represents Tennessee District 24, which encompasses Benton, Carroll, Gibson, Henry, Houston, Obion, Stewart and Weakley counties. He was elected to the Tennessee Senate in 2012, assuming his role in January 2013, and has served during the 108th through 114th General Assemblies. Stevens is outspoken on the following issues: keeping taxes low while promoting statewide economic success, finding solutions to providing

high-quality medical care and protecting rural hospitals, protecting the Second Amendment, bringing sustainable jobs to West Tennessee, supporting quality education and opportunities to promote academics and skilled labor, and protecting and defending family values. In Nashville, Stevens is co-chair of the Joint Ways and Means Committee; vice-chair of the Finance, Ways and Means Committee; vice-chair of Senate Ethics Committee; member of the Commerce and Labor Committee; member of the Council on Pensions; and member of the Judiciary Committee. On the local level, Stevens is a member of the Tennessee Bar Association and the Carroll County Bar Association. He volunteers with United Way of West Tennessee, is an Up-

ward basketball coach and serves as a Sunday School teacher at First Baptist Church in Huntingdon. Stevens holds a Bachelor of Science in political science from the University of Tennessee at Martin and a Juris Doctor from the University of Memphis. Stevens’ visit is the last of three in this year’s Capitol Talk series, hosted by the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce. Representative Brock Martin spoke in January, and Representative Tandy Darby spoke in February. Before Stevens’ talk, the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce will hold a ribbon-cutting for JM Well Services. Located at 22150 East Main Street, Huntingdon, JM Well Services specializes in pump and new tank installations and repairs.

State

...From Front Page

The Fillies defense took control against Summer-town in the sectional with the winner advancing to the state tournament.

The Fillies fell behind early at 8-3 as El-Lee Lu Mason made a pair of three-pointers but the Fil-lies turned up the heat and took the lead back at 11-8 and led 18-10 after one quarter. Wylie Kee, who led all scorers in the game with 31 points, scored ten in the first quarter, and eight of those points came from the foul line.

The Fillies scored 18 more in the second quar-ter and held the Lady Eagles to 10 to lead 36-20 at the half. The Fillies led after three quarters, 48-33, and in the final frame, outscored the Lady Eagles 17-12 to win easily and a trip to the Glass House.

The Fillies forced 11 turnovers and record-ed nine steals with their defense and were 16-24 from the foul line. Kee led the Fillies with 31, hauled down nine rebounds and recorded seven blocks in



Earning Region All-Tournament honors for Huntingdon were (L to R): Ellie Wilson, Wylie Kee (MVP), and Knox Bennett. *Photo by Russell Bush/The Banner*

the game. Knox Bennett reached double figures with 11, Krystin Moore 9, Ellie Wilson 8, Grier Bartholomew 3 and Emalynn Maness 3.

Summertown was led by Mason with 14, Ella Busby 11, Bonner 7, T. Long 5, G. Long 5 and H. Busby 3.

The Fillies earned the region title game with their win over Cheatham Coun-ty earlier in the week and were led in scoring by Wil-son with 15, Kee 14, Ben-nett 11, Moore 9, Millie Lu-ther 4, Grier Bartholomew 2 and Tatum Rich 2.

The Fillies had a tight game with Stewart County on Wednesday in the re-gion title game and trailed

by one midway through the final quarter but ral-lied down the stretch and pulled out a 54-47 win set-ting up the date with Sum-mertown in the sectional.

Kee led the Fillies with 25, Bennett 17, Wilson 5, Moore 3, Bartholomew 3 and Maness 1. Stewart County was led by Faith Dacus with 15 and five made three-pointers.

The Fillies will face Smith County, who they lost to in November in the second game of the season in Carthage, 61-56.

If the Fillies win, they face the winner of Gib-son County and Gatlin-burg-Pittman on Friday.

Waiver

...From Front Page

days, and the March 19 schedule change returned one additional day, bring-ing the district's total avail-able stockpile days to 13.

The school board viewed the proposed 2027-28 school calendar.

The proposed 2027-28 school year begins with a half day on Tuesday, Aug. 5. Fall break is scheduled for Oct. 11-15. Christmas break is Dec. 20-Jan. 3 for students. Spring break is set for March 27-31, and the school year concludes with a half day on May 18, 2028. The Class of 2028 graduates May 14.

The most significant change to the 2027-28 cal-endar involves the han-dling of inclement weather days. Previous calendars stated that make-up days would be used after six inclement weather days. The new calendar instead notes that stockpiled in-clement weather days may be used at the board's dis-cretion each year.

The board approved the 2027-28 school calendar and the line change involv-ing stockpile days.

The board also approved the following club-re-

lated trips for McKenzie High School students: nine DECA members will attend the DECA Inter-national Career Develop-ment Conference in Atlan-ta, Ga., April 24-29; 12 Beta Club students will attend the National Beta Region-al Leadership Summit in Gatlinburg from March 11-13; 10 FBLA students will attend the FBLA State Leadership Conference in Chattanooga from April 6-9; and eight FFA students will attend the FFA State Convention in Gatlinburg from March 21-25.

Dr. Barden will attend the Tennessee Organiza-tion of School Superinten-dents (TOSS) Legislative Conference in Nashville March 4-5, where he will hear from legislators and network with other direc-tors from across the state. At this conference, he also plans to speak with state legislators about Carroll County's sales tax dol-lars and how they will be used with the inclusion of South Carroll's two virtual schools.

MSSD faces a potential loss of \$126,000 in local sales tax revenue due to South Carroll Special School District's virtual school programs.

Because the virtual academy serves students statewide, South Carroll's

total enrollment count increases. Local sales tax revenue in Carroll Coun-ty is distributed to school districts based on aver-age daily enrollment. As enrollment rises in South Carroll's virtual program, a larger share of county sales tax dollars shifts to that district.

Dr. Barden is in talks with Dr. Jonathan Kee from the Huntingdon Special School District, which is slated to lose \$125,000 due to the same issue. The two superintendents are work-ing with local legislators to find a solution, but Dr. Barden said they are "not making a lot of headway."

The McKenzie Special School District Board of Education's next meeting is Tuesday, April 7, at 5 p.m. in the McKenzie High School library.

Commissioner of Ed-ucation Grants MSSD's Waiver Request Follow-ing 10 Missed Instruction Days/Snow Days, freeing up school's stockpile days. Students will now attend school Thursday, March 19, to negate the December 5 stockpile day usage. The day was initially reserved for parent-teacher confer-ence at the elementary and middle schools. Students will now receive their report cards on Friday, March 20.

ing the track a complete loop around the park. The existing playground also has a proposed expansion.

The City of McKenzie posted about the upcom-ing public meeting on Facebook, requesting that residents comment their input or attend the in-per-son meeting on March 16.

Most residents respond-ed with support, excited about the future of Mul-berry Park and its sur-rounding neighborhoods. Some commenters left requests for the city, like adding fencing around the new soccer field and mak-

ing the playground bet-ter designed for younger children and children with special needs.

Construction of the Mul-berry Park soccer complex began in June 2025, with the Tennessee National Guard performing the ini-tial dirtwork for the project. The project's master plan, approved by members of the McKenzie City Coun-cil, calls for eight soccer fields, one of which will be regulation in size to ac-commodate school tourna-ments. The other fields will be age-appropriate, one or two for each age group.

fice they are seeking. Mr. Barnhart was provided a copy of the first page of his petition, along with a letter indicating his peti-tion was approved for him to continue in the process. Another copy of Mr. Barn-hart's petition letter was provided to Mr. Barnhart for his attorney.

The May 5, 2022, voter registration application completed by Mr. Barnhart states that he has not been convicted of a felony. Mr. Barnhart's statement on the official election docu-ment did not give the Car-roll County Election Com-mission notice to advise Mr. Barnhart of the need for a court order restor-ing his citizenship rights

to run for a public office. Although Mr. Barnhart's voting rights were restored through an administrative process, this restoration only applies to voting. To seek a public office, he must have his citizenship rights restored by a court. A copy of his voter reg-istration application was provided to Mr. Barnhart for his attorney.

Mr. Barnhart did not have a court order restor-ing his citizenship rights by the qualifying deadline for the May 5, 2026 prima-ry. Because he didn't have the court order in place, the election commission is not allowed to put his name on the primary elec-tion ballot.

Bethel to Host First, Second Rounds of NAIA Women's Basketball National Championship

MCKENZIE (March 5) — For the second year in a row, Crisp Arena, the home of Bethel University's Lady Wildcats, serves as one of the 16 venues across the country to host first- and second-round action in the NAIA Women's Basketball National Championship.

The 64-team tournament begins Friday and Saturday, March 13-14.

Each First and Second Round site will feature four teams in the first two rounds of a single-elimination tour-nament. The winner of each four-team site will advance to Sioux City, Iowa, and the Tyson Events Center, for the NAIA Women's Basketball National Championship Fi-nal Site March 19-24.

The Bethel Lady Wildcats are the No. 1 seed in the Duer Quadrant and host the No. 16 seeded Talladega (Ala.). The Cats will play Talladega at 5:30 p.m. Friday March 13 in Crisp Arena. No. 9 Seed Huntingdon (Ind) will meet # 8 seed Oregon Tech at 7:30 p.m. Friday night. The two

winners will play Saturday March 14 at 4 p.m.

Tickets must be purchased through the online ticketing platform which will be pro-vided on the Bethel athletic website.

Based on NAIA regula-tions and recent champion-ship, 2025-2026 postseason policy, there are no compli-mentary pass lists for NAIA National Championship First and Second Round games. Standard season passes, stu-dent IDs and faculty IDs are invalid for these dates.

Any request for media cre-dentials must be approved by the Bethel Sports Infor-mation Office 48 hours prior to the event at mcculleyd@bethelu.edu.

All 48 games in the 2026 First & Second Round will air live on Urban Edge Net-work. For links to mobile and smart TV apps, visit NAIA.org/Watch.

The Lady Wildcats won both games last year, prop-elling them on to establish program history as they lat-er reached the Fab Four in

Sioux City, Iowa.

Last year marked Beth-el's first appearance in the national championships since the 2021-22 season. The Cats made it two years in a row after going 25-5 this season. Bethel was ranked No. 3 in the nation in the last NAIA Women's Basketball Top 25 poll.

A special invitation is ex-tended to Bethel and area fans by Bethel Vice President of Athletics Derek Horne. "We are so proud and hon-ored to serve again as a host of the NAIA First and Sec-ond Rounds. This aids our university, the City of McK-enzie, Carroll County and the surrounding area in so many ways."

Horne added, "We would love businesses, and indi-viduals to join our team as sponsorships are available at all levels to make these days memorable for all, especially our great Lady Wildcats."

To join the Lady Wildcats in their quest for a nation-al title, call Derek Horne at 731-352-6432.

Rescue

...From Front Page

Loan Station at Lake Hal-ford. The grant award was announced during the 3rd Annual 100 Women Who Care: West Tennessee Awards Luncheon at First United Methodist Church in Jackson on March 5.

The Carroll County Res-cue Squad's Lifejacket Loan Station will reportedly pro-

vide all sizes of life jackets — even some for pets — in an effort to reduce prevent-able drownings.

Out of 31 total grant ap-plicants, the Carroll Coun-ty Rescue Squad was one of six chosen to present at Thursday's luncheon.

Women from across the region gathered Thursday to hear each nonprofit's grant proposal before vot-ing and ultimately choosing two grant recipients. The grants are funded entirely through Community Foun-

dation of West Tennessee member contributions.

The Carroll Coun-ty Rescue Squad won the small nonprofit grant, and Hannah's Hope won the large nonprofit grant. Hannah's Hope, based in Bartlett, received \$10,000 to provide parenting sup-plies, including a diaper bag stocked with diapers, wipes, a baby toiletry kit, outlet cov-ers, a Safe Sleep Kit, an infant car seat and safe feeding and breastfeeding supplies.

TISA

...From Front Page

Director of Schools Report

Director of Schools Pres-ton Caldwell announced that he had just returned from the Tennessee Organization of School Superintendents Conference in Nashville, where they discussed TISA funding, the main source of funding for public schools. Caldwell expressed concern regarding the opening of a new virtual school, Clarks-burg Virtual Academy of South Carroll Special School District in Clarksburg.

South Carroll is a state-wide virtual schooling op-tion that could result in West Carroll School District possibly losing upward of \$67,000. This is because enrollment of students in Clarksburg Virtual Academy counts as enrollment when sales tax dollars are divided among all Carroll County districts. South Carroll will receive a larger share on top of TISA funds due to the virtual enrollment.

"I'm fighting hard against this so that students not living in Carroll County will not take funding away from students who do live here," Caldwell said.

Youth Basketball Program

Jr./Sr. High Principal Adam Douglas, along with new Athletic Director Nick Cobb, presented a pilot pro-gram for youth basketball to the board for approval. The premise of the pro-gram is to redevelop youth through basketball. It will encompass first- through eighth-graders. Douglas and Cobb hope the pro-gram will teach responsibil-ity, sportsmanship and love of the game. Students will play year-round, and games will take place on Satur-days. A grant was awarded to help with costs, and there will be no cost to students and their families unless families want to purchase special shoes, etc. Doug-las expressed that running the program through the school will increase safe-ty by allowing the use of school buses for travel. The program will cost anywhere from \$10,000 to \$12,000 to run for two years.

