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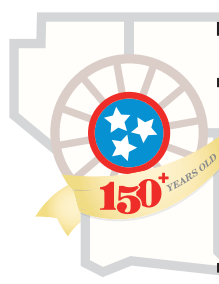
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Tuesday, April 28, 2026

McKENZIE, TENNESSEE

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INSIDE

- Sheriff's Office Suspects No Foul Play in Lisa Fields' Disappearance, Page 2
- McKenzie Alum Jay Taylor Returns to Coach Middle School Football, Page 2
- MMS Rebels Top Camden, Claim Conference Title, Page 16

OBITUARIES

Polly Ann Dolliver, 60
Cindy Brandon Gateley, 65
Bobby Henry Harris, Sr, 73
Rayma Denise Peery, 70

Tennessee Lawmakers Pass Chance Carlton Act

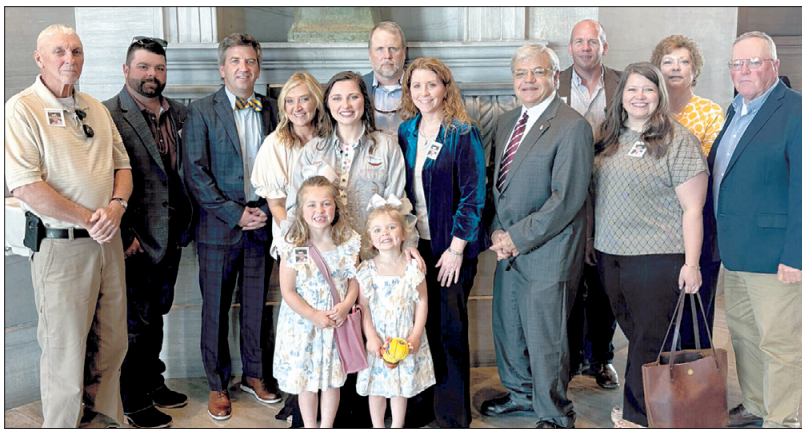
BY LYNDEY SUMMERS

lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

NASHVILLE (April 22) — With only days left in the 114th General Assembly's legislative session, Tennessee lawmakers in the House and Senate passed the Chance Carlton Act, a bill that provides linemen's families with benefits in the event that a lineman dies in the line of duty.

Named after a Carroll County lineman who died in April 2025 while working to restore power following a severe storm, HB1464/SB1907 (the Chance Carlton Act)

See CARLTON on Page 2



The Carlton family is pictured with Rep. Dennis Powers (R-Jacksboro) and Rep. Brock Martin (R-Huntingdon) after the Chance Carlton Act was approved by the House of Representatives on April 21. Source: Tennessee House Republican Caucus

GO VOTE

Early Voting Continues in Carroll County

BY LYNDEY SUMMERS

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CARROLL COUNTY (April 27) — To date, 353 Carroll County residents have cast their early ballots for the May 5 primary election, according to Carroll County Election Commission Administrator of Elections Peg Hamlett.

Of those, 291 voters — 138 females and 153 males — identified as Republicans, and 62 voters — 41 females and 21 males — identified as Democrats.

See VOTE on Page 3

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MUSEUM HOSTS RIBBON-CUTTING



The Carroll County Historical Society (CCHS) hosted a ribbon-cutting for the newly-renovated Gordon Browning Museum. Pictured, CCHS Vice President Jennifer Waldrup prepares to cut the ribbon, surrounded by fellow CCHS board members and community supporters. Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner

Gordon Browning Reopens Following Major Renovations

BY LYNDEY SUMMERS

lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (April 26) — Following eight months of renovations, the Gordon Browning Museum and Genealogical Library has opened its doors to the community once again. The Carroll County Historical Society hosted a ribbon-cutting for the museum Sunday, April 26, to celebrate the museum's re-opening with the community.

When Jennifer Waldrup and Vickie Summers joined the Carroll County Historical Society's Board of Directors in 2025, the women knew something had to be done to improve the museum.

"It was a nightmare," Waldrup said. "You couldn't hardly walk through the museum," Summers said. "There was just so much stuff everywhere... If someone came in with a walker or a wheelchair, there was no way they could go any fur-

ther than about six feet."

On the advice of the State Museum advisors, the Carroll County Historical Society made the decision to temporarily close the museum for deep-cleaning, sorting, rearranging and refurbishing.

In the first month, Summers applied for and received a \$21,100 grant from the Tennessee State Museum to

See MUSEUM on Page 3

TCAT-Henry/Carroll Hosts Spring Graduation

BY JOEL WASHBURN

washburn@mckenziebanner.com

HUNTINGDON, Tenn. — For the Class of 2026, the tassels have been turned and the diplomas are in hand, but according to the keynote speaker at the Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) graduation ceremony on Thursday, the most important work is just beginning.

Graduates, family members, and

faculty and staff of the TCAT campuses in McKenzie, Camden, Dresden and Paris gathered for commencement exercises at the Carroll County Civic Center to see approximately 80 students graduate from Administrative Office Technology, Automotive Technology, Collision Repair, Cosmetology, Criminal Justice-Corrections Officer, Health Information Management, HVAC, Industrial Maintenance, Information Technol-

ogy Systems Management, Machine Tool, Practical Nursing, Residential Building Maintenance, and Welding. The graduates were dressed in the traditional cap and gown and participated in the traditional turning of the tassels to signify the completion of their course of study.

Bart Herbison, Executive Director of the Nashville Songwriters

See TCAT on Page 3

'PARIS ON ICE'

Operation Nets Meth Trafficking Charges

JACKSON (April 15) — Nineteen people have been indicted and are facing state and federal charges for their involvement in an organized drug trafficking scheme in West Tennessee. D. Michael Dunavant, United States Attorney for the Western District of Tennessee, and Neil Thompson, District Attorney General for the 24th District, announced the unsealing of the indictments today.

See METH on Page 3

McKENZIE PLANNING Commission Rejects Storage Unit Proposal

BY LYNDEY SUMMERS

lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

The McKenzie Municipal-Regional Planning Commission met Wednesday, April 22, at McKenzie City Hall to discuss a site plan proposal from Casey Drewry to build three mini-storage buildings on 17900 Highland Avenue.

After some discussion, the commissioners rejected Drewry's proposal, requesting that he submit an updated parcel map for further consideration.

See STORAGE on Page 3



INDEX News 2 | Opinion 4 | Obituaries 5
Calendar 5 | Notices 9 | Records 10
Marketplace 12 | Sports 14

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THE BANNER

OFFICIAL REPORT

Sheriff’s Office Suspects No Foul Play in Lisa Fields’ Disappearance

BY LYNDSSEY SUMMERS
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CARROLL COUNTY (April 22) — The Carroll County Sheriff’s Office has released an official report regarding the search and rescue mission for Lisa Fields, 56, of Huntingdon. Fields was reported missing just before noon on Friday, April 17, and was recovered alive by multiple agencies shortly after midnight on Saturday, April 18.

The report indicates that a medical emergency likely contributed to Lisa Fields’ disappearance. Foul play is not suspected.

According to the report, the Carroll County Sheriff’s Office responded to a call at approximately 11:12 a.m. on Friday, April 17, regarding Lisa Fields’ disappearance.

Upon arrival, sheriff deputies spoke with Lisa Fields’ husband, Jason Fields, who said he had last seen his wife at around 6 a.m. when he left their house with a couple of friends to go to Paris and breed horses. Lisa Fields reportedly told him to call her when he was headed back home so she could make him lunch.

Jason Fields attempted to call Lisa Fields several times on his way home from Paris at around 9 a.m. and there was no answer. When he arrived home at approximately 10 a.m., Jason Fields searched all through the house and could not find Lisa Fields. He

called from inside the home and found her phone on the kitchen table.

Jason Fields then called his son to see if he had seen Lisa Fields. His son, Blane Fields, stated he last saw Lisa Fields at around 7:30 a.m. sitting in the living room. Jason Fields then called his neighbors to see if anyone had seen or heard from his wife. A neighbor arrived and called the Carroll County Sheriff’s Office.

The sheriff’s office called in a K-9 unit out of Weakley County and the Tennessee Highway Patrol’s (THP) Aviation Helicopter, along with the Carroll County Rescue Squad.

While waiting for the K-9 unit to arrive, the sheriff’s office conducted a thorough search of the residence and the immediate property around the house.

Once the K-9 unit arrived on the scene, K-9 officers were unable to indicate a scent to attempt to track.

The rescue squad began its grid search shortly after the K-9 officers arrived.

The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) then arrived on the scene to assist the Carroll County Sheriff’s Office with the investigation.

The Carroll County Rescue Squad, along with law enforcement, “exhausted” a ground search of the property and the adjacent properties “without finding anything of value,” according to the report.

The Carroll County Sheriff’s Office and the TBI utilized drones to assist in the search but were reportedly unable to find anything credible.

At this point, Lisa Fields was entered into the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) as a missing person. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) began assisting in the investigation.

At approximately 10 p.m., the rescue squad called off its ground search with plans to begin again in the morning of April 18. Law enforcement remained in the area and continued searching for Lisa Fields throughout the night.

At 12:09 a.m. on April 18, the THP Aviation Unit returned to the scene for a second aerial search and found what appeared to be a person in a wooded area behind the Mixie Fire Department. Law enforcement and first responders then located Lisa Fields in an area of cut over timber, which was thick with overgrowth.

Her son, Seth Fields, said she was unable to stand or do more than mumble a few words at the time.

Lisa Fields was then transported by Life Flight to a medical facility in Nashville.

Seth Fields shared an update Sunday morning that Lisa Fields began showing signs of improvement after receiving fluids and antibiotics. They were still waiting on test results at the time of his update.

McKenzie Alum Jay Taylor Returns To Coach Middle School Football

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

McKenzie High School alum and lifelong McKenzie resident Jay Taylor takes the reins of McKenzie Middle School football this fall.

Taylor graduated from MHS in 2003 and from UT Martin in 2007.

He began his two decades of teaching and coaching with a year at Dyer County before returning at his alma mater for five years. He then coached at Southside High School for two years before a ten-year tenure at Peabody. Most recently, he was at West Carroll High School for the current school year.

Taylor coached football at each school as well as baseball at Dyer County and softball at Peabody.

At MMS, he will teach STEM for grades five through eight.

Taylor’s wife of 14 years, Megan, is a third grade teacher at McKenzie Elementary School. They have a 9-year-old son, Tipton.

Coach Taylor told The Banner, “I’m excited. I’ve been investing in a lot of other people and other com-



New McKenzie Middle School head football coach Jay Taylor with his wife, Megan, and son, Tipton. Submitted photo

munities, and now I have an opportunity to invest in my own.”

He noted that he has a niece and nephew at MMS, and his son will be coming up soon.

Taylor said he hopes to help the football program succeed at a high level. “I want to make [MHS football] Coach [Keith] Hodge look smart. I’ve been at the high school level so long, I know what freshmen struggle with. I hope I can get them ahead

of the curve.”

He said he wants to develop athletes with work in the weight room and on speed, hoping to see ripple effects into other sports.