The question was posed about who the coaches would be. Douglas an-

swered that it could be in-dividuals already employed by West Carroll School Dis-trict, or the district could hire someone outside of West Carroll employees. Caldwell added, "I want Dr. Douglas to be able to interview the best possible coaches for the job."

Chairman William Robin-son advocated for the pro-gram. "Football and basket-ball bring people in. This pilot program could help other sports as well, and we can continue to rebuild," Robinson said.

Board member Betty Wallace expressed concern regarding Douglas currently being the principal as well as the athletic director. "Our main purpose is academics, and we don't want to forget that."

Douglas responded by agreeing with Wallace and expressed that he would be stepping down as athletic director so he could focus all of his attention on ac-ademics, and Cobb would be named the new athletic director. After much discus-sion, the board approved the start of the program.

Field Trips and New Equipment

Several field trips were pre-sented for approval at Thurs-day's meeting. A field trip for Future Business Leaders of America to Chattanooga on first reading was approved, where seven students will be competing. A band field trip to Chesterfield, Missou-ri, on second reading was approved. Future Farmers of America's field trip to Gat-linburg on first reading was approved. Noah Rogers ex-pressed that the trip would be special because they have a student who has qualified to compete at the state level. A field trip for Family, Career and Community Leaders of America to Chattanooga on first reading was approved by the board.

New equipment for the nursing program in the form of mannequins was present-ed to the board. The bid for the mannequins came in at \$43,507. "These manne-quins are state of the art and can generate actual pa-tient responses that would put our nursing program at the next level," said Kristen Lindsey, head of the WCJSH nursing program. The board approved the purchase.

West Carroll's business program requested to pur-

chase an embroidery ma-chine. The bid came in at \$21,561.74, and it was ap-proved by a unanimous vote.

Other Business

A policy regarding who is responsible for student safety and behavior at away games was brought up for discussion. This refers to all students, not just the athletes participating. The board dis-cussed changing the termi-nology in the policy.

Policy No. 4.301 reads: "The principal/designee shall accompany an athletic team on trips." Board mem-bers expressed concern that this responsibility often falls on the coach of the athletic team. He or she is typically selected as the "designee," and being responsible for coaching as well as keeping an eye on all students is almost impossible.

"The designee does not need to be the coach. They have enough responsibility," Robinson said.

Board member Wallace asked about having the school's SRO at all away games. Director Caldwell responded: "The SROs are employed by the sheriff's department. I've discussed this with them several times and requested that SROs be at every away game, but I can't push them to send an SRO to every away game. I'll keep working with them to see what we can come up with," Caldwell said.

The board debated whether the "designee" had to be a school employ-ee. Caldwell suggested it should be someone em-ployed with West Carroll because of the background checks already run on em-ployees as well as payroll purposes.

The board decided to keep the wording in the policy as it is, under the premise that there was an understanding that the "designee" would no longer be the coach of the athletic team competing at those away games.

The board also approved the WCES Dollar General Literacy Foundation Grant valued at \$3,000. The grant will help advance the Sum-mer Reading Program by expanding library programs as well as the reading ma-terial available. The goal of the program is to expand students' reading compre-hension, which will in turn raise TCAP scores.

Election

...From Front Page

have the necessary num-ber of registered voter sig-natures and whether they have met the deadline for filing a nominating peti-tion. They are informed that filing a petition is part of the process.

In preparation for ap-proving ballots for the May 5, 2026, primary elections, the Tennessee Division of Elections vetted the candidates for durational residency requirements and for felony convictions. When signing a nominat-ing petition, candidates attest that they meet the qualifications for the of-



EV Trucks Not The Answer For McKenzie

On February 24th, 2026, The Banner published an article on page 2 titled “McKenzie to Purchase EV Dump Trucks, Chargers.” In that article, Mayor Ryan Griffin announced at a city council meeting that the city had received a \$543,255 grant to purchase electric vehicles (EVs), but the city would need to fund an additional \$181,000.

I urge my fellow citizens, our Mayor, and City Council members to reconsider whether pursuing this grant is even realistic for our city. After reading the article, I took some time to learn more about the subject. As a business consultant with 80% of my clients in the trades industries, I spent about an hour researching this topic and then visited a Ford dealership. In my opinion, investing in EVs would be a waste of taxpayer dollars at both the McKenzie and federal levels.

Currently, the only EV trucks available are the GM Silverado EV, Ford F-150 Lightning, and Dodge Ram 1500 REV, which are all half-ton pickup trucks. I visited a Ford dealership to ask some questions regarding the feasibility of these trucks for our city's

needs:

1. Can you install a dump body on a Ford F-150 Lightning? The answer is no; no one manufactures a dump body for electric pickups. The batteries are positioned between the truck's frame, leaving no space for the hydraulics needed to operate a dump body. Additionally, the added weight of a dump body would significantly reduce both the truck's operating time and its hauling capacity. How can it be claimed that this will replace the Public Works Department's existing dump truck?

2. Is there a plow mount available for an EV truck? McKenzie has a truck equipped with a snowplow. The dealership staff was not aware of any such option.

3. What is the current production status for EV trucks? I learned that Ford has suspended production of their EV trucks until further notice.

4. How long does the full charge last? The estimated range is 240 miles in a 70-degree temperature. However, if temperatures exceed or fall below this range, mileage decreases. Quick charging reduces the range to only 80% (192 miles) and takes about 32 minutes. When parked at a job site using flashing lights, air conditioning, or heat, the operating time and range would further drop, increasing the need for charging. Keep in mind, these estimates assume a fully charged battery and an empty truck.

5. How long does it take

to charge an EV truck fully? Charging from 15% to 100% takes approximately 10 to 12 hours. The proposal includes only two charging stations for four trucks—how will the other two trucks be charged?

Another concern is what happens when our electric grid fails or is compromised during emergencies, such as the recent ice and snowstorms or a potential tornado. In such scenarios, our community's safety could be at risk.

Additionally, city employees have recently shifted to a 10-hour work week. Will these trucks' limited operating time allow the water and parks departments to remain productive during a full workday? Has a time study been conducted to determine if these trucks meet our city's operational needs? If such a study exists, I encourage Mayor Griffin to share those findings with the public and the City Council before presenting the \$181,000 funding proposal for a vote.

I also suggest holding a public hearing focused on this proposal. I encourage all citizens, City Council members, and department heads to research this grant proposal thoroughly and form their own conclusions regarding the \$181,000 investment, which I believe would not be prudent for the City of McKenzie. I'm confident we can find better uses for that \$181,000!

Sincerely,
Armand Hebert
McKenzie, TN 28201

HUNKER DOWN WITH KES

Influences Can Come in Small Packages

I don't know for sure if Lou Owens wrote for the McKenzie Banner or the Carroll County Democrat. Or both! I don't think she wrote for The Star or The Apalachicola Times. Although I would not completely rule that out. She had one of her articles framed and hanging behind the cluttered desk in her office.

It was from the Commercial Appeal in Memphis.

I can tell you this, Miss Owens was a newspaper person. Through and through. And here is the humorous part; she thought that I ought to be one also!

She was not as tall as a minute. She wore a mite more makeup than anyone that I had ever seen. Mostly rouge and lipstick. Her hair was pinned up around her head. She wore a lot of black. I couldn't hardly guess her age. But I almost asked her once if she was a news correspondent during the Civil War.

She rented an apartment in a great big house near the railroad tracks on West Paris Avenue in Huntingdon. Mom drove us over there several times. I have no idea to this day why.

She and Mom were friends. But for the life of me I could not see or understand any connection. Miss Owens was all about the news business. Mother was about as plain and down to earth as they come. Certainly, she was not the type newspaper people sought out for a story.

Miss Owens apparently grew up with two guys named Joseph Pulitzer and William Randolph Hearst. I think she might have dated one of them for a while.

She showed me the numerous plaques and awards she had gathered through-

out her journalistic career. There was a pile of them. But she was not bragging at all. It was more like she was reporting on them to perk my interest. She used words like “rewarding” and “fulfilling” when she talked about me “getting into the business.”

I didn't take her too seriously. Mostly because it was 1957. I was ten years old and had already passed the fourth grade. That is tantamount to this story because I had written a report on George Washington in school. It was the worst thing you could ever image.

And mind boggling for me! I finally copied some stuff directly out of the encyclopedia. Leon told me to misspell a couple of words so Miss Belle wouldn't know I got a little help on the assignment. Writing was not my thing. A man has got to know his limitations...I don't care how early that comes in life.

Lou Owens was a hard person to discourage. She thought I had a gift. Now, mind you, she had never read a word of my George Washington Story. I think she was mostly wishing. But she didn't give up.

We were up town on the square, talking one day. And she liked to have gotten me killed! She was bending my ear about the joys of the written word when she decided to walk across the street. Folks, we didn't go down to the corner. She didn't wait for the traffic light to change. She didn't look both ways before crossing. She raised her hand, like it was some kind of “I'm crossing now” beacon, and we took off.

You probably won't remember those 1955 Buick Roadmaster Sedans. They weighed six tons! And didn't

stop on a dime. I thought we were run-over for sure. The alert driver hit the brakes and swerved behind us narrowly missing a good chance of keeping either of us out of the writing business forever!

Miss Lou never batted an eye. I reckon if you were a war correspondent during two world wars, you were not too worried about a Buick Roadmaster.

She didn't drive or own a car. But the next summer she had someone pick us up and we all rode down to Jackson, Tennessee, to a program spotlighting underprivileged children. I assumed she was doing a story on the charity event. I was too young to be there. And she was probably too old. What a pair we made!

Brooklyn Dodgers' pitcher, Carl Erskine, was the guest speaker. The evening immediately turned in my favor. What an unforgettable night that I have cherished forever. I do not know if Miss Owens was trying to whet my writing appetite, or simply get me face to face with a major league baseball star.

Lou Owens passed away while I was away at college.

No one, before or since, has cared whether I wrote down one little jot or tittle. You know I don't count myself as a writer today. Never have. I might tell a story from week to week if a good one crosses my mind. But that's telling, not writing.

I do, however, genuinely appreciate Miss Owens, once upon a time, turning aside to touch my life. I pray you don't think this prideful of me, but sometimes I wish she could have read just one of my little stories....

Respectfully,
Kes
kesley45@aol.com

THE HIDDEN HEARTBREAK OF CUBA:

My Plea for a Nation Under Duress

BY JOEL WASHBURN

washburn@mckenziebanner.com

HAVANA — For those of us who have borne witness to the slow, steady decline of Cuba, the current reality is a profound, heart-wrenching tragedy. The narrative we often receive—of classic cars and world-famous cigars—is a romantic but dangerous distraction from the severe humanitarian and economic crisis crippling the island. This is a crisis fueled by a potent mix of government inaction and intensified U.S. sanctions, an oil blockade in particular, that has choked the life out of a resilient people.

I have traveled to this island nation, just 90 miles from Key West, five times over the past nine years. My first trip was in 2016, amidst the hopeful diplomatic thaw of the Obama administration. Donald Trump reimposed some restrictions, and Joe Biden continued Trump's policy. Today, that hope feels like a distant memory. What I now see is drastic fuel scarcity, crippling blackouts, and acute shortages of food and medicine—a deepening crisis that has cut work and school weeks short, halted industry, and is driving a mass exodus of desperate Cubans.

Cuba is accurately known

for its iconic American cars, but it is the Cuban people who have truly captured my heart with their kindness and compassion. It is their plight that truly breaks it. They endure poverty, crumbling infrastructure, and a Communist government that represses them. Yet, through five trips, I remain fascinated by their creativity and resourcefulness. Their warmth and profound love for family are virtues many Americans, more focused on ‘living’ than on community, could learn from.

The blame, however, is multifaceted. The more than 60-year U.S. trade embargo has clearly restricted the island's ability to prosper. But it is easy for the Cubans to blame the Americans, even though Cuba had the opportunity to trade elsewhere.

They remember the ‘Special Period,’ when Soviet support vanished, forcing them to “go it alone.” Now, as the U.S. squeezes what remains of its economic life by controlling the flow of fuel from Venezuela, the situation is becoming untenable. There are electrical blackouts, food and medicine shortages, and many things must be purchased through the ‘black market.’ With each visit, I've noted a decline: fewer street performers, more historic

buildings collapsing, and more people saying goodbye, seeking a better life off the island.

The internet, once a repressed novelty, is now a window to the world for those who can afford it. I communicate with my Cuban friends online—like the medical surgeon who earns more from her side hustle as a manicurist—and I see their struggles and small joys. When one friend posts, “Where have my friends gone?” she is lamenting the exodus, the obvious, heart-breaking flight from a nation that can no longer sustain its own.

My last trip in January 2025 was shadowed by the unsettling thought that I might not see my Cuban friends again due to a shifting political environment. I worry deeply for the people of Cuba, especially the ones I know in Havana and Vinales, the beautiful agricultural land that produces their world-famous cigars.

The repressed people of Cuba deserve better than the Communist government provides, but they also deserve a compassionate, humane approach.

We must recognize that the hidden heartbreak of Cuba lies not in the past, but in the present, where an enduring, kind people are being crushed by a crisis that the world cannot afford to ignore.

Eternal Sunshine of the Sleep-Deprived Mind



Of all the wild beliefs and rituals that have ever existed, Daylight Saving Time has got to be one of the most devastating the day after the time change happens in Spring.

Fall is a delightful surprise, like “here's an extra hour on the lam before you have to return to society as a functioning adult. Why don't you sip your coffee, sit back down in your favorite chair and doom scroll for 45 more minutes?”

The Spring Forward time change finds me standing in front of the coffee maker like a Mombie (mom + zombie), rocking and waiting for the life-giving elixir to finish brewing in hopes that it makes the world outside tolerable today.

Everyone in our house woke up late Monday morning and proceeded to run around in various states of dress looking for the other shoe and jackets, among other things. A good rule to use for finding lost items, if they are meant to be hung

up, check the floor; if they are meant to be together, check opposite ends of the room.

Our kids cast off their socks every evening like they are liberating them from the ruinous fate of the laundry hamper.

Every day could easily be wacky sock day if the kids just applied themselves more (because we'd never find the mates). Maybe they could try utilizing all the rooms in the house for the sock scavenger hunt?

Between them and the washing machine, it's a full-blown attempt to overthrow the sock-mating regime.

Oh-so-many war references in this editorial, and yet, all I have done is waste your time.

It is definitely a memorable time to be alive.

My mind is on the safety of all people in harm's way while spring cleaning and trying to navigate another week of small business ownership. We reorganized the entire kitchen on Sunday – just for funsies.

Our troubles are small compared to the existential threat that millions are facing right now.

In a different time, we would have gathered to pray for the safety of all people

and a quick resolution to the conflict, but that doesn't appear to be the sentiment as of late.

Heartache comes around so often these days it is starting to look like an old friend.

I think after seven years of constant bombardment by one crisis after the other, we the people are mentally and emotionally exhausted.

It is ok to need rest. It makes sense that you are tired. Your exhaustion was by design and deliberate. Unfortunately, so many things still demand our attention.

My hope is that you get an opportunity to catch your breath, steady yourself and muster the courage to face the demands of life today; and also that the beauty of this world is not lost on you this month.

It may be raining a lot lately, but these things are true: after every storm there is a rainbow, and after every struggle, knowledge is gained.

Hug your children. Tell someone you love them.

Make love as ubiquitous as the glitter currently infused in the carpet fibers in our home... because that stuff lasts forever.



Dunning-Kruger Effect Takes Center Stage On Social Media

The Dunning-Kruger effect is a cognitive bias in which people wrongly overestimate their knowledge or ability in a specific area. This tends to occur because a lack of self-awareness prevents them from accurately assessing their own skills.

According to Psychology Today, many people would describe themselves as above average in intelligence, humor, and a variety of skills. They can't accurately judge their own

competence because they lack metacognition, or the ability to step back and examine themselves objectively. In fact, those who are the least skilled are also the most likely to overestimate their abilities.

The term was inspired by a 1995 bank robber who smeared lemon juice on his face, thinking it made him invisible. The researchers investigated why incompetent people often fail to recognize their own incom-

petence. The 1995 case of McArthur Wheeler, who believed that because lemon juice is used as invisible ink, it would make his face invisible to surveillance cameras.

Psychologists David Dunning and Justin Kruger popularized the term in 1999 when studying the failed bank robbery.

Social media has exposed many who suffer from the Dunning-Kruger effect, as they certainly 'get ahead of their skis' when speaking on matters in which they are not well-versed. Of course, some posts on social media are just to rile other online readers. Then, there are those who simply 'don't know what they don't know.'



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OUR STAFF

BRITTANY WASHBURN MARTIN
Publisher • Graphic Designer • Editor
brittany@mckenziebanner.com
JASON R. MARTIN
Editor • News & Sports • TCP Print Shop
jmartin@mckenziebanner.com

ADVERTISING Call 731.352.3323 • Cell 731.393.3548 • E-mail sales@mckenziebanner.com

JOEL WASHBURN
Publisher Emeritus • Editor • News & Sports
washburn@mckenziebanner.com

TERESA WASHBURN
Office Manager • Accounting
teresa@mckenziebanner.com

JANNA PRATT
Graphic Designer • Circulation
design@mckenziebanner.com

BILLY FUZZELL
Distribution • TCP Print Shop
printing@tricopub.com

BRAD SAM
News & Sports
brad@mckenziebanner.com

LYNDESE SUMMERS
Graphic Designer • News
lyndsey@mckenziebanner.com

SUBMIT NEWS E-mail banner@mckenziebanner.com

Honorary (Former) Staff **LINDA BOLTON** Associate Editor Emerita **RAMONA WASHBURN** Publisher, 1985-2015

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Obituaries



JEANETTE BUSH JONES
1942 – 2026

MCKENZIE — Funeral services for Jeanette Bush Jones were Monday, March 9, 2026, at Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home. Interment was at Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

Mrs. Jones, 84, was born on March 9, 1942, in Paris, Tenn., to Virgil “Flossie” and Myrtle Toombs Bush. She was a devoted member of Grace Baptist Church and a proud graduate of Bethel College.

A dedicated educator, she began her teaching career in Cedar Grove and concluded a distinguished 33-year tenure with the McKenzie Special School District. She was honored by former students with recognition in Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers. Mrs. Jones and her husband established Jones Family Investments, a rental business they built alongside their sons and their families. Together, they later developed and operated the Carroll County Auction in McKenzie.

She is survived by her husband of 64 years, Terry W. Jones; two sons, Mike Jones (Renea Streb) of Martin, Kevin Jones (Melissa) of McKenzie, a brother, Virgil “Billy” Bush (Nancy) of McKenzie; four grandchildren, Nathan Jones, Ava Jones, Mathew Jones, and Logan Harvey; and three great-grandchildren, Beckett Jones, Margo Jones and Briley Harvey.

She is preceded in death by her parents and brother, James Toombs.+

MARILYN ANN PRUETT
1937 – 2026

HUNTINGDON — Mrs. Marilyn Ann Pruett, 88, of Huntingdon, died Wednesday, March 4, 2026, at her home.

Funeral services were Friday, March 6, 2026, in the Chapel of Dilday-Carter Funeral Home. Interment was at Carroll Memorial Gardens.

Marilyn was born on November 27, 1937, to the late Adrian Odell Little and Ethel Kee Little Holland. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband, Howard Thomas Pruett; one sister, Adren Odene Douglas; and one son-in-law, Webster Maddox. She was a proud and longtime member of Huntingdon Church of Christ.

She is survived by two daughters, Jennifer (Walter) Butler of Huntingdon, and Julia Maddox of Huntingdon; one son, Michael (Stephanie) Pruett of Huntingdon; eight grandchildren, Rachel (Lyle) Maddox Holmes, Murray (Erin) Butler, Andrew (Meagan) Maddox, Joseph (Megan) Butler, Thomas (Morgan) Butler, Hailey (Zack) Pruett Terry, Collin (Cara) Pruett and Kenneth (Claire) Pruett; and eighteen great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers and gifts, the family asks that donations be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, located at 501 St. Jude Pl, Memphis, Tennessee 38105-9959, and to Jacob Warbritton Donations at Carroll Bank and Trust.

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

DENNIS O’NEAL TAYLOR
1946 – 2026

MCKENZIE — Graveside funeral services for Dennis O’Neal Taylor are Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at 2 p.m. at Shiloh Cemetery, McKenzie.

Mr. Taylor, 80, died at his residence on Friday, March 6, 2026. He was born in McKenzie on January 29, 1946, to the late Aaron Thomas and Mary Maxine Nelson Taylor.

He worked for the Henry Co. Sheriff’s Department and retired from the McKenzie

Police Department. He also worked as a guard on the Alaska Pipeline for five years.

He is survived by his wife, Lillie Diane Walker Taylor of McKenzie; his children, Buford (Krista) Taylor and Lori (Ben) Gearin, both of McKenzie; and three grandchildren, Chase Clayton, Lilli Taylor and Laila McDade.



NORMA JEAN PADGETT
1946 – 2026

Funeral services for Norma Jean Padgett are Friday, March 13, 2026, at 1 p.m. at Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home. The family will receive friends on Friday, March 13, 2026, from 11 a.m. until service time. Interment will follow at Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

Mrs. Padgett, 79, passed away on Sunday, March 8, 2026, at Charter Senior Living of Paris. She was born in Belle Glade, Florida, on November 9, 1946, to Abe Burns and Mary Francis Smith. She was a devoted homemaker.

She is survived by her husband, James David Padgett; her daughter, Mary Bess Toombs (Lynn) of McKenzie; her stepdaughter, Shannon Pavesic (Pete) of Port Charlotte, Fla.; her son, Chris Lutz of Huntingdon; her stepson, David Padgett of Nashville; two brothers, Bob Richardson (Janet) of West Palm, Fla., and Brad Burns of Huntingdon; four grandchildren, Madison Driggers, Luke Toombs, Lydia Lutz, and Kyle Lutz; two step-grandchildren, Mia Hansen (Taylor) and Gavin Pavesic; and three great-grandchildren, Krews Lutz, Brooks Lutz, and Luke Hansen.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her brother, Jim Burns.+

JERRIE AKIN
1939 – 2026

MCKENZIE — Funeral services for Jerrie Akin, 86, were Sunday, March 8, 2026, at Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home at 2 p.m. The family received friends on Sunday from 11 a.m. until the service time. Interment followed at Carroll Memorial Gardens.

Jerrie Akin, born on December 13, 1939, to Moody Quay Faust and Verla Mae Blackard Faust in Etta, Miss., lived a life filled with love, resilience, and devotion to her family and friends. Given the name Geraldine at birth, she was affectionately known as Jerrie. The family moved to Memphis, where Jerrie attended Memphis Tech High School, before relocating to McKenzie with her family in 1958.

In 1960, Jerrie married Larry Joe Foster and raised two daughters, Rita Jo and Dixie Lynn. After Larry’s death in 1987, she found love again and married Douglas Akin, who remained by her side.

She worked at Wilker Brothers and Brown Shoe Company in McKenzie, where she forged many lifelong friendships. She seized the opportunity to pursue her dream of becoming a beautician. After completing cosmetology school, she opened her own shop in her home in 1990, where she built a loyal clientele who became cherished friends even after her retirement.

Faith was a cornerstone of Jerrie’s life. She was a dedicated member of Concord Baptist Church before moving her membership to First Baptist Church in McKenzie in 1976.

Jerrie is survived by her loving husband, Doug Akin; daughters, Rita Jo Cole and Dixie Lynn Yakes; son, Dana Akin (Saudia); grandchildren, Amber Suddath (Justin), Allan Akin (Vincent), Alec Akin (Colby), Brad Stafford, Chris Wall (Becky); and great-grandchildren, Kenlee Suddath, Cooper Suddath, Case Wall, Cord Wall, Grayson Akin, and Hadley Mae Akin. She also leaves

behind her sisters, Judy Smith of Gallatin, Tenn., and Brenda Sinquefield of Hernando, Miss.

Jerrie was preceded in death by her sisters, Lene Watson, Barbara Wood, and Rachel Derosett, as well as her sons-in-law, Danny Cole and Paul Yakes. She will be remembered for her warmth, unwavering spirit, and the many lives she touched throughout her journey. +

ROYCE RENFROE
1949 – 2026

Mr. Royce Renfroe, 76, of Huntingdon, died Monday, March 2, 2026, at Harmony Hill.

Funeral services were Saturday, March 7, 2026, at Mixie Baptist Church. Interment was in Mixie Cemetery.

Mr. Renfroe was born August 25, 1949, in Bath Springs, Tenn., to the late Garvin Ora and Virginia Lee Renfroe.

He is survived by siblings Andoria Holland of Huntingdon, Don Renfroe (Tina) of Hollow Rock, Loyce Renfroe (Kathy) of Jackson, and David Renfroe (Vickie).

RALPH DAVIS
1966 – 2026

HUNTINGDON — Mr. Ralph Davis, 59, of Huntingdon, died Monday, March 2, 2026, at Jackson Madison Co. General Hospital.

Mr. Davis was born July 17, 1966, in Lima, Ohio, to the late Bob and Kathy Smith Davis.

He is survived by a daughter, Megan Davis; two sons, Zack Davis (Larisa) and Matthew Davis (Kristin); his children’s mother, Ruby Davis; and six grandchildren.

Chase Funeral Home, Huntingdon.

JEFFREY DAVID FORREST
1987 – 2026

MCKENZIE — Funeral services for Jeffrey David Forrest are Wednesday, March 11, 2026, at 1 p.m. at Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home. The family will receive friends on Tuesday, March 10 from 5-8 p.m. and on Wednesday from 11 a.m. until service time. Interment will follow at Enon Cemetery.

Mr. Forrest, 38, died at Ascension Saint Thomas Hospital West, Nashville. He was born in McKenzie on June 26, 1987, to David Wray and Tammy Coleman Forrest.

He is a graduate of McKenzie High School Class of 2007, received an Industrial Maintenance Degree, and attended Overflow Church.

He is survived by his father; his children, Sophia and Nathan Forrest of Bruceton; a sister, Samantha Blankenship of McKenzie; a brother, John Forrest; a niece, Zoey Forrest; and two nephews, Bryson Poore and Coby Poore.

SANDRA WILSON
1943 – 2026

HAZEL, Ky. — Funeral services for Sandra Sue Wilson were March 7, 2026, at Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home. Interment followed at Everett’s Chapel Cemetery.

Ms. Wilson, 82, died on Thursday, March 5, 2026, at Jackson Purchase Medical Center, Mayfield, Ky. She was born in Texarkana, Ark., on June 30, 1943, to Kelly Adams and Helen Browning Richmond.