Taylor added, “Being able to coach little league and flag football, getting to know those kids, that’s what I’m really excited about.”

He will participate in MMS football spring practice as much as his schedule allows to get a head start on acclimating to the program.

West Carroll Elementary School Recognizes SOAR Award Recipients

West Carroll Elementary School continues to highlight student excellence through its SOAR Awards program, which recognizes students who embody the school’s core values of Safety, Ownership, Achievement, and Respect. The program celebrates those who demonstrate academic effort, positive character, and meaningful contributions to the school community.

Zaila Adkisson, a third grader at WCES, was awarded for having the most dojo points. Her teacher, Mrs. Lindsey Lindsay, stated that “Zaila demonstrates a strong commitment to learning in all of her classes. She always completes tasks to the best of her ability, and her effort, determination and positive work habits have helped her to stand out.”

Ellie Everett also received the most dojo points in a week at WCES. Ellie’s fourth-



(L to R) Zaila Adkisson, Evelyn O’Bryant, and Ellie Everett.

grade teacher, Ms. Madison McClure, said that “Ellie comes to class ready to learn with a positive attitude. She is always willing to help and takes on a leadership role amongst her peers. She works hard and perseveres when faced with challenges.”

Evelyn O’Bryant was nominated for the SOAR award by teachers and staff. Sixth-grade teacher, Ms. Shanna Pafford stated that, “Evelyn is a bright and outgoing

student who brings positive energy into the classroom each day. She approaches her work with determination and always gives her best effort, making her a truly hardworking and admirable learner.”

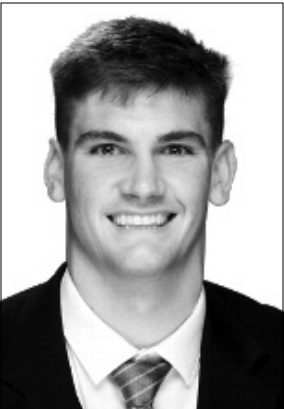
West Carroll Elementary is proud of these students for their dedication to excellence and for exemplifying the values that make the school community thrive.

Martin’s Ty Simpson Drafted In the NFL by the Rams

The Los Angeles Rams chose Alabama quarterback Ty Simpson with the 13th overall pick in the draft on Thursday, April 24, making a bold move to secure their successor to NFL MVP Matthew Stafford.

Rams general manager Les Snead made a first-round pick for only the second time in the past decade — and he turned in a shocker by taking Simpson, who wasn’t considered a first-round talent on some draft boards.

Simpson, a former standout quarterback at Westview High School in Martin, whose father, Jason, is the football head coach at UT Martin, was a starter for only one season with the



Ty Simpson

Crimson Tide, passing for 3,567 yards and leading them to the Rose Bowl after three seasons as a backup.

Although the Rams finished one game shy of the Super Bowl last year fol-

lowing their eighth winning season in nine years under Sean McVay, they still had the 13th pick from Atlanta after a draft-day trade one year ago.

Rather than adding available receiver Makai Lemon — the Biletnikoff Award winner at Southern California last season — to maximize their championship window with Stafford, the Rams chose to look to their future.

According to WCMT Radio in Martin, Ty’s father, Coach Jason Simpson; mother, Julie; sister, Emma; and brother, Graham, were all in Pittsburgh to see Ty become a member of the NFL.



THP Promotes Henry County Native

BY SHANNON MCFARLIN
Henry County Now

NASHVILLE (April 22) — Jason Mounts of Henry County has been promoted to Sergeant in the

Capitol Protection Unit of the Tennessee Highway Patrol. Mounts grew up in Paris and previously worked for the THP in the Henry County area before moving to the Capitol

Protection Unit in Nashville. Prior to that, he was a patrolman for the Paris Police Department. The announcement of his promotion was made by Colonel Matt Perry.

McKenzie School Board Agenda for May 5

McKenzie Special School District Board of Education meets May 5, 5:30 p.m., MSSD Board Room on Bell Avenue.

TENTATIVE AGENDA:

1. Prayer and Pledge to the Flag
 2. Adoption of Agenda:
 - A. Consent Agenda
 - B. Regular Agenda (New Business)
 3. Hear correspondence addressed to the Board
 4. Public comment(s) on actionable agenda items or matters germane to school board jurisdiction (not to exceed 15 minutes)*
- *MSSD Board Policy 1.404

NEW BUSINESS

(Actionable Items):

5. Discussion of MES drainage issue, survey findings, next steps
6. Discussion of MMS restrooms upgrade/update, next steps, and flooring bid
7. Consider for approval the bid for the Reznor Make-up Air Heater at MHS
8. First Reading, amendments to the McKenzie Special School District Board of Education Policy Manual.
 - 1.804 Drug-Free Workplace
 - 2.400 Revenues
 - 5.114 Personnel Records
 - 5.200 Separation Practices for Tenured Teachers
 - 5.201 Separation Practices for Non-Tenured

Teachers

- 5.202 Separation Practices for Non-Certified Employees
 - 5.400 Personnel Health Examinations/Communicable Diseases
 - 5.403 Drug & Alcohol Testing for Employees
 - 5.606 Staff-Community Relations
 - 5.608 Tutoring for Pay
 - 5.800 Director of Schools
 9. HR Report
 10. Director’s Report
 11. Adjourn
- Board Members:**
LaShonda Williams, Chairman; Spiros Roditis, Vice Chairman; George Cassidy, Treasurer; Misty Aird; Chad Brown; Karen Fowler; and Bobby Young.

Carlton

...From Front Page

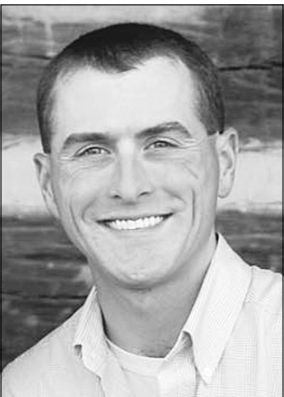
groups electrical linemen with law enforcement officers, firefighters and volunteer rescue squad members in the event of a work-related death. The bill was introduced by Rep. Dennis Powers (R-Jacksboro) and Sen. John Stevens (R-Huntingdon) in December and January, respectively.

Under this act, a lineman’s family can receive an annual annuity of \$50,000 for five years to help ease financial burdens following their loved one’s death.

The act defines an “electrical lineman” as an individual who A) installs, maintains or repairs electrical transmission and power distribution systems; and B) is employed by a municipal, county, utility district or other local governmental entity.

Chance Carlton was employed by the Carroll County Electric Department. He was 32 years old at the time of his death, leaving behind a wife and two young daughters.

Chance Carlton’s wife, Samantha, and children, Landry and Ellsie, were at



Chance Carlton

the Tennessee State Capitol on April 22 to show their support for the bill. They were joined by Carlton’s sister, Jessica Hunley; mother-in-law, Shannon Bedocs; and best friend, Kyle East.

The bill passed in the House on April 21 and in the Senate on April 22 with bipartisan support and no opposition.

Now, the bill needs to be enrolled before being signed by House and Senate Speakers. The Speakers will then transmit the bill to Gov. Bill Lee for his action.

With Gov. Lee’s approval, this act will take effect July 1, 2026, and will apply to work-related deaths occurring on or after that date.

Samantha Carlton appeared before the House of Representatives’s State and

Local Committee on March 11 to speak about the act.

“Chance was not just a lineman,” she said. “He was the husband who never left without saying I love you, and when storms rolled in and most families ran inside to safety, Chance answered his call, left his family and walked straight into danger. He did it without complaint because he believed that restoring power meant restoring comfort, safety and life to his community...”

Chance died serving the people of Tennessee last April, yet under current law, linemen are not recognized as first responders,” she said.

She shared that Tennessee has lost five linemen in the past eight years and pointed out the everyday dangers linemen face.

“Linemen face high voltage, [un]predictable weather and life-threatening conditions every single day in their trucks to maintain the infrastructure of our state,” she said. “They are sacrificing their safety every time they go to work, often clearing scenes of live hot wire to allow law enforcement, EMS and fire to respond safely... They should be recognized as first responders every day and not just when a state of emergency is declared and they are needed.”

Museum

...From Front Page

make extensive repairs to the 91-year-old building's roof and electrical system.

It took the women approximately three months to take inventory of all of their items and begin cleaning out the museum, discarding various broken items.

The renovation involved repainting and "moving everything, not one time, but probably six times," according to Waldrup. Books, especially, were moved up to five times each during the reorganization process.

Summers and Waldrup went through and cleaned all of the museum's 65-70 military uniforms, clearing off the dust and storing them in portable closets. They plan to rotate all of the different uniforms in their collection as museum displays.

Various private individuals and community groups including Beta Sigma Phi, the McKenzie Senior Citizen's Center and the McKenzie Garden Club donated to the renovation project.

Board member Hunter Smith helped with the renovation, repainting rooms with Waldrup and redoing the floors.

The McKenzie Police Department cleaned the display guns, and Bill Westerfield, who owns Sunrise Cafe, built the gun display case. David Earley's welding class at TCAT-McKenzie made the building's exterior rails. Waldrup also extended

her thanks to Marty and Amanda Morris and Dale Garrett for their help on the project.

"It has been a labor of love requiring much help and cooperation with many challenges along the way," Summers said. "The effort was worth it, and it has finally come to fruition."

The new and improved Gordon Browning Museum is now Title VI compliant, making it accessible and easy to navigate for everyone. It has a plethora of walking space and includes a sitting area central to the main museum room. The library is orderly and user-friendly with plenty of shelving, and there are several new work stations with access to electricity and Wifi. The museum also has a better security system in place.

There is also a new exhibit area reserved for changing quarterly displays.

The ladies moved all of the war memorabilia to the back of the museum, and all of the genealogy resources and records books are now located in one primary space.

"Much thought was invested in where and how to place what, for best utilization in service provided within for the community," Summers said.

On Sunday, Summers shared that she and Waldrup shared only one regret: not taking before-and-after photos.

With the renovation, Summers and Waldrup share the hope that local teachers will begin bringing their classes in for museum tours once again.

"There are a hundred reasons to visit the Gordon Browning Museum," Summers said, "There's stuff about the county. There's stuff about each town. We have things about the state. There's information about the government. There's just a plethora of information that anybody can come and enjoy, whether they're a genealogist or not. Our little museum is truly a small-town jewel.

The Gordon Browning Museum and Genealogical Library, located at 640 N. Main St., McKenzie, Tenn., is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Gordon Browning Museum, named in honor of two-time Tennessee Governor Gordon Browning, is a publicly-supported museum and the home to hundreds of documents, images and artifacts representing Carroll County's rich history. Its historical building, built in 1935 by the New Deal's Works Progress Administration (WPA), is the former location of the McKenzie Post Office.

The Carroll County Historical Society's Board of Directors are as follows: Joel Summers, president; Jennifer Waldrup, vice president; Vickie Summers, secretary/treasurer; Brad Camp, director; Nola Hobbs, director; Jack Holland, director; Steve Milam, director; Ben Rollins, director; Hunter Smith, director; Jimmie Sue Staten, director; and Steve Williams, director.



Above, Bart Herbison was the featured speaker at the TCAT Henry/Carroll Spring Graduation. Right, Lillian Ruesken, a graduate of Gleason High School, received her certificate in Cosmetology from TCAT President John Penn Ridgeway.



TCAT

...From Front Page

Association International (NSAI), delivered the commencement address. He was introduced by John Penn Ridgeway, president of TCAT Henry/Carroll. Herbison grew up in Henry County, worked in Nashville in state government and later the federal government, before then working for and promoting the songwriters through their association.

Herbison's address served as both a roadmap for professional success and a candid look at the grit required to build a meaningful career. Speaking to a crowd of graduates, Herbison challenged the new alumni to look past the glamour of a dream job and embrace the "grunt work" required to get there.

"Get your foot in the door in an occupation you love, even if the role isn't glamorous," Herbison told the graduates. "Be around something larger than you. If you are in an environment that inspires you, you can sustain the motivation needed for those early, challenging roles."

Herbison, whose career has spanned from a teenager working in a family painting business to a key advocate in the halls of Congress, framed his own rise through a lens of relentless preparation. He recounted his early days in radio, where he went from an inexperienced teenager with a self-described "kitten-meowing" voice to the host of the prized morning drive slot. The secret, he revealed, was simple: he was the one willing to work the graveyard shifts, holidays, and weekends that no one else wanted.

"Volunteer for the tasks no one else wants," Herbison advised. "That is how you differentiate yourself. When you take on assignments outside your job description, you develop skills and gain visibility."

The speech was peppered with anecdotes that under-

scored the unpredictability of a successful career. He shared stories of his time in state government and his eventual move to Washington, D.C., where he discovered his life's passion: advocating for the songwriters behind the music. He noted that even his current, long-standing leadership role wasn't immediate; he was initially rejected for the position, spent a year studying the intricacies of songwriter compensation, and reapplied when the role reopened.

"Do your homework continuously," he urged. "If someone else gets the position you want, challenge yourself for the next time. There will be a next time."

The atmosphere in the room was celebratory, buoyed by an introduction that highlighted Herbison's unique experiences—from watching superstars like Taylor Swift rise to fame to an unexpected moment in the White House where a U.S. President once took an interest in his cowboy boots.

Yet, beneath the colorful stories was a sobering between 12 and 18 jobs throughout their lifetime. Herbison argued that in such a fluid market, a reputation for integrity—where "your word is your bond"—is the only currency that truly lasts.

"Earning a certificate marks the beginning of the real work," Herbison said, offering his final congratulations. "You are ready. Now, go be indispensable."

Graduates included:

Machine Tool Technology

McKenzie Campus: Jonathan Fuentes, Brantley Nanney, Nathan Owens and Ethan Peevyhouse.

Paris Campus: Nathan Ose.

Practical Nursing

Camden Campus: Crystal Coleman, Sara Hooten, Megan Nichols, Madalyn Seate, Linzy Standing Rock and Morgan Todd.

Residential Building Maintenance

Dakota Ables, Landon Brown, Cameron Clark,

Kenneth Howard, Benjamin Scott and Miles Travis.

Welding Technology

Dresden Campus: Hayden Burris, Kenneth Camacho, Christopher Gasca, Tabitha Maddox and Charlie McDaniel.

McKenzie Campus: Robert Brotherton, Camron Castleman, Hogan Harris, Kobe Robinson and Braxton Williams.

Paris Campus: Lorenzo Cano, Nathan Merrell and Brylee Rushing.

Administrative Office Technology

Melisa Finch and Kaitlin Turner.

Automotive Technology

Colin Harclerod, Maddox Hunt, Bryson Lawson, Gavin Lindsey, Dawson Luhellier and Richard Zar.

Collision Repair Technology

Tanner Ashlock, Samantha Corbitt, Jacob Hollingsworth and Alex Kessler.

Cosmetology

McKinley Boyd, Anna Daigle, Arianna Evans, Samantha Hannan, Karlee Hedin, Isaiah Hutcherson, Chloe Oatsvall, Destiny Parker, Ke-ara Robbins, Lillian Ruesken, Rylie Small and Allie Smith.

Criminal Justice:

Correctional Officer

Jordyn Hawks and Jordan Shepherd.

Health Information Management Technology

Mandy Fry and Megan Judd.

Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning/Refrigeration

Trace Jones, Nicholas Sackaris, Joshua Shannon, Braxton Trimmer and Caden Tucker.

Industrial Maintenance/Integrated Automation

McKenzie Campus: Christopher Carter and Silas Hazlewood Zayveon Johnson.

Paris Campus: Christopher Cherry, Scott Lutz, Rex Nanney and John Rogers.

Information Technology Systems Management

McKenzie Campus: James Dolan.

Meth

...From Front Page

The charges are the culmination of a two-year long investigation and takedown by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms and Explosives, and the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation in conjunction with the Tennessee Highway Patrol, Henry County Sheriff's Department, Huntingdon Police Department, Carroll County Sheriff's Department, Henderson County Sheriff's Department, Madison County Sheriff's Department, and the 24th Judicial District Drug Task Force.

According to court documents, between May 2024 and February 2026, the defendants conspired, coordinated, and worked together and with others to distribute methamphetamine throughout West Tennessee.

On March 16, 2026, a federal grand jury returned an indictment charging seven individuals with Conspiracy to Distribute more than 50 grams of actual methamphetamine. Those individuals named in the federal indictment are:

Ryan Shonte Sims, 35, of Nashville, TN

Katherine Foust, 37, of Paris, TN

Darryl Barnes, 60, of Henry, TN

Stacie Shoffner, 58, of Henry, TN

Marcus McClennan, 43, of Clarksville, TN

Jessica Hilliard, 38, of Paris, TN

Jason Hedges, 54, of Jackson, TN

On March 2, 2026, a Henry County Grand Jury returned indictments charging 12 additional individuals with various state violations. Those individuals charged are:

Mark William Davis, 43, of Waverly, TN - Criminal Responsibility for the Sale of Methamphetamine.

Michael Lamont Wilson, 51, of Paris, TN - Criminal Responsibility for the Sale of Methamphetamine.

George E. Easley, 41, of Henry, TN - Conspiracy to Sell Methamphetamine.

Jerry Lynn Clark, 68, of Paris, TN - Sale of Methamphetamine.

Brianna V. Holder, 32,

of Paris, TN - Conspiracy to Sell Methamphetamine.

Timothy L. Vandyke, 40, of Paris, TN - Conspiracy to Sell Methamphetamine.

Mandy L. Shriner, 50, of Paris, TN - Conspiracy to Sell Methamphetamine.

Johnnie May Lee, 67, of Paris, TN - Sale of Methamphetamine.

Amanda K. Seward, 47, of McKenzie, TN - Conspiracy to Sell Methamphetamine.

Jenia D. Singleton, 36, of Buchanan, TN - Conspiracy to Sell Methamphetamine.

Mark D. Noah, 58, of Huntingdon, TN - Conspiracy to Sell Methamphetamine.

Anthony Dakota Walker, 26, of Big Sandy, TN - Sale of Methamphetamine.

U.S. Attorney D. Michael Dunavant said, "These indictments and takedown represent another great example of law enforcement working together to disrupt and dismantle drug trafficking organizations that distribute poison in the Western District of Tennessee. I commend the outstanding investigative efforts of our federal, state, and local law enforcement partners in this important and impactful operation, and we look forward to holding the perpetrators accountable in federal court."

"Let this case serve as a warning to would-be drug traffickers seeking to poison our communities... the dedicated men and woman of the DEA will stop at nothing to terminate your operations and ensure that you face justice," said Special Agent in Charge Jim Scott, head of the DEA's Louisville Field Division. "For nearly two years, the DEA and our law enforcement partners were relentless in our efforts to shut down a drug pipeline into rural West Tennessee; and today, our tenacity paid off."

"Our agency remains firmly committed to investigating and disrupting organized drug trafficking in Tennessee. These arrests reflect the ongoing, coordinated enforcement efforts aimed at confronting the methamphetamine distribution that continues to impact this region. We will continue working tirelessly alongside our local, state, and federal partners to combat the violent crimes linked to

methamphetamine and other illegal drugs being trafficked throughout our state," said Director David B. Rausch of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation.

"This is an example of a great collaborative effort from multiple agencies. We're proud to be able to do our part to assist with prosecuting these cases," said District Attorney General Neil Thompson.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Hillary Parham and Assistant District Attorney Anthony Clark.

The charges and allegations contained in the indictments are merely accusations of criminal conduct, not evidence. The defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt and convicted through due process of law.

This prosecution is part of the Homeland Security Task Force (HSTF) initiative established by Executive Order 14159, Protecting the American People Against Invasion. The HSTF is a whole-of-government partnership dedicated to eliminating criminal cartels, foreign gangs, transnational criminal organizations, and human smuggling and trafficking rings operating in the United States and abroad. Through historic interagency collaboration, the HSTF directs the full might of United States law enforcement towards identifying, investigating, and prosecuting the full spectrum of crimes committed by these organizations, which have long fueled violence and instability within our borders. In performing this work, the HSTF places special emphasis on investigating and prosecuting those engaged in child trafficking or other crimes involving children. The HSTF further utilizes all available tools to prosecute and remove the most violent criminal aliens from the United States. HSTF Memphis comprises agents and officers from multiple agencies, to include the investigative agencies listed above, with the prosecution being led by the United States Attorney's Office for the Western District of Tennessee.

Vote

...From Front Page

The early voting period for the May primary began Wednesday, April 15, and ends Thursday, April 30. County office and school board candidates identifying as Republicans or Democrats are on the ballot.

Carroll County residents wanting to cast an early ballot must vote at the Carroll

County Election Commission Office, located at 625 High Street, Huntingdon (behind the Carroll County Government Office).

Early voting hours are as listed:

- Monday through Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Saturday: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

To vote in a political party's primary election, a person must be a bona fide member of, be affiliated with, or declare allegiance with the political party for which they

are voting.

It is a violation of Tennessee Code Annotated Section 2-7-115(b) and is punishable as a crime under Tennessee Code Annotated 2-19-107 to do otherwise.

Once the early voting period passes, individuals may place their votes on Tuesday, May 5 at the respective local precincts.

See Page 11 of The Banner for precinct information and sample Republican and Democratic ballots for the May 5 primary.

Storage

...From Front Page

Commissioners AJ Maxwell, Elizabeth Owen, Sandi Roditis and Mayor Ryan Griffin established a quorum. Commissioners Carol Nanney, Bobby Young and Tim Beeler were absent.

Drewry owns the property on 17900 Highland Avenue, which is zoned B-2 (Highway Business). The property is 1.34 acres in size, and the combined size of the three proposed structures is 14,950 square feet.

The property has access to municipal water and sewer services, but the submitted site plan proposal does not show the nearest water main, sewer main or fire hydrant.

According to Community Planner Donnie Bunton, it is required that a fire hydrant be installed within 500 feet of the storage buildings, but it is up to the planning commission to enforce this rule.