She is survived by her daughters Varleria (Chris) Hampton of McKenzie, Rene Wilson (Bobby Sorrell) of Paducah, Ky. and Dayna (Art) Tibaldi of Alamo, Ky.; a brother, Billy Adams of Illinois; a sister, Margaret Thomas of Arkansas; grandchildren Ashlee (Brad) Simer, Greg Wilson, Katelyn Sorrell, Kara Sorrell, Vanessa (Bradley) Thorne and Dawn Carr; and great-grandchildren Augst Thomas, Aislee, Thomas, Zooey West, Raymond West, Devyn West, Ethan Simer and Noah Simer.

She is preceded in death by her parents; a granddaughter, Natasha Turner; sisters, Julie Adams, Deborah Daniels and Elaine Graves; and brothers Larry Adams, Jerry Adams, Perry Richmond, Ronnie Isom, Sonny Adams, and Charles Ray Adams.

CALENDAR
OF EVENTS

HUNTINGDON TN
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
TO MEET

On Wednesday, March 18 at 9 a.m. in the conference room of Huntingdon City Hall, Mr. Steve McDaniel will be the Huntingdon TN Historical Society guest speaker. His presentation will focus on General Nathan Bedford Forrest’s West Tennessee campaign to disrupt General U. S. Grant’s supply lines and communications during the United States Civil War. Steve McDaniel will also give an overview of the development of Parker’s Crossroads Battlefield Park. All are welcome.

HUNTINGDON CROSS
COUNTRY, TRACK
ST. PADDY’S 1K, 5K

The Huntingdon Cross Country and Track and Field programs host the St. Paddy’s 1K, 5K Run/Walk Sunday, March 15 at 2 p.m. at Huntingdon Middle School. Entry is \$25. Age group awards will be given at the completion of the race.

SPRING BAZAAR,
BAKE SALE

The Craft Ladies of McKenzie First Cumberland Presbyterian Church will have their Spring Bazaar/Bake Sale on Saturday, March 14, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the church, 16835 Highland Drive, McKenzie. Everyone is invited to buy craft and bake sale items.

MISS UTM RODEO
PAGEANT

The University of Tennessee at Martin Rodeo Booster Club is sponsoring the Miss UTM Rodeo Pageant Saturday, March 28, at Watkins Auditorium, located inside the University of Tennessee at Martin Boling University Center at 11 Wayne Fisher Drive, Martin.

The pageant is open to all girls, ages 0-20. Contestants will be judged in formal/evening gown only.

Doors open at 10 a.m. with pageants as follows: 0-12 months at 11 a.m.,

1-3 years at 11:30 a.m., 4-6 years at 12 p.m., 7-9 years at 12:30 p.m., 10-12 years at 1 p.m., 13-15 years at 1:30 p.m., and 16-20 years at 2 p.m. Registration is at the door only, \$40 for beauty only with side categories available for additional cost. Winner of the 16-20 division required to participate in UTM Rodeo Week activities and is eligible to compete in Territorial Queens Review/ Strawberry Festival. Junior, Teen and Miss Division Queens will be recognized at UTM Rodeo Performances April 9, 10, and 11. For more information, contact Beth Weldon at (731) 225-1227.

MCKENZIE’S
EGGSTRAVAGANZA

McKenzie’s Eggstravaganza is Saturday, March 28, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the McKenzie City Park, 570 Como Street, McKenzie.

Egg Hunt Schedule: 0–2 years: 9:30 a.m.; 3–4 years: 9:50 a.m.; 5–7 years: 10:10 a.m.; 8–10 years: 10:30 a.m.

Enjoy a fun-filled morning with the Easter Bunny, over 50,000 eggs and prizes, local vendors, food trucks, a petting zoo, balloon characters, and a bouncy house.

Admission is free (food vendor purchases optional).

CARL PERKINS
CENTER PORK
TENDERLOIN LUNCH

The Carroll County Carl Perkins Center is hosting a pork tenderloin lunch on Monday, March 9, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the center on Stone Ridge Cove, Huntingdon. Phone 731-986-5920 for more information.

SPRING BREAKS

Carroll County Schools Spring Breaks are March 23-27. Bethel University Spring Break is March 9-12.

HUMANE SOCIETY
EVENTS, NEWS
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 \$60 at the Huntingdon Animal Clinic. These must be purchased in person at the shelter with

cash or card, and proof of residency is required. However, Carroll Co. residents can still use Paris Vet Clinic if preferred.

CAPITOL TALK
WITH SENATOR
JOHN STEVENS

Capitol Talk with State Senator John Stevens is Friday, March 13, 8 a.m. at the Carroll County Civic Center. The event is free to attend. For more information, contact Carroll County Chamber of Commerce at 731-986-4664 or email cchamber@earthlink.net.

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.

CARROLL COMMISSION
MEETS MONTHLY

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

ADULT EDUCATION
CLASSES

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

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

Letters to the editor of public interest are solicited. Most letters, not libelous or harmful,

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

The McKenzie Banner reserves

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

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Wed. 7:25
Thurs. 7:25

THE BRIDE (R)

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Wed. 7:35
Thurs. 7:35

SCREAM 7 (R)

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

EPIC (ELVIS PRESLEY IN CONCERT) (PG-13)

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

GOAT (PG)

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

I CAN ONLY IMAGINE 2 (PG)

Tues. 7:25
Wed. 7:25
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Kentucky Lake Aviation Takes Off at Carroll County Airport

BY LYNDSLEY SUMMERS
lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE — A new flight school at the Carroll County Airport is giving West Tennessee residents a chance to learn to fly close to home. Kentucky Lake Aviation, owned by Craig Anderson, opened in August 2025 and has quickly built a steady group of students training to earn their pilot licenses.

Anderson said the idea for the school grew out of his own experience learning to fly. For several years, he drove from his home in McKenzie to Murray, Kentucky — the nearest place offering flight instruction.

At the time, Anderson was completing the series of certifications required to become a professional pilot. He earned his private pilot license in 2020, followed by an instrument rating in 2023, a commercial license in 2024 and his instructor certification in 2025.

After finishing his training, Anderson decided to bring a flight school closer to home.

He purchased a training aircraft and began offering lessons at the Carroll County Airport. Anderson said he expected interest from local residents, but the response has exceeded his expectations.

"I expected it to be busy," he said. "But it took off. It's been ridiculous. I have more students than I can deal with — in a good way."

The school currently has



Flight Instructor Craig Anderson is photographed with "Nellie," his Cessna 172 Skyhawk. Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner

about 18 students and operates two aircraft — a Cessna 172, which Anderson lovingly named "Nellie," and a Piper Cherokee 140, named "Niko." Anderson recently hired another instructor, Weston Wallace, and said he may add a third airplane as demand continues to grow. Anderson and his mechanics inspect the aircraft every two weeks, ensuring they are in top condition for all training sessions.

Kentucky Lake Aviation offers several services, including pilot training, introductory discovery flights and aircraft rentals for licensed pilots. The discovery flights, priced at \$185, allow people to experience flying in a small aircraft for up to an hour, usually taking passengers over Kentucky Lake, Paris and McKenzie.

For many people, it is their first time seeing the area from the air.

Discovery flights have drawn interest from people of all ages. Anderson said one past passenger, an eight-year-old boy named James, recently began sav-

ing money from selling eggs to pay for another flight.

"He called me yesterday and said, 'Hey, I just raised enough money to go on another discovery flight,'" Anderson said. "He's definitely going to be a pilot when he grows up. Passengers like him are why I do discovery flights."

Students who want to pursue a license typically train several times a week. According to Anderson, most people can earn a private pilot license in about six months if they fly consistently.

The Federal Aviation Administration requires at least 40 hours of flight time for a private pilot license, though many students take longer depending on their pace and experience.

"If you fly two to three times a week, you'll be done within six months," Anderson said.

Training at the school costs about \$9,500 for the initial 40-hour package, which Anderson said is significantly less than many larger aviation programs.

"They could go to Nashville and get the same license for \$20,000," he said.

Anderson completed his own training through what is known as a "Part 61" program, which focuses on one-on-one instruction rather than the structured classroom format used by many college aviation programs. He said that approach allows for more flexibility and personal attention.

"My goal here ... I want to make quality pilots," Anderson said.

Lessons often include practical training along with opportunities for students to gain confidence in the air. Anderson said he encourages students to enjoy the experience while they learn.

"We did some lessons this morning, and my student said, 'Man, I'd love to fly over Kentucky Lake,'" Anderson said. "I said, 'Let's go over there.' It's all flying anyway."

Anderson is originally from Paris and graduated from the University of Tennessee at Martin with a degree in natural resource management in 2024. Before opening the flight school, he spent time living in Africa where he worked with tribal communities to help teach crop planting and farming practices.

When funding for that project ended, he returned to Tennessee and began looking for his next step. Anderson said he considered becoming a game warden, but his love for flying ultimately led him to aviation training.

Many pilots use flight instruction as a temporary job to build hours before moving on to airline careers, but Anderson said he prefers teaching.

"Everybody asks me if I want to be an airline captain," he said. "But I want to run a flight school. I want to give quality training to people."

He also sees the business as a way to bring more activity to the Carroll County Airport.

The airport attracts pilots from around the region, in part because of its fuel prices and welcoming staff. Anderson said visiting pilots often stop in McKenzie specifically to refuel.

Looking ahead, Anderson hopes to continue expanding the school while helping more people discover aviation.



Allie Chappell (front row, fourth from left) is pictured alongside her fellow Team Brookline runners. She is one of five fundraising for the Brookline Education Foundation. Submitted photo

McKenzie Native Allie Chappell To Run 2026 Boston Marathon

BY LYNDSLEY SUMMERS
lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

On April 20, 2026, Allie Chappell will join 24,361 runners at the starting line of the 130th Boston Marathon.

Chappell, the daughter of Brad and Christie Chappell of McKenzie, will run with Team Brookline in support of the Brookline Education Foundation. She now lives in Massachusetts, working full time as a special education paraprofessional in a K-8 school in Brookline while pursuing her Master's in Special Education through the University of Alabama.

Chappell's relationship with running began early. Her earliest memory is from third grade, running a mile around a practice football field for PE class. Competing against fourth grade girls, she finished in 7:50 — just a second behind the winner. In middle school, she participated in soccer and cheer. In high school, she continued with soccer and joined the track team when Coach Jeremy Bilger noticed how much she enjoyed conditioning.

Her high school track career included qualifying for Substate and State competitions in the 800-meter run, with a personal best of 2:39 her senior year, placing eleventh in her division. After graduating from McKenzie High School in 2021, Chappell attended Bethel University where she played soccer for two seasons. She returned to track, joining Bethel's team in spring 2022, and she later joined the cross country team in fall 2023. She graduated from Bethel University in May 2025.

"I cannot necessarily pinpoint a time where I realized I loved running, but I can definitely tell you what I love about it," she said. "A lot of the core principles of running translate into day-to-day life. Most people would agree that running is hard. It is not always fun, it is certainly not always easy, and I do not always want to do it."

She described running as a way to process challenges.

"Sure, running is not something that can fix my problems, but it helps me lean into the discomfort of them — to then learn to move through and release them," she said. "It helps teach me to welcome tough times — all while embracing, tolerating and moving with those feelings. This sport is a constant display of human resilience."

That perspective became especially important after she moved to Massachusetts. She first connected with the Boston area while nannying for a family in Needham during the summers. After two years of spending extended time in Massachusetts — including regular visits to Brookline — she decided to make the move permanent in September 2025.

"I had a hard time when I first moved to Boston. All of it was just so new to me, and it was challenging," she said.

She thought back to when she ran the Nashville Marathon in 2025. It was her first full marathon, having run the half-distance version the year before. She averaged around an 8:20 pace for the first half before encountering stomach issues in the



Allie Chappell ran the Nashville Marathon in 2025, an experience she said taught her that she is capable of getting through tough times. The Nashville Marathon was her first full-distance marathon, and she completed it in five hours and ten minutes. Submitted photo

second half. She finished the run in five hours and ten minutes.

"That experience taught me that I can get through tough times with perseverance and grit — including moving to a new city 1,000 miles away where you barely know anybody," she said.

Now, her goal for Boston is to run under four hours. Reaching this goal requires both structure and consistency.

Chappell runs five days a week and has gradually increased her mileage by about 10 percent each week since early January. Before marathon training, she averaged 20 to 25 miles per week. She now runs 45 to 50.

"I do speedwork on Mondays and Wednesdays and recovery runs on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Saturdays are long run days. On Sundays and Fridays, I take a rest from running," she said. "Starting in March, I will use only Sunday as a rest day as I make my way toward my peak mileage week. I have to consider all things — nutrition, recovery, and stress — alongside all of the calculated mileage."

Chappell trains with 35 runners on Team Brookline, part of the Marathon Coalition led by Coach Rick Muhr, who compares marathon training to preparing a car for a cross-country road trip.

"Running has also taught me so much about vulnerability," she said. "Am I running with a team for the marathon? Yes. But I am the one who has to show up to the start line and complete the 26.2 miles. Running is not like soccer where it is a team effort to win the contest — it falls on you only. You are exposed on the race course."

Learning to accept that responsibility has changed Chappell's approach.

"I have always, always, always been a perfectionist, but with running, I have learned that I do not always have to show out — I just have to show up and stay consistent to reach my goals," she said.