Commissioner Maxwell and Mayor Griffin reviewed several resources to find the property's nearest fire hydrant, as it was not indicated on the site plan. Griffin called McKenzie Fire Chief Brian Tucker, who informed him that the nearest fire hydrant is off of David Street — more than 500 feet away from Drewry's property.

Additionally, an unpaved landscape zone including at least one tree every 30 feet is required along all property boundaries. Drewry's eastern property boundary is partially paved with no land-

scaping or trees proposed. The southern boundary has the required landscape zone in the middle of the property but not on its eastern or western edges.

Drewry raised concerns regarding a nearby field, asking if chemicals sprayed on the field would kill any landscaping he planted.

Bunton told Drewry that he still needs to adhere to the landscaping requirement. The only exception would be if the landscaping interfered with the property's utilities.

The planning commission requested for Drewry to re-submit a new version of the site plan including water/sewer lines, the nearest fire hydrant and the required landscaping.

Obituaries

BOBBY HARRIS 1953 – 2026

HOLLOW ROCK — Mr. Bobby Henry Harris, Sr, 73, of Hollow Rock, died Friday, April 24, 2026, at Huntingdon Health and Rehab.

Graveside funeral services were at Carroll Memorial Gardens on Monday, April 27, 2026, at 1 p.m.

Mr. Harris was born March 6, 1953, in Huntingdon, to the late O. T. and Johnetta Harris. He was preceded in death by two sisters, Dorothy Sue Sullivan and Jo Evelyn Watson; and two brothers, James Ricky Harris and Michael Warren Harris.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Judy Carolyn Mathis Harris; four sons, Robert Henry Harris, Jr, Tracy Lynn Harris, Jason Wayne Harris (Marie Nicole), and Gary Lee Harris, all of Hollow Rock; and a brother, Jim T. Harris of Jackson.

Chase Funeral Home.

CINDY BRANDON GATELEY 1960 – 2026

HUNTINGDON — Mrs. Cindy Brandon Gateley, 65, of Huntingdon, died Monday, April 20, 2026, at her home.

Funeral services were in the Chapel of Chase Funeral Home on Sunday, April 26, 2026, at 2 p.m. with Lynn Brandon and Bro. Dennis Truell officiating. Burial was at Liberty All Cemetery.



Pineapple Deluxe Cake

1 box butter cake mix
1 large can crushed pineapple
2 boxes instant pineapple pudding mix
3 cup milk
8 oz. cream cheese
1 large pkg Cool Whip
Nuts (optional)

Make cake by directions on box. While cake is still hot, spread pineapple and juice on cake. Let cool. Mix pudding mix, milk and cream cheese. Let thicken. Spread on top of pineapple. Cover with cool whip. Sprinkle nuts on top.

Cindy was born on November 25, 1960, in Huntingdon, to the late Douglas Brandon and Peggy Brandon. Cindy spent most of her career in the food industry in Huntingdon and Trenton, Tenn.

Cindy is survived by one son, Charles (Brittany) Moon of Bethpage, Tenn.; her mother, Mrs. Peggy Brandon Work; one sister, Angie (Frank) Proffitt of Rogersville, Tenn.; two brothers, Lynn (Rita) Brandon of Atwood, and Frank (Clara) Brandon of Media, Tenn.; two step-brothers, Kevin (Audra) Work and Brent Work of Hollow Rock. She also leaves two grandchildren.

Cindy was preceded in death by her husband, Thomas (Buck) Gateley; father, Douglas Brandon; stepfather, Ralph Work; and grandparents, Enoch and Elsie Brandon; and JB and Jewell Woodard.

Chase Funeral Home.

RAYMA DENISE PEERY 1956 – 2026

GLEASON — Rayma Denise Peery, 70, died on April 23, 2026. She was born in McKenzie, on February 1, 1956.

Rayma was preceded in death by her parents, Rayma Neltene Johnson Dunning and Little Jack Dunning of Gleason; and her sister, Rachel Jenkins of Gleason.

She is survived by her husband of 46 years, Timothy Ray Peery; her son, Timothy Clinton Peery and wife, Mollie; and her two

grandchildren, Jonathan Ray Peery and Brooklyn Marie Peery. She also leaves behind her brother, Ricky Dunning, and wife, Darlene; and brother-in-law, Mark Jenkins.

Rayma dedicated 42 years to the students of Gleason School, where she served as a Special Education teacher.

A memorial service was Tuesday at First Baptist - Gleason. Burial was in Hopewell Cemetery.

Williams Funeral Home of Gleason.

POLLY ANN DOLLIVER 1965 – 2026

BRUCETON — Mrs. Polly Ann Dolliver, 60, of Bruceton, died Thursday, April 23, at Methodist University Hospital in Memphis.

Funeral services are on Wednesday, April 29, at 6 p.m. in the Chapel of Bruceton Funeral Home.

Mrs. Polly was born December 18, 1965, in Nashville, to the late Jessie Joe Bratton and Margaret Nell Gordon Bratton. Other than her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Frank Dolliver.

She is survived by a son, Jessie Gipson of Paris; a sister, Sammie Bruce (Scott McAlpine) of Camden; and three brothers, Alvin Bratton (Jonell) of Sardis, Jeffrey Joe Bratton (Dana) of Paducah, and Richard “Peck” Bratton (Heather) of Hollow Rock.

Bruceton Funeral Home.

sausage. Spread with corn. Top with tomato soup. Put cheese over the top. Bake at 350 degrees until potatoes are done.

Crock-Pot Stew

2 lb stew meat, cut into 1 inch pieces
1 envelope onion soup mix
1 (10.5 oz.) can cream of mushroom soup
1 (4oz.) can whole mushrooms
1/2 cup red wine

Combine all ingredients in crock-pot. Stir well. Cover and cook on low for 8 to 12 hours. Serve on noodles or rice. This may also be cooked on high in crock-pot for 5 to 6 hours. This recipe may also be doubled for same cooking time.

Gasoline Prices Fall During Week

TENNESSEE (April 27) — Average gasoline prices in Tennessee have fallen 3.0 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.72/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 3,821 stations in Tennessee. Prices in Tennessee are 12.1 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 96.2 cents per gallon higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has decreased 9.2 cents compared to a week ago and stands at \$5.408 per gallon.

According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Tennessee was priced at \$3.25/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$4.39/g, a difference of \$1.14/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$3.25/g while the highest was \$4.39/g, a difference of \$1.14/g.

The national average price of gasoline has risen 7.0 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$4.04/g today. The national average is up 5.7 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 94.3 cents per gallon higher than a year

ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

Historical gasoline prices in Tennessee and the national average going back five years:

April 27, 2025: \$2.76/g (U.S. Average: \$3.10/g)
April 27, 2024: \$3.23/g (U.S. Average: \$3.65/g)
April 27, 2023: \$3.25/g (U.S. Average: \$3.61/g)
April 27, 2022: \$3.85/g (U.S. Average: \$4.14/g)
April 27, 2021: \$2.66/g (U.S. Average: \$2.88/g)

“Average gasoline prices rose in 39 states over the last week, with the national average moving higher, while diesel prices declined in most states, offering a brief divergence at the pump,” said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. “However, that divergence may prove short-lived. Oil prices have been climbing again as markets react to renewed geopolitical tensions and the cancellation of talks between the U.S. and Iran. As

a result, gasoline prices are set to rise further this week, with diesel expected to follow. Many inland states—including those in the Great Lakes and Plains— could see average gas prices climb to their highest levels since 2022, while price-cycling markets may also experience another round of hikes in the next few days.”

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CARROLL ARTS HIGH SCHOOL CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS

Carroll Arts, Inc. hosts the annual High School Celebration of the Arts on Thursday, April 30, at The Dixie Carter Performing Arts Center in Huntingdon. A gallery of visual art opens at 6:30 p.m. upstairs; performances begin in the Hal Holbrook Theatre at 7 p.m. Artwork and performances are by students from Carroll County high schools and include paintings, pottery, singing, dramatic readings and more. Carroll County Mayor Joseph Butler will give opening remarks and present the Carroll Arts scholarship.

SECOND ANNUAL McKENZIE ROTARY BOSTON BUTT SALE!

Make sure to purchase your tickets to the annual McKenzie Rotary Boston Butt Sale. It is fully cooked and ready to eat - just in time for Father's Day! Pick up day is June 20 at Tosh Farms Event Barn, 65 Cemetery Lane, Henry, TN 38231. For tickets, see a member of Rotary or use this link: <https://givebutter.com/boston-butt-sale-pprdop>. Please remember there will be a processing fee applied using the link. Or, purchase from any Rotary member for \$50.

ALA UNIT 47 FAMILY DANCE NIGHT

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 47 hosts a Family Dance Night every Thursday night from 7-9 p.m. at the Carroll County Civic Center, 201 Fairgrounds Rd, Huntingdon. A different band is featured each week. All are welcome - singles and/or partners. Admission is \$8. Limited snacks and refreshments available for purchase. For the band schedule, check out our Facebook page: American Legion Auxiliary, Huntingdon, TN Unit 47.

MHS CLASS OF 1976 REUNION

McKenzie High School Class of 1976 is holding a 50-year class reunion on September 26, 1 p.m. at Chandler Farms in McKenzie. The event is in conjunction with the MHS Alumni Association annual reunion. For more information, e-mail Amy Rich Carter at amycarter58@gmail.com or Marsha Spain Smith at smithmarsha99@yahoo.com.

THE BREAKFAST CLUB AT HOMETOWN HEALTH

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!

BETHEL UNIVERSITY GRADUATION

Bethel University will conduct its spring commencement on Saturday, May 9, 10 a.m. in the Crisp Arena on the McKenzie campus.

CARROLL 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.

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.

Parisian
THEATRE

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Paris, TN • 642-1696

MICHAEL (PG-13)

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

A GREAT AWAKENING (PG-13)

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

LEE CRONIN'S
THE MUMMY (R)

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

PROJECT HAIL MARY (PG-13)

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

THE SUPER MARIO
GALAXY MOVIE (PG)

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

REMINDERS OF HIM (PG-13)

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

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um. 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.

GARAGE
SALE

1054 Thomas St. Milan
Fri., May 1 | 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sat., May 2 | 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

RAIN OR SHINE

Furniture, vintage toys, lamps,
dolls, shoes including Jordans,
jewelry, name brand clothes, &
additional miscellaneous items.

R27465/17-1

Yard
Sale

Jane Carnell
& Lisa Ellis
SAT., MAY 2
7 a.m.-2 p.m.

1070 N MAIN ST. McKenzie

22-24 capris new \$2, 2X-3X tops,
2X-3X pants, 44 men's suit coats,
44x32 men's pants, XL men's
shirts, men's socks, XL men's
underwear, some flowers, two
comforters, lots of knick-knacks,
wreaths, bike, push lawn mower,
kids' toys & clothes.

R27459/17-1

3 Families
YARD SALE

May Heights Apt 40
Across from E.W. James, McKenzie

Thursday & Friday,
April 30 & May 1
8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Saturday,
May 2
9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Lots of books, sheets, furniture,
pillows, tennis shoes, exercise
bike, bedspreads, curtains,
flowers, clothes and misc. items.

R27467/17-1

GARAGE
Sale

Rain or Shine
MAY 1 & 2
Friday 7 a.m.-5 p.m.
Saturday 7 a.m.-1 p.m.

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McKENZIE

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Furniture and
Schwinn Bike.

R27466/17-1

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SCAN ME!

ACT Luncheon Honors 17 High School Students

BY **LYNDSEY SUMMERS**
lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

HUNTINGDON (April 20) — Seventeen Carroll County students were the guests of honor at Mallard’s Restaurant Monday, April 20, at the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce’s annual ACT Luncheon.

Each of the students scored a superscore of 29 or higher on the national ACT exam, for which the highest score is a 36. This score places each student in the top eight-percent of students across the nation who took the ACT.

The chamber began honoring students with high ACT scores in 2013, recognizing their achievement with wall plaques inside the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce building.

Carroll County Chamber of Commerce President Brad Hurley estimated that, since 2013, approximately 3,900 students have graduated from Carroll County schools.

In that time, only 184 of those students have made a 29 or higher on their ACT exam.

Hurley spoke to the students on behalf of the chamber board.

“The board wanted you to know that Carroll County is your home,” Hurley said. “We are proud of you today. We’ll be proud of you tomorrow. We’ll be proud of you 10 years from now.”

Hurley asked for students to stay true to themselves and to one day return to Carroll County to build their careers.

“This is your home, and we want you to always know you can come home,” Hurley said. “Regardless of if you change paths, whatever you want to do, this is your home.”

Hurley also challenged students to give back to their teachers by saying thank you.

Of the honorees, six were from Huntingdon High School, four were from McKenzie High School, three were from Hollow Rock-Bruceton Central High School, two were from Clarksburg School, one was from West Carroll Jr./Sr. High School and one was homeschooled.

Carroll County Mayor

Joseph Butler and Bethel University President Perry Moulds presented the following students with plaques:

Huntingdon High School

Wyatt Bergman scored a 30 on his ACT. He plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, where he will study diesel engineering. In high school, he was a member of the Beta Club, and he was a four-year member of the cross country team. Bergman competed at the National Beta Convention in Engineering and also in the University of Tennessee at Martin’s annual math competition. He graduated from the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce’s 2026 Youth Leadership Program. Bergman has worked at the Huntingdon Animal Lodge since December 2025.

Thomas “TJ” Brea scored a 31 on his ACT. He is studying HVAC at the Tennessee College of Applied Technology in McKenzie. In high school, Brea was a member of the band and the Future Farmers of America. He has worked at The Dairy Bar in Huntingdon since March 2026.

Tripp Johnson scored a 29 on his ACT. He plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, where he will pursue a degree in mechanical engineering. His favorite high school activity has been track and field. Johnson is a member of the Beta Club, and he is in the top 10 percent of his class. He holds a record for the farthest shot put in Huntingdon High School history. He has worked at the Huntingdon Recreational Pool for two years.

Will Lewis scored a 34 on his ACT. He plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, where he will study biomedical engineering. He is a member of the Beta Club and Math Club. Lewis is a distinguished scholar and was accepted into the Chancellor’s Honors Program at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. He has worked at Block City Pizza.

Mary Kendall Stevens scored a 29 on her ACT. She plans to attend the Univer-



The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce’s ACT Class of 2026 is pictured with Bethel University President Perry Moulds, Carroll County Mayor Joseph Butler and Chamber President Brad Hurley. Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner

sity of Tennessee at Martin, where she will major in finance with the goal of attending law school in the future. In high school, she was a member of the Beta Club and was on the high school tennis team. She is the Beta Club president and is the Class of 2026 vice president. She is a lifeguard at the Huntingdon Recreational Pool.

Blaine Todd scored a 29 on his ACT. He plans to attend Tennessee Tech University and major in civil engineering because he wants to make an impact on people’s lives. In high school, he was a member of the Beta Club and the cross-country team. Todd received the Citizenship Award and is Class President. He spends his summers mowing lawns.

McKenzie High School

Brody Berryhill scored a 33 on his ACT. He plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, where he will major in biochemistry. Berryhill plans to become an anesthesiologist or pulmonologist and eventually open a joint operation in West Tennessee, with the hopes of making healthcare easier and more accessible. In high school, Berryhill was a member of the cross-country team and a member of the DECA Club. Berryhill placed first at the State DECA conference in International Business and is a two-time DECA international conference attendee. He is also a four-time winner of a McKenzie High School Scholar of Merit. Berryhill is a 2026 graduate of Youth Leadership Carroll County and has worked at the McKenzie Park Theatre since October 2021.

Dylan Bomar scored a 30 on his ACT. He plans to study music at the University of Tennessee at Martin, as he said music is the core

component of his life. In high school, he was a member of the Beta Club and the marching and concert band. Bomar was named Best Soloist in the prelims and finals of the 2024 Tennessee Division One State Marching Band Championship. He was also voted the most talented in his class.

Tobey Brooks scored a 31 on his ACT. He plans to study international business at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. He has always had an interest in business and traveling, so he thought, “Why not put the two together?” In high school, Brooks enjoyed cheer and DECA. He is a 2026 graduate of Youth Leadership Carroll County. Brooks placed third in the International Business Plan event at the State DECA conference in 2025 and placed fifth in the state in International Business for FBLA. Brooks works at The Happy Book Stack Cafe.

Landyn McLearn earned a 33 on his ACT. He plans to study anthropology after graduation. In the future, he hopes to earn a doctoral degree in music and art because he is driven by his passion for music, dance and all forms of art. He has also enjoyed learning to play the bass. McLearn is a four-year honors student and is in the top 10 of his class.

Hollow Rock-Bruceton Central High School

Madison Holder scored a 34 on her ACT. She plans to attend Covenant College, where she will play softball and major in biology to prepare for medical school. Her favorite school activity has been playing softball and joining the National Senior Beta Club. Holder scored the highest ACT at Hollow Rock-Bruceton. She attended the American Legion of Auxiliary Volunteer Girls State and is a 2026 graduate

of Youth Leadership Carroll County. She has been job shadowing at Apex Bank.

Sarah Smith scored a 32 on her ACT. She plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, where she will major in political science. She wants to better understand the role and power of government. In high school, she enjoyed managing the football team and being a member of the Beta Club. Smith is a recipient of the American Legion Citizenship Award. She is a 2026 graduate of Youth Leadership Carroll County and has worked at the 1822 Coffee Shop in Huntingdon for two years. She enjoys music, baking and being with her family.

Isaac Walker scored a 29 on his ACT. He plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, where he will double major in political science and psychology. He plans to pursue a career in law and politics because he wants to see the world. Walker was chosen to represent his high school at the Hugh O’Brian Youth Leadership Program and represented his school on the stage at the National Beta Convention as a premier performer. Walker has worked at Block City Pizza for three weeks.

Clarksburg School

Ava Akins scored a 29 on her ACT. She plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, where she will major in pre-pharmacy because of her love of science and helping people. In high school, she enjoyed being on the cheerleading squad and was a member of the Beta Club. Akins received Student of the Year and has been on the All As Honor Roll for all four years of high school. Akins is also a 2026 graduate of the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce’s Youth Leadership Program.

Orion Cary scored a 31 on his ACT. He plans to attend Tennessee Tech University to pursue a degree in electrical engineering. Afterwards, he hopes to join the TVA because of his interest in electricity. His favorite extracurricular activities have been being a member of the Future Farmers of America and running on the cross-country team. Cary earned the Future Farmers of America’s state degree and competed and placed in the top five in the Beta Club’s state convention. He is also a 2026 graduate of Youth Leadership Carroll County. He has worked at the Cary Cattle Farm for three years.

West Carroll Jr./Sr. High School

Brylan Wilbanks scored a 30 on her ACT. She will attend the University of Mississippi and plans to earn her doctorate degree. Driven by her passion for helping people, she will major in psychology. Wilbanks is a member of the Beta Club and the marching band. She is also a member of the National Society of High School Scholars and is in the Torch and Laurel Honors Society. She has enrolled in college classes and has attended academic summer programs since her freshman year.

Homelife Academy

Hannah King, a home-schooled Huntingdon resident, scored a 31 on her ACT. She plans to study American Sign Language interpreting at Freed-Hardeman University. King has always had an interest in different languages and in helping people. King received a first-place award in a speech competition and has worked at the AP Dairy Bar for two years.



Sherrona Taylor from Lifeline Blood Services speaks to West Carroll Primary students. Submitted photo.

West Carroll Primary Students Learn About Blood Drives

McLEMORESVILLE (April 23) — West Carroll Primary teased its upcoming blood drive Thursday with a special visit from Sherrona Taylor from Lifeline Blood Services. She shared important facts with students, explaining that one pint of blood is equal to two school milk cartons and that one pint of blood can save three people’s lives.

Taylor encouraged students to invite their families

to participate in the school’s upcoming blood drive on Wednesday, April 29. The drive is from 12:30-5:30 p.m. at West Carroll Primary.

West Carroll Primary set a goal of collecting 20 total pints of blood in the blood drive. The student who brings the most donors will receive a \$25 gift card, and the classroom with the most donors will celebrate with a pizza party.

Hilda Moyo Turns Soccer Opportunity into Nursing Degree

BY **LYNDSEY SUMMERS**
lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

When Hilda Moyo arrived at Bethel University from Chitungwiza, Zimbabwe, soccer was her way in — and, for a time, the only path she saw to a college education.

This spring, that path leads to graduation. By May 9, Moyo will have played 55 matches for the Bethel Lady Wildcats, starting 31 as a center back, while completing a nursing degree she once thought was out of reach.

Before moving to the States, Moyo played for a soccer club in Zimbabwe. One day, the director of her club approached her, asking if she wanted a chance to further her education.

“Soccer was the only option that I had,” Moyo said. “I didn’t have any way to pay for tuition, so that was the only option for me to go to college.”

Moyo arrived in 2021 on a scholarship tied to a business major. In her first year, Moyo never stepped foot on the playing field.

“I cried so many times because I was scared of losing my scholarship,” Moyo said.

She eventually earned playing time, then starts, and helped Bethel reach nationals in 2023 — one of her proudest moments. She was also selected to the conference’s second team after opposing coaches took notice.



Hilda Moyo

As an international student, Moyo followed the plan laid out for her. Though she joined on a business scholarship, the idea of entering nursing school was always in the back of her mind, shaped by the memory of her grandmother, who raised her and died of ovarian cancer in 2016.

Her decision to change majors would come much later in her path. As a freshman, she was told balancing

soccer and nursing as an international student would be too difficult. It wasn’t until the first semester of her senior year that she made the switch, adding an extra year to her academic journey.

Balancing nursing and soccer meant long nights and difficult choices. On road trips, she studied while teammates slept. There were times she had to miss practice, times she said left

her “mentally, physically and emotionally” drained.

Moyo said that her faith has sustained her through the challenges of school, soccer and life far from home.

“I keep on believing God and keep on trusting Him because He has been faithful,” she said. “He came through for me in so many difficult times.”

Moyo’s belief in herself also never wavered, supported by an onslaught of people who loved her and looked up to her.