The Boston Marathon once seemed far out of reach. Shortly after relocating to Massachusetts, she filmed herself running past the finish line on Boylston Street.

"In the video, I said, 'One day I'll cross this thing for real, but today is not that day,'" she said.

A month later, a friend encouraged her to apply

for Team Brookline. A week after applying, she found out she had been accepted. She would be running in the 2026 Boston Marathon. She called her parents, surprising them with the news — she hadn't even told them she had applied.

"They were pumped, and as always, ready to support me in any way they could," she said.

Chappell runs on behalf of the Brookline Education Foundation, a nonprofit that raises private funds to support innovative teaching, leadership, professional development and community participation in the Public Schools of Brookline.

"Education allows you to leave the world better than you found it — it is something that nobody can take from you," Chappell said. "It is something I am passionate about, so being able to run the iconic Boston Marathon, while supporting a cause close to my heart, makes me feel so beyond lucky."

As race day approaches, Chappell said her focus extends beyond time goals.

"My ultimate goal is to reach the finish line as the strongest, most present version of myself... While it will be my name on the bib, I am carrying the pride of my parents, my family, my friends, my coaches and teachers over the years, my colleagues and the entire McKenzie and Brookline communities," Chappell said.

From balancing graduate school and full-time work to logging miles through an extreme Boston winter, Chappell said the process has strengthened her physically and mentally.

"I have not only been training my legs and body, but I have been building the mental strength I will need when the race gets challenging," she said. "I am heading into race day with a calm heart and clear goal — to honor everyone who has believed in me by giving it all I have got. I am going to keep moving forward."

Chappell has raised \$6,625 of her fundraising goal of \$8,500 and has until April 27, 2026, to reach her goal. One hundred percent of donations go to the Brookline Education Foundation. To donate, visit teambrookline.org and find Allie Chappell's profile on the "2026 Runners" page.



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REGION 7-1A BOYS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Bulldogs End Season in Semifinals

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

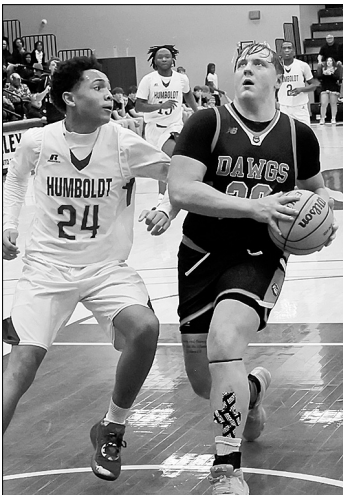
MCKENZIE (March 3) — The Gleason Bulldogs ended their season Tuesday with a 61-47 loss to Humboldt in the semifinal round of the Region 7-1A Boys Basketball Tournament hosted by Bethel University. An early lead by the Vikings was the difference as the Bulldogs kept pace during the final three quarters but were unable to close the gap.

Humboldt jumped out to a 19-8 lead after the opening frame, led by Darian Taylor with 13 points, including a trio of three-pointers. Damarion Westbrook, Jakevious Graves and Terrell Cole each had a pair. Bulldog Kade Sawyers scored four points, and Drake Lehmkuhl and Brody Sanders each had a pair.

The Vikings had a 14-13 edge in the second quarter, led by Kavien Taylor with eight points. D. Taylor and Jaden Champion each hit a three. Lehmkuhl scored seven for Gleason with a three-pointer. Brock Dilday had five points, also with a three. Miami Woolridge hit a free throw. At the half,



Left, Bulldog Brock Dilday scores on a fast break. Dilday had nine points. Right, Bulldog Drake Lehmkuhl drives to the basket for two points. Lehmkuhl scored nine in the game. Photos by Joel Washburn/The Banner



Humboldt led 33-21.

The third was a 10-10 wash. Parker Morgan led the Bulldogs with five points, including a three. Woolridge and Sanders each added a pair, and Dilday hit a freebie. Champion hit a three-pointer for the Vikings, and K. Taylor also scored three points. Graves and Cole each added a pair. Entering the final frame, the Vikings led 43-31.

Humboldt sealed the win with an 18-16 tilt in the fourth, led by D. Taylor

and Graves with five points each. K. Taylor and Tyon Campbell each scored four. Sawyers led Gleason with six points. Sanders scored five, and Woolridge hit a three-pointer. Dilday added a pair.

Viking Darion Taylor led all scorers with 21 points, including four three-pointers. Kavien Taylor scored 15.

Kade Sawyers led Gleason with ten points. Drake Lehmkuhl and Brody Sanders each scored nine, Lehmkuhl with a three-pointer.

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Rebels Rout Greenfield in Home Opener

BY BRAD SAM
banner@mckenziebanner.com

MCKENZIE (March 5) — McKenzie High School hosted Greenfield Thursday for the first home game of the young baseball season. A big first inning set the tone for the Rebels en route to a 12-6 win.

McKenzie scored five in the bottom of the first frame. The Yellowjackets responded with three in the top of the second, but the Rebels plated a pair in both the third and fourth innings. Greenfield managed a couple of runs in the top of sixth, answered by three McKenzie runs in the home half. The Yellowjackets tacked on one in the seventh.

Rebel Aiden Legens was 1-for-3 with a home run, a walk, three RBIs and three runs scored. Fletcher Holt was 1-for-3 with a double, a walk, two RBIs and a run scored. Xander Johnsey was 1-for-4 with a triple and two runs scored. Cole Brown was 1-for-3 with a walk, two runs scored and a stolen base. Avery Brown was 1-for-2 with two walks and two runs scored. Cooper Davidson was 1-for-3 with a walk.

Greenfield's Easton Sullivan was 2-for-3 with three RBIs. Baker Biggs was 1-for-3 with a walk and two RBIs. Baylor Vujicic was 0-for-1 with three walks and two runs scored.

Fletcher Holt earned the win on the mound for McKenzie, allowing three unearned runs on three hits while walking four and striking out six in five innings. Lelan Gordon pitched an inning and a third of hitless relief, allowing three unearned runs while walking three and striking out two. Avery Brown recorded the final two outs with no hits, runs or walks.



Fletcher Holt earned the win on the mound for McKenzie, allowing three unearned runs on three hits while walking four and striking out six in five innings. Photo by Davarion Gilbert/The Banner

Will Edwards took the loss for the Yellowjackets, allowing eight runs (one earned) on three hits with two walks and six strikeouts in three and a third innings. Phillip Scates threw an inning and two-thirds of relief, allowing one earned run on two hits while walking one and striking out one. Alexander Blackwell pitched the final frame, allowing three earned runs on one hit while walking four and striking out one.

HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

Rebels Open Season with 1-1 Draw

MCKENZIE (March 6) — McKenzie High School hosted Hardin County Friday for the soccer season opener and tied 1-1. Brody Davis was goalkeeper for the Rebels in the first half with three saves. Sawyer Nunnery was in the net for the second half with one save. Aiden Mason (pictured) scored the goal for McKenzie on a penalty kick. Photo by Davarion Gilbert/The Banner



REGION 6-1A GIRLS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Lady Rebels End Season at McEwen

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

MCKENZIE (March 2) — The McKenzie Lady Rebels saw their season end Monday with a thrilling, 48-47 loss in the Region 6-1A Girls Basketball semifinals to tournament host McEwen High School.

The two teams could not have had a closer rivalry this season, with one net point separating them in three meetings. During the regular season, each team won on the road by two points, the Lady Rebels in McEwen 56-54 and the Warriorettes in McKenzie 52-50.

McEwen had a 12-11 edge after the first frame, led by Laila Downs-Darden with seven points, including a three-pointer. Carley Baker also hit a three, and Ava

Lastovka had a pair. Addyson Littleton led McKenzie with six points on a pair of threes. Jaycee Stafford scored four, and Braylin Auvenshine hit a free throw.

The Warriorettes had a 15-8 advantage in the second quarter, led by Downs-Darden with nine points, including a three. C. Baker, Maggie Baker and Millee Littleton each had a pair. Auvenshine hit a three for the Lady Rebels, and Stafford also scored three points. Madeline Gottshall had a pair. At the half, McEwen led 27-19.

McKenzie stormed back in the third with a 15-7 tilt, led by Stafford with ten points. Auvenshine scored five. Warriorette Aubrey Branch hit a three, and Lastovka and Downs-Darden each added a pair.

Heading into the final frame, the game was knotted at 34-34.

McEwen won the fourth, 14-13, to claim the victory, led by Downs-Darden with 11 points. Lastovka scored three. Stafford led the Lady Rebels with eight points, including a pair of threes. Ava Hastings also hit a three-pointer, and A. Littleton added a pair.

Warriorette Laila Downs-Darden led all scorers with 29 points, including a pair of threes.

Jaycee Stafford led McKenzie with 25 points, including a pair of three-pointers.

Bethel Wildcats Unveil 2026 Football Schedule

MCKENZIE (March 5) — Coach Chris Springer, in conjunction with the Bethel University Sports Information Office, released the 2026 Wildcat football schedule Thursday.

The ten-game slate includes five home games, with the season opener at home against close neighbor Lane College on August 29. Kick-off at Walter Butler Stadium is 6 p.m. The Cats and the Dragons will meet in 2027 in nearby Jackson.

An attractive home schedule includes, along with Lane, games against powerhouse Keiser University, old foe Faulkner University, Cumberlands (Ky.) and Campbellsville University.

Three Mid-South Conference (MSC) road games find the Wildcats traveling to Georgetown College, Lindsey Wilson University, and long-time opponent Cumberland University. It will be the 30th meeting in a series which sees the Phoenix holding a 16-13 advantage.

Two non-conference road games await the Cats as they travel to Webber International on September 19 and Pikeville on September 26.

Homecoming is October 17 when the Cats host the University of the Cumberlands. Senior Day is October 31 as the Cats play Campbellsville University.

Bethel's Spring Game is Saturday, March 21 at 3 p.m. Watch for details of the game

BETHEL UNIVERSITY 2026 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE		
Aug. 29	Lane College	6 p.m.
Sept. 5	Bye Week	
Sept. 12	Keiser University	3 p.m.
Sept. 19	@ Webber University	12:30 p.m.
Sept. 26	@ University of Pikeville	2 p.m.
Oct. 3	Bye Week	
Oct. 10	Faulkner University	1:30 p.m.
Oct. 17	Cumberlands (KY)	1:30 p.m. (Homecoming)
Oct. 24	@ Georgetown College	12:30 p.m.
Oct. 31	Campbellsville University	1:30 p.m. (Senior Day)
Nov. 7	@ Lindsey Wilson University	TBA
Nov. 14	@ Cumberland University	TBA
All times Central		

later at www.bethelathletics.com.

Coach Springer commented, "We're excited about the 2026 season and the opportunities this schedule brings. Our focus is on getting better one day at a time on and off the field. If we stay consistent in our preparation

and development, we'll put ourselves in a great position this fall. Right now, we're looking forward to finishing up a great spring on March 21, 2026, with our annual spring game and continuing to build momentum towards the fall."

NOTICE

In compliance with T.C.A. 2-9-105(b), notice is hereby given that all voting machines for the May 5, 2026 Primary election will be inspected, programmed, and certified on March 19, 2026, 9 a.m., in the Carroll County Election Commission Office, 625 High Street, Ste. 113, Huntingdon, TN 38344.

BID NOTICE

The McKenzie Housing Authority invites sealed bids for **Interior Improvements of Forty-Eight (48) Dwelling Units at Development No. TN0082-002**, located in McKenzie, Tennessee. The scope includes new flooring, lighting, and water closets in all 48 units, and new kitchen cabinets, countertops, and bathroom vanities/sinks in 23 of these same units.

Bids are subject to TN State Law. Bids will be received until **10:30 A.M. on Wednesday April 1, 2026**, and publicly opened at McKenzie Housing Authority, **22 McDonald Avenue West, McKenzie, TN 38201**. General bids shall be accompanied by a bid bond that is not less than five (5%) of the base bid.

Plans, Specifications, and Bidding Documents are available at the Memphis Reprographics' Plan Room
www.mrplanroom.com

One (1) complete set of bidding documents, drawings, and specifications in electronic or paper format shall be obtained from Memphis Reprographics, 6178 Macon Road, Memphis, TN 38134, telephone (901) 381-9811 for a fee. Bid documents are not refundable. However, bid documents may be viewed online prior to purchasing them.

All bidders must be licensed Contractors as required by the Contractors Licensing Act of 1976 (TCA Title 62, chapter 6). All bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the PHA, as contained in the project manual and detailed within. Refer to the Project Manual Specifications Section 00012, Invitation for Bids; Section 00150, Instructions to Bidders; Section 00151 Additions to Instructions to Bidders; and 01302, Submittals and Substitutions for complete instructions to bidders.

For additional information, contact David Hays or Chad Reynolds at the office of Wilbanks Architecture and Associates, LLC at (901) 867-5220.

A **Prebid Conference** will be held for the purpose of answering questions Bidders may have at **10:30 A.M. on Wednesday March 18, 2026**, at the Housing Authority office, followed by a walk-through at the job site. **All contractors are strongly recommended to attend this walk-through and Prebid Conference.**

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Huntingdon Police Reports

Leaving the Scene of an Accident — According to a report made on February 8, Sgt. Tony King responded to an incident involving a damaged vehicle and a knocked-down road sign on Hwy. 22 South. King made contact with Stephanie C. Baker, who stated she had swerved to avoid a deer and struck a road sign before leaving the area and driving several miles away. Officers located the damaged sign and observed significant front-end damage to Baker's vehicle. Baker was cited for leaving the scene of an accident involving damage to a vehicle.

Driving on Revoked License — According to a report made on February 26, Sgt. Tony King observed a gray sedan passing a dark-colored pickup on Main Street near Carroll Bank and Trust by crossing a double yellow line. A traffic stop was conducted and the driver was identified as Ronnie G. Layhew. During the stop, officers determined Layhew's driver's license had been revoked for DUI. Layhew was arrested and charged with driving on a revoked license and given a \$1,000 bond.

Domestic Assault — According to a report made on February 12, Officer Brad Allen spoke with a 17-year-old victim who reported a domestic altercation with her sister, Jamie Nicole Stephenson. The victim stated Stephenson shoved her, punched her, spit on her and pulled her hair before the victim slammed her onto the staircase during an argument over clothing before the two were separated by another family member. Allen later made contact with Stephenson, who admitted to the argument and pushing her sister. Stephenson was arrested and transported to the Carroll County Jail and charged with domestic assault.

Shoplifting — According to a report made on February 10, Officer Daniel Inman responded to a theft complaint. Store asset protection advised they had identified Halley A. Reed as a suspect in multiple theft incidents. Investigators determined Reed entered the store on four occasions and stole merchandise valued at a total of \$68.03. Receipts and video evidence were provided to officers. Reed was cited into Carroll County General Sessions Court for theft of merchandise.

Fraudulent Use of a Credit Card — According to a report made on February 22, Officer Brad Allen was notified that a man inside Walmart was attempting to use multiple debit and credit cards that were being declined. Officers later learned the cards and purse belonging to a woman had been stolen and were being used to make purchases. The suspect was identified as Jahkeem Omally Anduze, who was later located and interviewed. Investigators determined Anduze had used the stolen cards to purchase several items including gaming consoles, headphones, jewelry and other merchandise totaling \$1,782.32 at multiple locations. Anduze was arrested and charged with two counts of fraudulent use of a credit or debit card and transported to the Carroll County Jail.

Drug Possession — According to a report made on February 5, officers conducted a vehicle stop at a convenience store in Huntingdon. While speaking with the driver, Jeffrey L. Hampton, officers detected a strong odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle. Hampton admitted he had methamphetamine in his pocket and removed two bags that field-tested positive for the substance with a total weight of approximately 2.4 grams. Hampton also produced four diazepam pills from his pocket. Hampton was taken into custody and charged with possession of schedule II with intent and simple possession of a schedule IV controlled substance.

Aggravated Domestic Assault — According to a report made on February 15, Officer Daniel Inman responded to an EMS call at a residence on Spring Street involving a man who had punched a window and was bleeding heavily. Officers made contact with Kiowa P. Geans, who was being treated by EMS. During the investigation, a witness reported that an argument between the two escalated into a physical altercation during which Geans allegedly choked the victim and struck her in the eye with a closed fist. Inman observed injuries consistent with the report. Geans was arrested and charged with aggravated domestic assault and aggravated assault.

Shoplifting — According to a report made on February 10, Officer Daniel Inman responded to Walmart in reference to a theft complaint. Store asset protection advised they had identified Austen B. Bohanan as

a suspect in multiple theft incidents. Investigators determined Bohanan entered the store on four occasions and stole merchandise totaling \$68.03. Asset protection provided receipts and video evidence documenting the thefts. Bohanan was cited into Carroll County General Sessions Court for theft of merchandise.

Driving on Revoked License — According to a report made on March 2, Officer Brad Allen responded to Huck's convenience store in reference to a motor vehicle crash. During the investigation, Allen made contact with Shelby L. Bennett and conducted a computer check of her driver's license. The check confirmed that Bennett's license had been revoked. Bennett was issued a citation into Carroll County General Sessions Court and charged with driving on a revoked driver's license, second offense.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INPUT

The City of McKenzie is seeking feedback on an application for a 2026 LPRF park grant for Mulberry Park. A public meeting will be held on **Monday, March 16 at 5:30 p.m.** at 2470 Cedar Street.

If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like to give City feedback, there will be a post on our Facebook page active from March 16 to March 30. You are encouraged to leave comments there.

Input from the community would be greatly appreciated and the City of McKenzie urges all residents to attend. The City of McKenzie does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, or disability. If accessibility assistance is needed, please contact City Hall at 731-352-2292.

A1/9-2

NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE

TS#: 2026-21269-TN

Whereas, William L. McCaleb, III And Wife, Janice S. McCaleb by Deed of Trust (the "Deed of Trust"), dated 7/20/2020 and of record in Deed Book 694, Page(s) 53-73, and/or as Instrument Number 184148, in Register's Office of Carroll County, Tennessee, conveyed to Glenn Balletto, Trustee, the hereinafter described real property to secure the payment of a certain Promissory Note (the "Note") described in the Deed of Trust, which Note was payable to ClearPath Lending, and subsequently assigned to Freedom Mortgage Corporation, and Whereas, Nestor Solutions of Tennessee, LLC has been duly appointed Substitute Trustee by the owner and holder of the Note by instrument recorded in Deed Book 764, Page(s) 653-655 and/or as Instrument Number 212419 in Register's Office of Carroll County, Tennessee; and Whereas, default has been made in the payment of the Note; and Whereas, the owner and holder of the Note has demanded that the hereinafter described real property be advertised and sold in satisfaction of the indebtedness and costs of foreclosure in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Note and Deed of Trust. The notice requirements of T.C.A. §35-5-101 and 35-5-104 have been satisfied. Now, Therefore, notice is hereby given that an agent of Nestor Solutions of Tennessee, LLC, Substitute Trustee, pursuant to the power, duty, and authority vested in and conferred by the Deed of Trust, will proceed to sell the below-mentioned property on 3/26/2026, at 2:00 PM at the East Court House Door of the Carroll County Courthouse, 99 Court Square, Huntingdon, TN 38344, to the highest call bidder for cash free from all legal, equitable and statutory rights of redemption, exemptions of homestead, rights by virtue of marriage, and all other exemptions of every kind, all of which have been waived in the Deed of Trust, certain real property located in Carroll County, Tennessee, described as follows: The Following Described Tract Or Parcel Of Land, Lying And Being Situated In The 4th Civil District, Carroll County, State Of Tennessee, More Particularly Described As Follows: Beginning At A Stake In The South Margin Of Cherry Avenue, The Same Being 139 Feet West Of The Southwest Intersection Of North Main Street And Cherry Avenue; Runs Thence Southwardly 139 Feet To A Stake, The Same Being Dinwiddie's North Line; Runs Thence West 194 Feet To A Stake, The Same Being The East Margin Of The L & N Railroad Right-Of-Way; Runs Thence Northwardly 154 Feet To A Stake In The South Margin Of Cherry Avenue, The Same Being The East Margin Of The L & N Railroad Right-Of-Way; Runs Thence Eastwardly With The South Margin Of Cherry Avenue 120 Feet To The Point Of Beginning. The street address of the above-described property is believed to be 382 Cherry Avenue, McKenzie, TN 38201, but if 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. 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. In addition, the following parties may claim an interest in the above-referenced property: Owner of Property: William L. McCaleb, III and wife, Janice S. McCaleb The sale is subject to occupant(s) rights in possession of the premises. All right of equity of redemption, statutory and otherwise, and homestead are expressly waived in said Deed of Trust, and the title is believed to be good, but the undersigned will sell and convey only as Substitute Trustee. The right is reserved to adjourn the day of the sale to another day, time, and place certain without further publication, upon announcement at the time and place for the sale set forth above. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the purchase price. The purchaser shall have no further record against the grantor, the grantee or the trustee. Notice To Bidders: Please be advised that the Trustee may require entity or trust bidders at this trustee's sale to provide information, documentation and/or certification of the vesting instructions and the data required to be reported pursuant to FinCEN regulations effective for transfers of residential real property to covered transferees on or after March 1, 2026. The required information must be provided to the trustee before a trustee's deed upon sale will be issued for covered transfers. These federal regulations will require reporting if a trustee's deed is issued on or after March 1, 2026, even if the foreclosure sale is conducted prior to March 1, 2026. Additional information regarding these regulations and the required transferee information and certifications can be found at <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/08/29/2024-19198/anti-money-laundering-regulations-for-residential-real-estate-transfers> and https://www.fincen.gov/rre-faqs#D_5. Internet Posting Website: <https://tennesseepostings.com/> Publication Dates: 3/3/2026 and 3/10/2026 Nestor Solutions of Tennessee, LLC, Substitute Trustee 214 5th Street, Suite 205 Huntingdon Beach, California 92648 Phone: (888) 403-4115 TS#: 2026-21269-TN

R27182/9-2

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 894, 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 Three Million Forty Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$3,040,000.00), payable to TERRIL SCOTT PROPERTIES, LLC; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned was appointed Substitute Trustee by TERRIL SCOTT PROPERTIES, LLC, the legal owner and holder of the said Note, by appointment executed on January 12, 2026, and recorded in Trust Deed Book 764, at Page 343, 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 TERRIL SCOTT PROPERTIES, LLC, 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, March 17, 2026, at 10:00 a.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 12th Civil District of Carroll County, Tennessee, bounded and described as follows; to-wit:

Tract No. 1: Map 094, Parcel 011.00

BEGINNING on a stake in a branch on Clyde Johnson's south lien and runs thence with the meanders of the branch in a general westerly direction; South 48-1/2 deg. West 16 poles; North 76-1/2 deg. West 17 poles, South 15-1/2 deg. West 20 poles; North 85 deg. West 41 poles; North 22 poles; North 75 deg. West 12 poles; West 20 poles; North 17 deg. West 24 poles; south 75 deg. West 8 poles to a stake in the public road on Clyde Johnson's West boundary line and continuing with the meanders of said branch; South 54 deg. West 8 poles; South 60 deg. West 8 poles; South 85 deg. West 10 poles; North 35 deg. West 11 poles; North 5 deg. West 13 poles; North 61 deg. West 26 poles; North 12 deg. West 21 poles; North 52 deg. West 15 poles; North 4 deg. West 10 poles; North 31 deg. West 30 poles; North 47-1/2 deg. East 21 poles to a stake in the branch; thence South 65 deg. East 52-1/2 poles to a stake on Hood's line; thence North 5 deg. East 39 poles; thence North 87 deg. West 50 poles to a stake in the branch on Kirk's line; thence with the meanders of the branch southwesterly to a stake on Kirk's line Conyer's corner; thence South 3 deg. West 81 poles to a stake in a branch; thence southwesterly with the meanders of said branch crossing the public road and passing Willow Springs to a stake in the branch of Clyde Johnson's south line; thence North 78 deg. West 67 poles to a stake; thence South 10 deg. West 145-1/2 poles to a stake, Clyde Johnson's southwest corner; thence South 80 deg. East crossing the drainage canal 142 poles to a stake; thence North 10 deg. East 298 poles to a stake; thence North 50 deg. West 41 poles to a stake; thence North 10 deg. East 72 poles to a stake; thence North 80 deg. West 41 poles to the point of beginning, containing 425 acres more or less. (Description taken from prior deed of record)

Tract No. 2: Map 094, Parcel 011.00

BEGINNING at a stake of F. E. Johnson's east line run South 144 poles to a stake on Clyde Johnson's line; thence North 49 deg. East 41.5 poles; thence southerly with the meanders of a branch or ditch to a stake on Clyde Johnson's line; thence North 74 deg. East 76 poles to a stake on Carter line; thence North 6 deg. East with Carter's and Hampton line 140 poles to a stake in branch, the old bed of Beaver Creek; thence with the meanders of said old creek bed to a stake in the old creek bed, North 74-1/2 deg. West 6 poles to a stake; thence South 86 deg. West 21 poles to the point of beginning, containing 123 acres more or less. (Description taken from prior deed of record)

Tract No. 3: Map 094, Parcel 011.00

Bonded on the North by Hawkins, on the South by Johnson, on the East by Kirk, on the West by Hilliard. Our title appears of record in Deed Book No. 84 page 439, Register's Office of Carroll County, Tennessee, said tract of land being further described as follows, to wit: Calls in survey of Wm. Hampton's land in 12th Civil District of Carroll County, Lot No. 2 of 210 acre tract of land sold by order of County Court, Carroll County, Tennessee, on the 10th day of December 1887, as land belonging to the Estate of Allen Johnson, deceased, and bounded as follows: Beginning on a stake in the middle of Beaver Creek in the East boundary line of J. M. Dalton's and McLellan lands across said creek with Ironwood tree pointers; thence in said creek bed in a southeast direction to the mouth of a slough to the 2nd slough below the Dalton old mill site; thence up said branch with its meanders to a willow the northeast corner of Tract No. 1 138 poles to a stake, maple, and sweetgum pointers, the northeast corner of Lot 1; thence North with the East line of Dalton and McLellan land 136 poles to the beginning, containing 149 acres be the same, more or less. (Description taken from prior deed of record)

Tract No. 4: Map 094, Parcel 012.00

BEGINNING at a stake, the northeast corner of the Ben Wilkes land; runs thence South 88-1/2 degrees West 88 rods to a stake in the branch, the same being the southeast corner of the land heretofore sold by Mr. Clyde Johnson to lie Williams and wife, Dessa Williams; thence in a northeastern direction with the meanderings of a branch, a distance of approximately 104 rods to a stake in the south line of the George Stacey land; thence with Stacey's south line, North 86-1/2 degrees East 58-1/2 rods to a stake, Stacey's southeast corner; thence North 3-1/2 degrees West with Stacey 85-1/2 rods to a stake in the drainage boundary line; thence with the drainage boundary line, North 44 degrees East 41 rods to a stake; South 38 degrees East 29 rods to a stake; South 8 degrees East 57 rods to a stake; South 18 degrees East 67 rods to a stake; thence leaving said drainage boundary line, about South 4-1/2 degrees East 216 rods to a stake, an outer corner of Wilkes; thence North 86-1/2 degrees West 71 rods to a stake; thence North 3-1/2 degrees East 140-1/4 rods to the point of beginning.