“I built so many relationships here in McKenzie,” she said. “I have people here who always want me to be successful.”

That support system — including soccer coach Misty Aird, Matt and Kristi Johnson, and her boyfriend Stanley Isaac — inspired her to keep going.

Now, Moyo is applying for nursing jobs and hopes to stay in Tennessee if she can secure sponsorship to work in the United States.

Facing her May 9 commencement, Moyo knows her degree is proof that the path she took, despite its challenges, was worth it.

“Coming from a background that says women can’t do anything... I feel like being able to fulfill one of my dreams, just to graduate, is something I’m proudest of,” Moyo said. “I never knew one day I would be here.”

Local Author Mike Fuller Visits Clarksburg

BY LYNDSY SUMMERS
lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

CLARKSBURG (April 20) — Children’s author Mike Fuller returned to Carroll County Monday, April 20, to share his new book, “Safety First,” with Clarksburg students.

Fuller, a Huntingdon High School graduate, is a travel nurse, set medic, musician and snowboarder. As a set medic, he has been involved in a handful of films and television shows including “Someone Like You” by Karen Kingsbury, “Ride” by Jake Allyn and “Street Outlaws” by Discovery TV. “Safety First” is Fuller’s second children’s story, published February 3, 2026.

“Safety First” is the second installment of Fuller’s “The Black Snowboarder” series. It follows main character Prince as he continues his adventure to Summit County, Colo. During a school field trip, Prince learns valuable lessons about mountain safety and respect for nature. He discovers fascinating facts about the mountain environment and celebrates the beauty of diversity among friends and classmates.

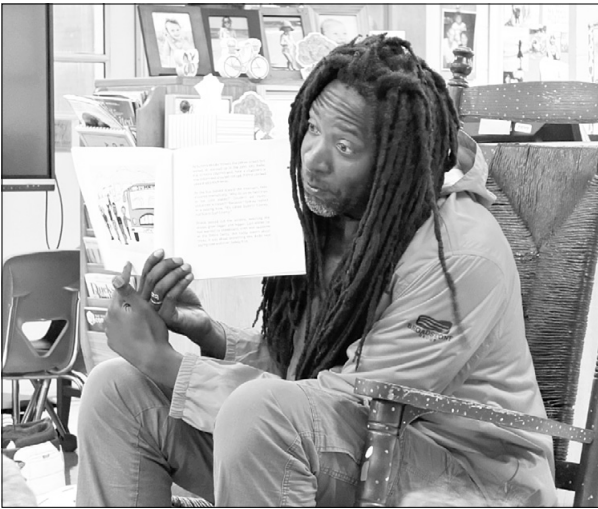
“Safety First” reminds readers that being safe and embracing differences makes every journey even more rewarding.

Fuller read his book to Clarksburg students. He spoke about all of the places he has snowboarded and explained his snowboarding equipment. He told kids he wanted all children to know they could do anything.

“I think it’s very import-



Above, Huntingdon High School graduates Mike Fuller and Braden Maddox are photographed together. Maddox, representing First Bank, gifted teachers with coloring books and copies of Fuller’s book. Below, Mike Fuller reads to Clarksburg School students. Submitted photos



ant that students from our county want to come back and share their stories with other students,” said Gena Maddox, Clarksburg School librarian.

Braden Maddox sponsored the event, representing First Bank. Maddox graduated high school with

Fuller. He provided pre-k through fifth-grade teachers with a coloring book and a copy of Fuller’s new book for their classrooms.

At the conclusion of the reading, Fuller and Maddox urged Clarksburg students to dream big.

WEST CARROLL ELEMENTARY

Students Gamify TCAP Prep

SUBMITTED BY
LESLIE CHAPPELL

It’s TCAP season across Tennessee, and students at West Carroll Elementary School recently took a more active approach to TCAP preparation by using a multiplication frisbee game to review math facts while staying physically engaged.

The activity replaced traditional worksheet practice with a team-based game that combined movement, problem-solving and multiplication fluency. Students tossed a frisbee back and forth while answering multiplication problems. Each successful catch prompted a question, and each correct answer allowed the team to continue play.

Teachers said the activity was designed to reinforce multiplication skills in a fun, low-pressure setting. The format encouraged students to stay focused, work together and practice math facts without the stress often associated with



Student David Trull proudly holds a frisbee. Submitted photo

test preparation.

Throughout the lesson, students were seen cheering for classmates, celebrating correct answers and offering encouragement. The game also supported kinesthetic learners by in-

corporating movement into academic review.

In addition to strengthening multiplication fluency, the activity helped students build teamwork, communication and quick-thinking skills.



(L to R) Kathryn O’Bryant, Taylor Marlow and Hunter Malm.

West Carroll Spotlights Students of the Week

WEST CARROLL (April 23) — The West Carroll Special School District announced its newest round of students of the week from its primary, elementary and junior/senior high schools. The three students — Kathryn O’Bryant, Taylor Marlow and Hunter Malm — were each nominated for their friendly personalities in the classroom.

Kathryn O’Bryant is West Carroll Primary School’s student of the week, nominated by Ms. Karen Talley.

“Kathryn is a bright student and a hard worker,”

Talley said. “She faces challenges with such courage. Kathryn is a wonderful friend to everyone. Kathryn participates in class discussions with great ideas and interests. It has been amazing having her in class. I look forward to seeing where her future takes her.”

Taylor Marlow is West Carroll Elementary School’s student of the week, nominated by Mrs. Sherry Cockrill.

“Taylor is a model student,” Cockrill said. “He gets along well with everyone and consistently demon-

strates integrity.”

Hunter Malm is West Carroll Jr/Sr High School’s student of the week, nominated by Mr. Noah Rogers.

“Hunter is an outgoing young man who positively influences and encourages his peers every day,” Rogers said. “I’m looking forward to working with him for the next four years.”

The West Carroll Special School District also recognized West Carroll Elementary School third-grade ELA teacher Brianna Rice as teacher of the week.



Former members of the McKenzie Boxing Club reunited on Saturday, April 18. Pictured with former coach Chris Edlin (center) are MBC athletes (L to R) Will Walker, Matt Ramsey, Jason Hurley, Jason Chesser, Brian Flatt, Jason Priddy, Terry Traywick, Jeremy Keymon and Patrick Little. Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner

Former McKenzie Boxing Club Members Reunite

BY LYNDSY SUMMERS
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McKENZIE (April 18) — The McKenzie Boxing Club held a reunion on Saturday, April 18, at the McKenzie Church of Christ New Fellowship Hall from 3-6 p.m.

Approximately 15 former club participants and their family members enjoyed a catered meal and shared memories, old photos and memorabilia from their competition days.

The club competed from 1989-95 under the coaching of Chris Edlin, a competitive boxer native to McKenzie. Over the years, the club formed an impressive roster of competitive boxers aged 8-19 years old, some of whom would even claim the title of Mid South Golden Gloves Champion. Terry Traywick was the first McKenzie Boxing Club trainee, joining in 1988 at the age of 12. He trained and competed for five seasons until he was 16, having a total of 27 amateur bouts. Wes Price was the second trainee in the club, joining in 1989.

In 1990, the club had a stellar season. Five of the

six club members — Terry Traywick, Brian Flatt, Courtney Nolen, Patrick Little and Jason Priddy — won West Tennessee championships.

Patrick Little, Courtney Nolen and Brian Flatt continued their reign, accomplishing an undefeated season in 1990-91, with Little winning Outstanding Junior Boxer in the West Tennessee Golden Gloves.

Terry Traywick, Brian Flatt and Jason Hurley also competed for and/or won Mid South Golden Gloves championships for senior division boxers (age 16+).

In the 1990s, popular heavyweight Jason Hurley won two West Tennessee championships and defeated several high-level amateurs. Terry Traywick won four championships, and Brian Flatt won three. Traywick and Flatt also each won Outstanding Golden Gloves Boxer awards.

Other notable McKenzie Boxing Club members with West Tennessee titles are Mike Mahar, Wes Price, Jason Winberry, Donnie Madison, Jeremy Keymon, Jason Chesser and Brandon Arnhold.

The team trained at

three different locations during their active years, including the National Guard Armory (1990-91), Webb School Gymnasium (1992-94) and Long Heights Baptist Church gymnasium in 1995.

Coach Edlin began his amateur boxing career in 1981 and boxed competitively until 1989. He was encouraged to form the McKenzie Boxing Club in 1989 by long-time Jackson Boxing Club coach and legend Rayford Collins.

Edlin coached exclusively from 1990-95 before returning to competitive boxing in the 2000s.

Coach Edlin had a total of 27 bouts from age 19-53. Three of those bouts came after 2003, when a Masters Boxing Division began for amateur competitors 40 years and older. Edlin competed in three national level championships for elite level amateur boxers at ages 48 and 53, winning a title Masters National Championship at lightweight (132 pounds) at age 48 in 2010.

This was the McKenzie Boxing Club’s first formal reunion since Coach Edlin stepped down in 1995.

From Brazil to Bethel: A Student’s Story

BY ARTEM DZUN

McKENZIE — Marco De Oliveira Zorzetto - an international student at Bethel University, arrived in the United States with dreams shaped by the vibrant culture of Brazil and the charm of the American academic and athletic experience. His journey, however, has been a nuanced exploration of cultural differences, athletic realities, and the often unexpected paths to personal growth.

Originally from Mogi Mirim, São Paulo, Brazil, Marco’s journey to America was not his first foray into the country, having lived in Tennessee previously before returning to Brazil and then coming back for his university studies here.

The transition to the American educational system at Bethel presented a mix of positive surprises and significant adjustments. “In a positive way,” Marco notes, “there’s a center for everything, basically everything for your major.” He was also struck by the diversity of sports offered, some of which are uncommon in Brazil, such as shooting, bowling, and fishing.

However, the athletic culture shock was particularly profound. Marco, who had trained rigorously in Brazil for tennis, was accustomed to practices lasting up to six hours a day. The comparatively shorter, 90-minute daily sessions at Bethel initially led to a decline in his motivation. “It was in a negative way because I didn’t have the mentality for it in my first semester,” he admits, a stark contrast to the high-intensity, “for the cause” dedication he experienced from coaches back home. He describes Brazilian coaches as deeply invested, offering personalized attention and al-



Marco De Oliveira Zorzetto, an international student from Brazil attending Bethel University.

ways available for discussions about improvement, even outside of scheduled practice. This level of commitment and specialized focus on a single sport, he found, was different in the U.S., where coaches sometimes juggled multiple sports or showed favoritism.

Beyond sports, Marco’s cultural adaptation included navigating the American diet. He found the food here “more processed” and missed the freshness of Brazilian vegetables, often enjoyed at lively street markets. Also, stereotypes about Brazil are a common conversational starting point for Americans, with questions about the heat, soccer prowess, and Carnivals in Rio. But Marco, however, welcomes these discussions, seeing them as an opportunity to offer a different perspective on his home country. The conversations about limited public transportation in the area are also critical for international students, as a car is nearly essential for getting around.

Marco’s athletic journey itself is a testament to

his adaptability. Initially a dedicated soccer player from the age of 2, he transitioned to tennis at 11, driven by a desire for a more individualistic sport where he could rely solely on his own efforts.