THERE IS INCLUDED IN THE ABOVE BUT TO BE EXCLUDED THEREFROM A CERTAIN TRACT HERETOFORE CONVEYED TO Darrell Williams and wife, as recorded in Deed Book 184, page 398, ROCC, as follows: Beginning at a point being the Northwest corner of the tract conveyed on the South margin of Clyde Johnson Road and at the common corner of the lands of Martinex and Wilkes and this tract; thence generally South with Martinex and Wilkes line approximately 1050 feet

to the Southwest corner of the property conveyed and a common division line with Martinex and Wilkes; thence generally East approximately 1000 feet with the common Martinez and Wilkes line to a point on the Glenn Johnson West line and representing a three way corner of Martinez and Wilkes land, Glen Johnson land and the described tract and being the Southeast corner of the described tract; thence generally North with the common Glenn Johnson line approximately 800 feet to the South margin of Clyde Johnson Road being the Northeast corner of the described tract; thence generally Northwest with the south margin of the Clyde Johnson Road about 900 feet to the point of beginning. (Description taken from prior deed of record)

It being the same tracts of property as that described in a Warranty Deed from Terill Scott Properties, LLC, a Georgia limited liability company, to Cachengo, Inc., a Tennessee corporation, dated July 31, 2024, and of record in Warranty Deed Book 416, page 177, in the Register's Office of Carroll County, Tennessee.

RESERVATION OF EASEMENT: Map 094, Parcel 011.00

Grantors reserve for themselves and their successors and assigns a perpetual 60-foot wide easement for the purpose of ingress and egress over and across the above-described tract to access Grantor's adjacent property described in Deed Book 263, Page 534, and being more particularly described, along the center of said easement as follows:

BEGINNING at a point in the center of Beaver Creek Lane where said point intersects the south line of the above described tract, and being North 84 deg. 28 min. 33 sec. West 86.20 feet from a 1/2 inch iron pin at the northeast corner of the Crosso tract, as recorded in DB 299, PG 457; thence along the meanders of the center of the herein described 60-foot wide easement, the following calls: along a curve to the right, having a radius of 601.88 feet, an arc length of 201.96 feet, said curve being situated along a chord bearing of North 22 deg. 26 min. 23 sec. East, and a chord distance of 201.02 feet to a point of tangency; along a tangent, North 32 min. 03 min. 10 sec. East 57.06 feet to a point of curvature; along a curve to the right, having a radius of 82.00 feet, an arc length of 107.12 feet, said curve being situated along a chord bearing of North 69 deg. 28 min. 42 sec. East and a chord distance of 99.67 feet to a point of tangency; along a tangent, South 73 deg. 05 min. 46 sec. East 146.20 feet to a point of curvature; along a curve to the left, having a radius of 155.11 feet, an arc length of 122.09 feet, said curve being situated along a chord bearing of North 84 deg. 21 min. 12 sec. East, and a chord distance of 118.97 feet to a point of tangency; along a tangent, North 61 deg. 48 min. 10 sec. East 130.74 feet to a point of curvature; along a curve to the left, having a radius of 167.41 feet, an arc length of 200.69 feet, said curve being situated along a chord bearing of North 27 deg. 27 min. 38 sec. East, and a chord distance of 188.89 feet to a point of tangency; along a tangent, North 06 deg. 52 min. 54 sec. West 156.85 feet to a point of curvature; along a curve to the right, having a radius of 277.45 feet, an arc length of 454.06 feet, said curve being situated along a chord bearing of North 40 deg. 00 min. 06 sec. East, and a chord distance of 405.06 feet to a point of tangency; along tangent, North 86 deg. 53 min. 05 sec. East 60.85 feet to a point of curvature; along a curve to the left having a radius of 267.43 feet, an arc length of 326.05 feet, said curve being situated along a chord bearing of North 51 deg. 57 min. 27 sec. East, and a chord distance of 306.23 feet to a point of tangency; along a tangent, North 17 deg. 01 min. 49 sec. East 55.82 feet to a point of curvature; along a curve to the right having a radius of 254.66 feet, an arc length of 108.07 feet, said curve being situated along a chord bearing of North 29 deg. 11 min. 16 sec. East, and a chord distance of 107.26 feet to a point of tangency; along a tangent, North 41 deg. 20 min. 42 sec. East 67.91 feet to a point in the south line of the Replogle tract, as recorded in DB 263, PG 534, said point being North 83 deg. 32 min. 52 sec. West 1024.42 feet from a 1/2 inch iron pin at the northeast corner of the above described tract and being the point of termination. Survey and legal description by William P.I. Smith, R.L.S., Tennessee Registration No. 2093, dated March 8, 2002. (Description taken from prior deed of record)

It being the same property as that described in a Quitclaim Deed from Terill Scott Properties, LLC, Georgia limited liability company, to Cachengo, Inc., a Tennessee corporation dated August 30, 2024, and of record in Warranty Deed Book 416, page 635, Register's Office of Carroll County, Tennessee.

The street address of the above-described property is believed to be 735 Beaver Canal Lane, 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: Source Code, LLC.

This property is subject to the following: Tract 1 of Map 094, Parcel 011.00, is subject to a transmission line easement to Southwest Tennessee Electric recorded in Deed Book 115, at Page 162, in the Register's Office of Carroll County, Tennessee.

This property is subject to the following: Included in this conveyance is a Reservation of Easement for a perpetual 60-foot wide easement for the purpose of ingress and egress over and across the subject property (Map 094, Parcel 011.00) described in Deed Book 416, at Page 635, in the Register's Office of Carroll County, Tennessee.

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.

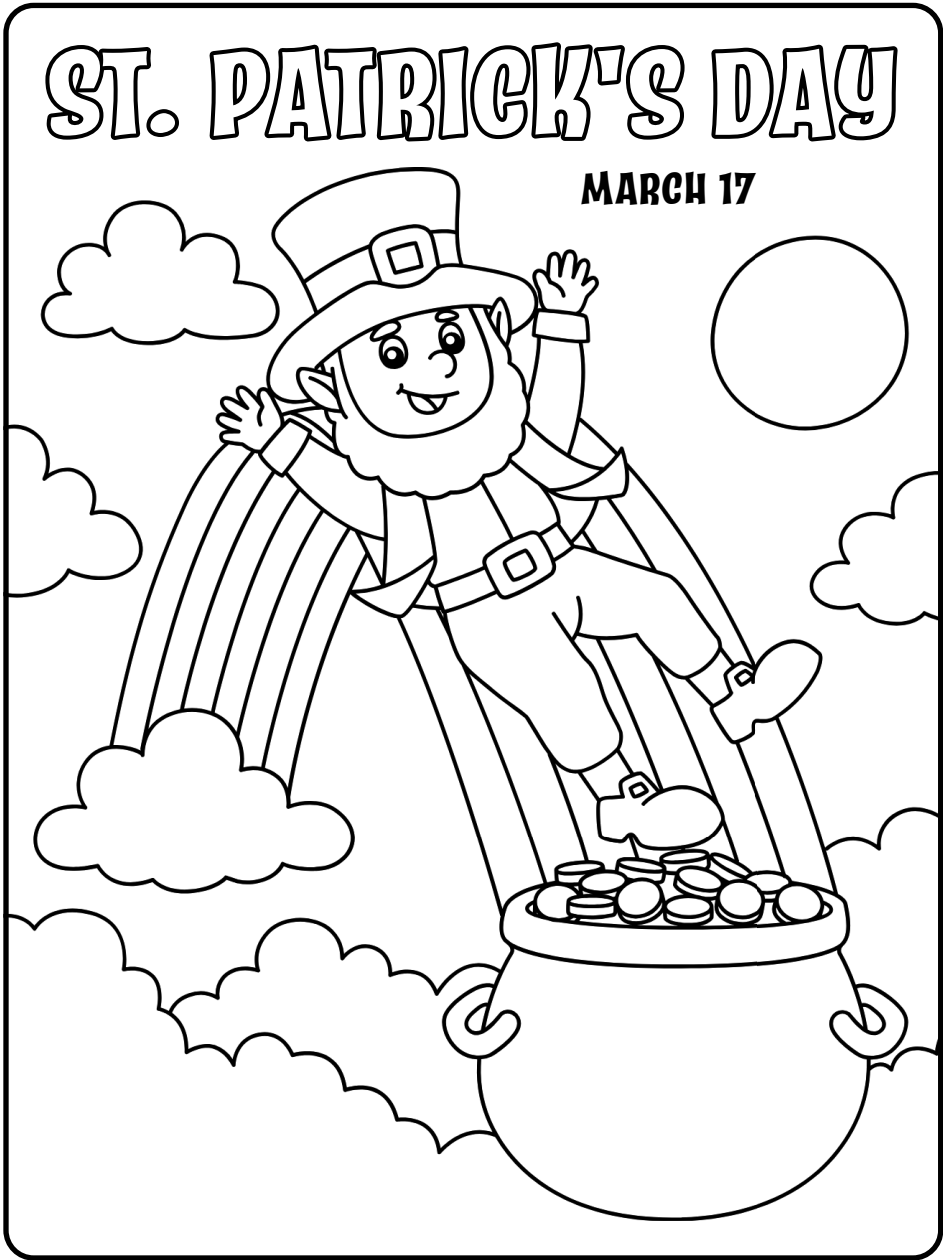
WITNESS my signature, this the 17th day of February, 2026.

KIZER, BONDS, HUGHES & BOWEN, LLC
BY: STEPHEN L. HUGHES, Substitute Trustee
P. O. Box 320, Milan, TN 38358 (731) 238-3199

A1767/8-3

Thank you for your continued support of this newspaper.

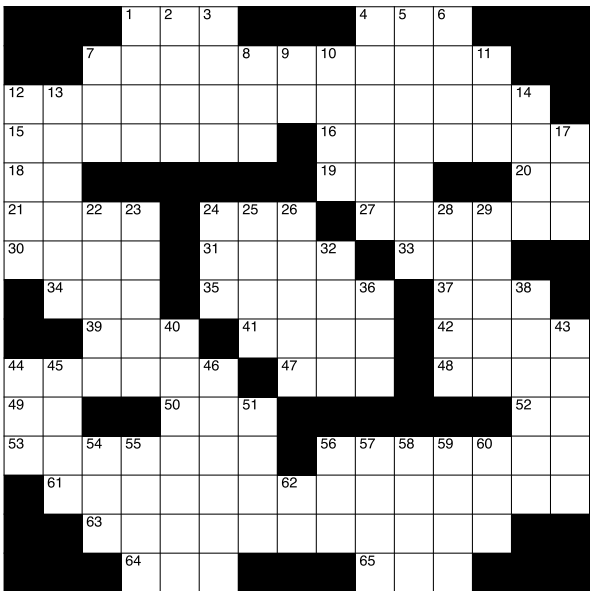
Color A Masterpiece



Weekly Crossword

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Blockchain-based entity
- 4. A woolen cap of Scottish origin
- 7. Painted with glue
- 12. Legendary crooner
- 15. Structure made with strips of wood
- 16. Tropical fruits
- 18. Commercial
- 19. Comedienne Gasteyer
- 20. The Ocean State
- 21. Ancient Scot
- 24. Basics
- 27. Stated propositions
- 30. Scottish island group
- 31. Expression of annoyance
- 33. Large tree
- 34. Engine additive
- 35. Conspiracy
- 37. Drunkard
- 39. Someone who is morally reprehensible
- 41. Ancient Syrian city
- 42. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls
- 44. Carry (slang)
- 47. Sweet potato
- 48. European river
- 49. The Golden State
- 50. Windy City ballplayer
- 52. New Testament
- 53. Possess spiritually
- 56. A treeless grassy plain
- 61. Popular historical novel
- 63. In a law-abiding way
- 64. A place to sleep
- 65. Criticize



CLUES DOWN

- 1. Impression in a surface
- 2. Computer language
- 3. Relating to the ear
- 4. Occupant
- 5. Member of Great Plains people
- 6. Social media firm
- 7. Digital audiotape
- 8. Midway between east and southeast
- 9. Chronic, progressive disease
- 10. Chinese lute
- 11. Not wet
- 12. Moves wings up and down
- 13. Communication devices
- 14. Swiss river
- 17. Female sibling
- 22. Receive
- 23. Relating to a type
- 24. General's assistant (abbr.)
- 25. Steep bank
- 26. Taxi driver
- 28. Moves into without difficulty
- 29. Bicycle manufacturer
- 32. Traditional rhythmic pattern
- 36. Fugitives are on it
- 38. Bitter-tasting organic substance
- 40. Die
- 43. Matched
- 44. Literary genre ___-fi
- 45. Cannot
- 46. Pounded
- 51. British rock group
- 54. Debt relief order
- 55. 2006 NL Cy Young winner
- 56. Green vegetable
- 57. Tough outer skin of fruit
- 58. ___ Spumante (Italian wine)
- 59. Ailments
- 60. Famed singer Charles
- 62. Camper

Week 10

See solution in next week's edition.