His academic path led him to pursue Psychology, his mother, a psychologist herself, instilled in him the importance of mental well-being, and he cherishes the therapeutic conversations they share. This has inspired him to pursue a career where he can help others achieve a similar sense of mental clarity.

Looking ahead, a 22-year-old Marco plans to pursue a Master’s degree, ideally in Florida, to continue his studies in Psychology. Marco’s ultimate goal is to return to Brazil, drawn by its relaxed lifestyle, familiar culture, and his native language. His time in the U.S. has fostered significant personal growth, transforming him from a hopeful teenager to a more grounded adult.

“Don’t misunderstand what you’re going to do there,” he advises his 19-year-old self. “You’re not going there for fun. You’re not going there for parties... You need to be there to study and practice and study and practice.” His experience, he concludes, has been a stark lesson in reality, moving beyond youthful expectations of the “American dream” to a more pragmatic understanding of hard work and dedication. Despite these challenges, he finds comfort in his friendships and the supportive community at Bethel, which has indeed become a home away from home.

About the author: Artem Dzun is an international student from Russia and attending Bethel University. The senior plans to return to his home country following the May 9 graduation.



Photo by Joel Washburn

Hunter Hayes Delights Audience at The Dixie

Grammy-nominated Hunter Hayes delighted a capacity audience at the Dixie Carter Performing Arts Center in Huntingdon on Saturday, April 18. Hayes, a songwriter, musician, producer performed non-stop during the evening performance. Frankie Jonas performed prior to Hayes and delighted the audience with his musical talents.

West Tennessee Healthcare to Host Two-Day Grief Education Series

JACKSON — West Tennessee Healthcare, in partnership with Butterfly's Embrace, will host a two-day grief education series featuring nationally recognized grief counselor and best-selling author Dr. Alan D. Wolfelt. The series begins Thursday, April 30, 2026, with an evening community event titled "Tending to Your Broken Heart: Hope for Your Healing." This free event is from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Lighthouse Church in Jackson. Dinner will be provided, and while attendance is free, registration is required. The series continues Friday, May 1, 2026, with a full-day educational workshop, "The Art of Companioning a Mourning Heart: Caring Versus Curing," from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the J. Walter Barnes Conference Center at Jackson-Madison County General Hospital. This session is designed for healthcare professionals, caregivers and others who support individuals experiencing grief. Continuing education credits will be available. Throughout both events, Dr. Wolfelt will share practical, compassionate approaches to understanding grief, helping attendees recognize the emotional, psychological and social impact of loss while learning how to truly walk alongside those who are hurting. The sessions will also explore the important difference between "caring" and "curing," offering guidance on how to support others in meaningful and lasting ways. "At West Tennessee Healthcare, caring for our community means being there not only in times of illness, but also in times of loss," said Leigh Ann Sutton, WTH Perinatal Bereavement Social Worker. "These events are an opportunity to learn how to support one another with compassion, understanding and heart." Registration for both events is available by visiting www.ButterflysEmbraceFamilySupport.com. This series is made possible through the partnership of West Tennessee Healthcare, Butterfly's Embrace and community sponsors who share a commitment to caring for others through every stage of life. West Tennessee Healthcare is a public, not-for-profit healthcare system with locations serving 19 counties in West Tennessee and Southeast Missouri. The mission of West Tennessee Healthcare is to improve the health and well-being of the communities we serve while providing exceptional and compassionate care.

L.I. Smith and Associates Launches NIL Initiative, Welcomes Bethel Golfer Logan Rory

PARIS — L.I. Smith and Associates of Paris, Tenn. has officially launched its Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) program, announcing Bethel University senior golfer Logan Rory as its inaugural partner. The initiative aims to leverage NIL as a recruiting tool to attract talent and foster relationships within local communities. Patrick Smith, President of L.I. Smith and Associates, introduced Rory, a business administration major from Dover, Tennessee, as the first student-athlete to join their program. Rory will serve as a campus ambassador and brand representative for the company. "We're not recruiting majors, we're recruiting mindsets," Smith stated, emphasizing the company's focus on character, work ethic, values, and a desire to grow and lead. He added that the program is about "building relationships before resumes" and creating pathways for internships, mentorship, and long-term careers. As part of the agreement, Mr. Rory received a financial gift and branded merchandise, or 'swag,' featuring custom embroidery from Lake Dwellers. The partnership was formalized with a contract signing, and Rory was photographed alongside Patrick Smith. The company highlighted that this program underscores a commitment to local talent, demonstrating that meaningful work and professional growth are accessible in towns such as Paris, Martin, McKenzie, and Dover, not just in larger cities. L.I. Smith and Associates acknowledged key partners supporting this venture, including Pepsi Mid America for beverages, The Happy Book Stack and McKenzie Tap Room and Restaurant for gift packages, and NIL Vena Sports for guidance through the NIL process. The company also recognized Derek Horne, Vice President of Athletics at Bethel, and Dr. Wayne Scott, Executive Vice President at Bethel University, for their leadership and support, and Dr. Josh Greer. Looking ahead, L.I. Smith and Associates plans to expand its campus ambassador program beyond student-athletes. Mary Ray Smith, a graduate student at the University of Tennessee at Martin, is set to become the first non-student-athlete campus ambassador, furthering the company's goal of recruiting talent and opportunities across universities and retaining skilled individuals in West Tennessee.



Patrick Smith, President of L.I. Smith and Associates Congratulates Logan Rory as the company's first NIL representative.

About L.I. Smith

LIS is a full-service, integrating engineering and surveying company serving the public and private sectors. Licensed in 12 states across the Central and Southeast regions, LIS has an experienced team that can provide multistate coverage for projects of all sizes in land development, infrastructure design, and surveying. With 50 years of industry experience, you can trust LIS with your next project. We combine industry expertise with new, cutting-edge technology to provide innovative solutions to real-world problems. LIS is a certified Tennessee Small Business Enterprise headquartered in Paris, Tenn., with a branch located in Nashville.

McKenzie Senior Citizens Center Donates to Gordon Browning Museum



McKENZIE (April 15) — The McKenzie Senior Citizens Center made a donation Wednesday of \$680 to the Governor Gordon Weaver Browning Genealogical Library and Museum for its ongoing renovation. The funds were raised via a spaghetti dinner hosted by the senior center. Pictured are (L to R) Mabel Plank, senior center executive board member; Carol Armpriest, senior center president; Jennifer Waldrup, vice president of the Gordon Browning Museum; and Joe McGuigan, volunteer military archivist at the museum. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

Bethel's Blue Tricycle: A Ride of Kindness, Campus Engagement

BY ARTEM DZUN

McKENZIE — A familiar blue tricycle is becoming a bright spot on the Bethel University campus, thanks to Nikki Klopfenstein, the university's Title IX and Prevention Services Coordinator. Klopfenstein's unique mode of transportation is not only helping her navigate the campus but also fostering engagement and spreading a little joy among students. Nikki, who also teaches at the university, found her commute challenging due to knee issues. While her physical therapist suggested cycling, her husband's advice led to a three-wheeled solution. "He said I shouldn't get anything with a motor or anything with two wheels," Klopfenstein explained. "I don't need to be going too fast. It's just safer." The tricycle, complete with a basket for her belongings, proved to be the perfect fit. The journey from the Vera Low area to Campbell Hall, especially the uphill stretch, presents a challenge. "It's rough," Klopfenstein admitted. However, the student reaction makes the effort worthwhile. "The students seem to really enjoy it," she said. "When they see me out on it, it just makes them smile. It's something they hadn't seen before." The cheerful ring of the tricycle's bell has become a welcome sound, catching students' attention and giving them smiles.

Klopfenstein's vision for the tricycle, which will soon be named creatively with student input, goes beyond personal transportation. She intends for it to be a "vessel of kindness" and an effective tool for communication. "Retention is linked to engagement and connection," Klopfenstein stated. She believes that shared experiences, particularly involving food, are powerful ways to bring people together. "What a great way to be able to load up with snacks, water, that kind of thing, and travel across campus and just hand out... a little splash of kindness," she explained. She also plans to distribute informational pamphlets and tips for student well-being during prevention awareness months. Klopfenstein recalls how a simple gesture of handing out cold water to students one evening brought unexpected happiness, solidifying her belief in the power of spontaneous kindness. The sight of the bright blue tricycle will hopefully prove to be a way to combat student isolation. Nikki noted that loneliness is a direct link to students not returning to university or hiding in their dorms. "I hope that as time progresses, people start to see that as like, what is she up to now? What is she bringing? Another connection to our students - I don't feel alone." For students with earbuds in and heads down, the tricycle provides a visual cue to engage with their surroundings. Klopfenstein is also aiming to make information more accessible. "There's not a really great way to get information to you guys," she said, referencing the challenge of getting students' attention or ensuring that their emails are read. She sees the bike as a mobile distribution system, quickly passing out information between classes. It has already provided some amusing moments. Klopfenstein's daughter, Eva, recently rode with her in the basket, drawing curious looks. Another time, a student with headphones on was surprised when Klopfenstein rode past. "He laughed and I laughed," she recalled. Nikki really hopes her new method of transport will become a recognizable symbol of support. She plans to get a custom license plate that reads "T9 KLOP", making it easy for students to associate the tricycle with her Title IX and Prevention Services role. "Just to give them a quick association versus



Nikki Klopfenstein on her 'tricycle' at Bethel University. She uses the tricycle to better engage with students.

just coming to the mailroom and I'm kind of just the door next to the mailroom," she said. "Creativity is essential to connection," Nikki concluded. "This is just a creative way to be connected and to get involved and engage with our students that they're not used to seeing." It has been a labor of love. The tricycle was a shared project assembled by many at the university, proving it to be more than just a tricycle - she is a rolling testament to fostering community and making student support visible and approachable, one campus ride at a time. Her upcoming plans include distributing donuts and self-care tips during finals week, adding sunflowers and lights, talking with students to determine an official name and having her present at various campus events to further capture her as a connection piece to student services. Klopfenstein is a graduate of Henry County High School, Bethel University, and the Nashville School of Law, where she attained her Doctorate of Jurisprudence. She teaches Criminal Justice at Bethel University and serves as the university's Title IX director. She and husband, Chris, have one daughter, Eva.

Artem Dzun is a senior at Bethel University and an international student from Russia, where he will return following graduation.

Carroll County Sports Hall of Fame Banquet is Saturday

The Carroll County Sports Hall of Fame Banquet is Saturday, May 2 at 6 p.m.. Eight former Carroll County sports icons are to be inducted into the Class of 2026. This year's inductees are Wesley Beal, Jr., McKenzie High School, 1964; James Penn McKenzie, McKenzie High School, 1990; Amanda Renfroe, Clarksburg High School, 2008; Johnny Carter, Huntingdon High School, 1967; Andrea “An-

gie” Holder, Huntingdon High School, 1986; Johnnie Compton, Huntingdon High School, 1967; Murray Smith, Trezevant High School; and Alex Matlock, Hollow Rock–Bruceton Central High School, 2008. The banquet will also honor two high school students from each of Carroll County's five school districts as Carroll County High School Athletes of the Year.

High school honorees

are Addison Milam and Trae Cobb from Clarksburg High School, Madison Holder and Seth Thomas from Hollow Rock–Bruceton Central High School, Broox Bennett and Caleb Ezell from Huntingdon High School, Charli Weatherford and Ryan Toombs from McKenzie High School, and Hailey Mitchell and Chandler Rimmer from West Carroll High School.



Michael Williford. Photo from the Kentucky Pork Producers Association

Tosh Farms Contract Grower Featured in Pork Business

Michael Williford, one of Tosh Farms’ contract growers, was recently featured in an article for Pork Business. In the article, “From the Front Lines to the Finishing Barn,” writer Jennifer Shike tells how the Kentucky resident's 20-year background in military service influences his commitment to the hog barn, helping raise high-quality pork while supporting the future of agriculture.

“At Tosh Farms, our growers are the backbone of what we do,” said a Tosh Farms representative. “Their passion, resilience and daily care for their animals make a lasting impact—not just on our company, but on the entire industry. We’re honored to partner with individuals like this who truly represent what it means to be on the front lines of agriculture.”

Tosh Farms is based in Henry, Tenn.

Here’s what Shike wrote:

The world is a small place. For Michael Williford, serving in the U.S. Army taught him that everything is connected in one way or another. He deployed to Iraq three times. He served in Afghanistan, Korea, Belgium, Germany and Kosovo, among others.

While he was serving as a military police officer all over the world, one thing always remained consistent: his wife Andrea was where he called home.

“While I was in my first Iraq deployment, Andrea bought a house in Texas,” Williford says. “It’s kind of funny. Everybody was teasing me when we were coming home. They were like, ‘Is your wife going to pick you up?’ I said, ‘Well, I hope so, because I don’t know where I live.’”

During these years, Andrea had to make the majority of the decisions for their family. So, when Williford was nearing retirement after 20 years of service, he decided to go wherever she wanted to go.

Answering the Call Home

Andrea’s parents asked the couple to return home to run their family farm in Clinton, Ky. At this point, Williford was far removed from agriculture and admittedly didn’t know anything about farming.

“There was no succession plan in place for the family farm,” Williford says. “They assured me that it was OK that I didn’t know anything about farming and that they would help me learn. And they’d keep the farm growing while I finished up my

service.”

To add value and create a “spot” for himself in the operation, he and his wife, Andrea, decided on contract hog production. While he was on a deployment to Afghanistan, Andrea went to the bank, completed archaeological surveys and went to work on how she wanted to create opportunities to grow and diversify their family farm. She called him to tell him the news while he was stationed in South Carolina.

“I told her, ‘You’ve followed me for the last 17 years. I’ll do whatever you want me to do,’” he says. “Andrea said, ‘I’m building the hog barns, and you’re going to take care of them.’”

The bank was also in favor of the contract hog production opportunity.

“In our area, there’s quite a few chicken farms and Tosh Farms was up and coming in Kentucky at the time,” Williford explains. “The contract differences were pretty tremendous. Your paycheck is locked in stone. Your contract terms are a lot better. I had a 10-year contract when we started out, so as long as I did what they told me to do, then we should be in good shape.”

A Soldier’s Eye for Detail

Returning to the family farm required taking some time to stand back and watch, listen and learn, he says.

“I had to figure out where I fit in and what would work best for the farm,” Williford says. “I asked a lot of questions of myself. What can I improve? What can I make better? What do I need to leave alone and not touch on the family farm? There are some things you probably need to let alone for a while.”

But when it came to the hog operation, he had the opportunity to make it his own and bring some of his military skill set into the mix.

“As a contract grower, the long-term commitment and structure was appealing,” he says. “Tell me what to do, and I’ll make sure it happens. I’ll execute.”

The repetitive nature of the job is perfect for a retired soldier.

“I enjoy walking through the barns, making sure everything is the way it should be,” Williford says. “If something’s out of place, it stands out. That’s where the military training really helped me the most. If one feeder isn’t as full as the one next to it, I notice. Then, I figure out why.”

Managing the Big Picture

Being a contract grower allows him to work with a talented group of experts in swine health, nutrition, production and more. He enjoys being able to focus entirely on animal husbandry and management without the stress of market volatility or feed costs.

His one piece of advice for people considering contract hog production is to be prepared for the management component. From taking care of buildings and equipment to having a plan for the manure, management is a key part of his day.

“You’ve just got to look at it with eyes wide open to see the big picture of everything going on and have a plan,” Williford says. “You still have to manage it all. When it comes right down to it, every piece of gravel in the parking lot belongs to me. Every two-by-four in the building belongs to me. You have to make it work in order to pay for it.”

The 20-Bushel Benefit

There’s no question the benefits go beyond the paychecks. For the last 40 years, Andrea’s family has always tried to use as much animal manure as possible to fertilize their farm ground. Everyone was happy to get an extra 200 acres of fertilizer every year from our pigs, he points out.

“We can definitely see a huge difference in soil health overall,” Williford says. “I’m not a scientist or anything, but around here, there’s a difference between white dirt and black dirt. We have white dirt here and we have black dirt here. Some of our dirt that was brown is now actually turning black after a few years. We used to forecast that we were going to make 170-bushel corn, and we’ve since upped that to about 190 because of our pig manure.”

At the end of the day, Williford says his passion for farming connects closely to his passion for serving his country.

“The military is really big on traditions – remembering the past and preserving the heritage and culture of those who came before us in the military,” he says. “Farming is not that much different. People have great pride in being a multigenerational farmer.”

Preserving a farm in the same location for centuries is an incredible feat. It’s important to the Williford family to do the same.

“Long after I’m gone, I hope there’s some descendant of mine who says this is a 300-year farm,” he says.

SEARCH WARRANTS EXECUTED

Two Arrested on Felony Drug Charges in Henry

HENRY COUNTY (April 23) — The Henry County Sheriff’s Office and the 24th Judicial Drug Task Force have arrested two on felony drug charges after conducting searches of the residences in Henry County.

The first search warrant was executed on April 20 at the home of Johnnie Smith, 46, of Chickasaw Road.

During the search of Smith’s home a felony amount of methamphetamine was located. Smith was charged with possession of Schedule II with Intent to Sale, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and Violation of Probation. These charges were enhanced because the



Teresa Shaw

residence is located in a drug-free zone near Ogburn Park. Smith is held without bond.

The second search warrant was executed on April 23 on Poplar Grove Road in Springville, Tenn., at the home of Monroe and Teresa Shaw.

During the search, offi-



Johnnie Smith

cers found approximately 1/4 pound of meth, a felony amount of cocaine, marijuana and one handgun. Teresa Shaw, 62, was charged with Sale of Schedule II. Shaw is held on a \$500,000 bond.

According to Henry County Sheriff Josh Frey, this case is still under investigation and more charges are pending.

At 57, I discovered I’d been switched at birth

Teresa Carter sent her DNA to a genealogy site on a whim. The results turned her world upside down



Teresa Davis Carter’s story appears in The London Telegraph. The Huntingdon woman was switched at birth.

Teresa Carter’s Story About Being Switched At Birth Appears in the London Telegraph

Teresa Davis Carter’s switched at birth story has captured the attention of one London newspaper. Kate Graham, a writer for The London Telegraph, recently picked up Carter’s story after reading it in The Banner. The story appears online at <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/family/parenting/at-57-discovered-id-been-switched-at-birth>

The story originated with writer Steve Corlew in the Lexington Progress and was reprinted in The McKenzie Banner in September 2025. The London Telegraph contacted The Banner to get Mrs. Carter’s information and to contact Carter. The Telegraph’s story was written by Kate Graham and appeared online on April 22, 2026. The following is a short introduction to The Banner’s story, available at [mckenziebanner.com](https://www.mckenziebanner.com).

HUNTINGDON — Have you ever had a nagging feeling that something was not just right pertaining to your life?

You had different characteristics than your parents, siblings, and other family members and that maybe, just maybe, you could have been switched at birth?

Well, for one former Henderson Countian, who now resides in Huntingdon, those feelings turned out to be real as DNA testing later proved. She discovered that her parents, although loving and caring, were not her real birth parents. But it took 57 years to find out the truth about who she really was.

“Not many people go through this kind of thing in life... I hope,” Teresa Ann Davis Carter said about her experience.

According to Teresa Ann Davis’ Certificate of Birth, she was born on September 14, 1962, at the Lexington-Henderson County Hospital. Supposedly, the day before, another baby girl was born, weighing only one ounce different than Teresa.

“My birth mother stated she birthed her child on September 13 at about 5:30 in the evening. She saw her baby immediately but not again for at least 5 hours. She also asked many times the next day but was told that baby was asleep, feeding, or being bathed.”

Her recollection is disturbing and likely indicates that

The London Telegraph picked up the story. It appears online at <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/family/parenting/at-57-discovered-id-been-switched-at-birth>

something was going on at that time.

The switch, while as improbable as it sounds, wasn’t discovered until many years later, after Carter decided to take advantage of a special being offered by Ancestry.com. Those DNA test results proved not only life-changing for Carter, but it opened a window into a life she had suspected for years.

“The first time I realized something was different... my brothers and sisters had dark hair, but I didn’t,” said Carter. “And I was blond as a baby.”

At age 9 or 10, it was apparent that others noticed she looked different when she attended family reunions. Family members asked her dad who she favored in the family and he responded laughingly... “The Milk Man.” She knew she looked different than everyone else in her family.

Carter grew up in Huron with her parents that brought her home from the hospital, Tommy and Patricia Ann Horton Davis. She attended Westover Elementary, graduated from Lexington High School and Jackson State Community College as well as The University of Tennessee at Martin and worked at FirstBank for 19 years.

It was after she married Dr. Lee Carter of Huntingdon that he became very interested in his family history and purchased DNA testing kits from Ancestry.com. He had taken advantage of a buy one, get one free offer.

In 2019, Carter took the DNA test from Ancestry.com, which is the largest for-profit genealogical company in the world, and provides tools for researching family history, genealogy research, and setting up a family tree.

A year after taking the test,

Carter said she started receiving odd email messages. She ignored these emails until May 23, 2020, when she received a message stating that her parents had done nothing wrong, but there was something she needed to know about her life. It turns out the emails were from her birth half-sister. The curiosity got the better of Carter and she picked up the phone and dialed the number.

“I’m your half-sister,” the voice on the other end of the line said. “You were switched at birth.” She and my birth brother had done the research as far as checking out my Facebook page photos and birthdate.

Connecting with that mysterious person changed Carter’s life. That simple phrase, “switched at birth,” kept going through her mind. She began doing more research, trying to figure out how it happened and who she really was.

She started looking closer at family photos, checking Facebook accounts, and searching for more information about her birth family and other relatives.

This sister sent Carter photos to compare. One was of Carter’s own son, and the other that of the biological brother. The resemblance was “striking.”

“My son looks like he is my brother’s child,” Carter said. “That’s freaky.”

Then came the picture of her birth mother. “I look like her,” Carter said.

She began to realize why so many people thought she looked