Home Repair Word Search

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

Backsplash
Building
Casing
Circuit
Contractor
Curb Appeal

Drain
Flashing
Grout
Joist
Load
Molding

Outlet
Permit
Pipes
Rough-In
Shim
Siding

Sill
Soffit
Subfloor
Valve
Veneer
Walls

THIS DAY IN HISTORY



1912: The Girl Guides, eventually renamed the Girl Scouts, are founded in the United States.

1947: The Truman Doctrine is proclaimed to help stem the spread of Communism.

2020: The United States suspends travel from Europe due to COVID-19.

SUDOKU

WEEK 10

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

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.

⌚ 📧 📱 📺 📷 📡 📢 📣 📤 📥 📦 📧 📨 📩 📪 📫 📬 📭 📮 📯 📰 📱 📲 📳 📴 📵 📶 📷 📸 📹 📺 📻 📼 📽 📾 📿

CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to home improvement. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 2 = E)

A. 6 2 11 1 17 6 7

Clue: Fixes

B. 6 2 9 8 19 1 21 2

Clue: Improve upon

C. 17 9 21 2 6 17 8 6

Clue: Inside

D. 5 2 7 17 10 9

Clue: Scope or scheme

Answers: A. repairs B. renovate C. interior D. design

LETTER MIX-UP

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

BACKSPLASH

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

Riddle Me This

How does a penguin build its house?

Answer: Igloos it together.

WORD SCRAMBLE

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

OWDWN I

Answer: Window

GUESS WHO ?

I am a social media star born in California on March 11, 1980. I earned my Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering and went on to work for NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. I share science in fun ways on YouTube and have millions of followers.

Answer: Mark Rober

Edward Jones

Member SIPC

Have you fully funded your IRA?
The deadline is April 15.
Call to schedule a one-on-one.

Brents K Priestley, AAMS™
Financial Advisor

654 Main Street North
McKenzie, TN 38201
731-352-7822

> edwardjones.com

Week 9 Crossword Puzzle Solution

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

SUDOKU

SOLUTION WEEK 9

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

FOR RENT

SERVICES

AUCTIONS

HEALTH / BEAUTY

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The Huntingdon Mustangs finished second in the region but still earned a Sectional berth on Monday, March 9. Photo by Russell Bush/The Banner

Mustangs Earn First Sectional Appearance in 27 Years

BY RUSSELL BUSH
bush@mckenziebanner.com

WAVERLY (March 5) — The Huntingdon High School boys basketball team has never been to a state tournament in the history of the school, and it's been 27 years since the Mustangs have made a Sectional or Substate game.

The Mustangs are one game away from a state tournament berth and will play in their first Sectional game since 1999 as they travel to Loretto on Monday, March 9. Results were not available before The Banner's press deadline.

After a rough district tournament for the Mustangs that saw them lose two games and enter the Region 6-AA Tournament as a four seed, the Mustangs rebounded in the region tournament, winning 52-49 over the one seed, Cheatham County of District 11-AA, last Saturday. The Mustangs then defeated Harpeth, 72-44, in Waverly Tuesday night to advance to the region title game and earn a substate berth. The Mustangs played well but fell to Milan 54-46 in the title game, sending them to Loretto for a matchup of Mustangs

on Monday.

The Mustangs trailed Harpeth 16-12 on Tuesday night in the semifinal game after one quarter but went on to a 20-0 run and outscored the Indians 22-2 in the second quarter to take a 34-18 lead. The Mustangs outscored the Indians 38-26 in the second half to earn the title game slot opposite Milan.

Senior Kelton Johnson led the Mustangs with 22 points, Caleb Ezell 19, Bryson Whiteside 13, Lucas Smith 10 and Garvin Kee 8. Kee hauled down nine rebounds to lead the Mustangs. Lucas Barton scored 11 and Preston Merritt 10 to lead the Indians.

The Mustangs got off to a slow start in the region title game, falling behind 16-5 after one quarter to Milan but rallied to trail 24-19 at the half. In the second half the Mustangs trailed by as many as 12 points but took the lead at 41-40 on a Garvin Kee foul shot. The Bulldogs responded and held on for a 54-46 win over the Mustangs to host a substate game and send the Mustangs on the road.

Whiteside led the Mustangs with 11 points in the game, Johnson 9, Kee 8,



Earning Region All-Tournament honors for 6-AA were Kelton Johnson (left) and Caleb Ezell. Photo by Russell Bush/The Banner

Ezell 8, K'Shun Carter 6 and Smith with 4. Milan was led by Izaia Clark with 13, Nants Lickliter 12 and Skyland Phinnessee with 10.

The Mustangs enter the Loretto game with a 17-7 record for the season and seeking their first-ever state tournament appearance.

MIDDLE SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL



Lady Rebel Serenity Bobo stretches to send the ball back over the net. Bobo had one kill and two blocks. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

Lady Rebels Fall to Gibson Co.

BY BRAD SAM
sam@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (March 5) — McKenzie Middle School hosted Gibson County Thursday for a volleyball match. The Lady Rebels were competitive, but the Lady Pi- oneers claimed the win in straight sets, 25-16 and 25-17.

Lady Rebel Willow Stenberg had three kills. Serenity Bobo had one kill and two blocks. Charlie Cassidy had one kill and one block.

Madilyn Milam had one ace and two blocks. Macy Brooks had one ace, and Abby Carroll had two blocks.



Lady Rebel Abby Carroll makes the play to set up her teammates. Carroll had two blocks in the match. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner



Left, MHS football seniors (L to R) Seated: Alijah Darnes, Landin Deatherage, Jackson Cantrell, Matthew Gaylord, Ethan Batton, Tobey Brooks (cheerleader) and Olivia Cantrell (manager). Standing: Davarion Gilbert, Aiden Callis, Aiden Mason, TJ Johnson, Mason Batten, Ryan Toombs, Xander Johnsey, Aiden Legens and Timmy Arline. Not pictured are Fletcher Holt and Khamari Coleman. Right, MHS football award winners (L to R) Seated: Lelan Gordon, Aiden Legens, Jayden Callis and Timmy Arline. Standing: Alijah Darnes, Avery Brown, Cole Brown, Ethan Batton and Ryan Toombs. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner



McKenzie High School Celebrates Stellar Football Season

BY BRAD SAM
sam@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (March 8) — McKenzie High School celebrated a stellar 2025 football season with a banquet Sunday afternoon at McKenzie Church of Christ.

The Rebels continued their successful run with a 13-2 record and a state runner-up finish, their third title game appearance in four years.

After a delicious meal catered by Hometown Hangout, the program began with Mayor Ryan Griffin presenting a proclamation declaring March 8, 2026 "Rebel Football Day."

Cheer coach Brittany Beard recognized each cheerleader and spoke about the squad's unity and success.

The football team presented a gift to senior cheerleader Tobey Brooks.

Head football Coach Keith Hodge thanked a great many people for their contributions to the football program and presented plaques to Touchdown Club officers President Chad Batton, VP Raven Cunningham-Tharpe, Treasurer Reni Toombs and Secretary Lesley Davidson.

Next, each player was recognized and present-

ed with a certificate, some earning letterman status.

Principal Kelly Spivey presented academic awards to players and managers.

Those with a 3.0-3.49 GPA were Kason Brown, Aiden Callis, Jayden Callis, Alijah Darnes, Landin Deatherage, Davarion Gilbert, Kamyah Gordon, TJ Johnson, Aiden Mason, Hunter Shafer, Hunter Sims and Hunter Winstead.

Those with a 3.5-4.0 GPA were Mason Batten, Ethan Batton, Avery Brown, Cole Brown, Cooper Davidson, Matthew Gaylord, Alex Hughes, Aiden Legens, Aiden Orten, Dawson Reeder, Parker Ross, Ryan Toombs, Ramon Vasquez, Olivia Cantrell, Sophie Cole and Matteo Tabada.

Players were recognized for earning All-Region, All-State and All-West Tennessee honors.

Coach Hodge then recognized junior Cole Brown for earning a place in the TSSAA record books. He is tied for second all-time with seven total touchdowns in a game. His 60 touchdowns in a season is fifth all-time, and his 4,053 yards of total offense in a season is tenth all-time.

Next, individual awards were presented: Unsung

Hero Award — Lelan Gordon; Impact Player of the Year — Aiden Legens; Coaches Award — Timmy Arline and Jayden Callis; David Long Academic Award — Ethan Batton; Kermit Holland 3-D Award — Ryan Toombs; Jerry Carter Century Award — Alijah Darnes; Howard Nolan Team First Award — Avery Brown; and Mr. Rebel Award — Cole Brown.

Touchdown Club President Chad Batton recognized the large group of seniors. All seniors were presented with a photo book and their senior banner. Senior manager Olivia Cantrell was gifted a necklace. Senior players also received a shadowbox containing their jersey and other memorabilia.

Seniors who were four-year team members received a jacket and a pin. They were Timmy Arline, Mason Batten, Davarion Gilbert, Matthew Gaylord, Ethan Batton and Ryan Toombs.

Hodge noted that these players appeared in three state championship games, earning one gold ball and two silver.

Rebel football radio announcer Craig Lunn gave closing remarks, commending the seniors on their leadership and encourag-



MHS cheerleaders (L to R) Front Row: Frannie Trout, Hadley Smith, Marlee Toombs, Brooke Murphy, Madelynn Pewitt, Olivia Pate and Addi Davis. Back Row: Kinsley Wilson, Carleigh Lunn, Addison Milam, Tobey Brooks, Lola Sumrok, Katelyn Prather and Chloe Veliz. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

ing the underclassmen to continue the standard set.

Senior football players were Timmy Arline, Mason Batten, Ethan Batton, Aiden Callis, Jackson Cantrell, Khamari Coleman, Alijah Darnes, Landin Deatherage, Matthew Gaylord, Davarion Gilbert, Fletcher Holt, Xander Johnsey, TJ Johnson, Aiden Legens, Aiden Mason and Ryan Toombs.

Junior football players were Avery Brown, Cole Brown, Casey Cunningham, Lelan Gordon, Jacobi Melton, Aiden Orten and Matteo Tabada.

Sophomore football players were Kason Brown, Jayden Callis, Cooper Davidson, Kenneth Ellis, Malaki Harris, Alex Hughes, Connor Mann, Maddox Shiell, Hunter Sims, Jacion Townes, Ramon Vasquez and Hunter Winstead.

Freshmen players were Jaden Blanton, Devin Dennie, Cayden Gordon, Matthew Jackson, Brayden Mort, Dawson Reeder, Parker Ross, Hunter Shafer, Ryan Sherrod, Bryson Smith and Ashli Winston.

Managers were Sophie Cole, Kamyah Gordon,

Kamdyn Tharpe and senior Olivia Cantrell.

Head Coach Hodge was assisted by Trey Cantrell, Austin Chapman, Merritt Spence, David Duncan, Kentrell Diggs, Chris Wall, Ben Hargett, Randy Thomas, Jacob Fuzzell and Tyler Reeder.

Cheerleaders were Brooke Murphy, Madelynn Pewitt, Addi Davis, Carleigh Lunn, Addison Milam, Olivia Pate, Katelyn Prather, Chloe Veliz, Hadley Smith, Lola Sumrok, Marlee Toombs, Frannie Trout, Kinsley Wilson and senior Tobey Brooks.

Johnsey Hurls No-Hitter, Davidson Homers As Rebels Blank Lions in Season Opener

BY BRAD SAM
sam@mckenziebanner.com

CAMDEN (March 3) — McKenzie High School opened the baseball season Tuesday on the road against Camden High School. Rebel Xander Johnsey pitched a no-hitter, and Cooper Davidson went deep to lead the offense in a 6-0 win.

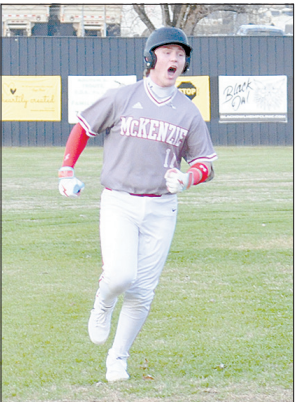
McKenzie scored two runs each in the second and third

innings, one in the fifth and one in the seventh.

Davidson was 3-for-4 with a home run, a double, two RBIs and a run scored. Fletcher Holt was 1-for-3 with a double, a walk and two runs scored. Lelan Gordon was 1-for-2 with a walk, two RBIs, a run scored and a stolen base. Johnsey was 0-for-3 with a walk and an RBI. Cole Brown was 0-for-3 with a walk and a run scored.

Johnsey earned the no-hitter for McKenzie, allowing no runs on one walk with ten strikeouts.

Carter Maines took the loss for Camden, allowing five runs (four earned) on three hits with six walks and ten strikeouts in four and a third innings. Amaury Rogers threw the final two and two-thirds innings, allowing one earned run on two hits while walking two and striking out five.



Left, Rebel Xander Johnsey pitched a no-hitter, allowing no runs on one walk with ten strikeouts. Right, Rebel Cooper Davidson rounds third base on a home run to lead off the second frame and score McKenzie's first run of the season. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner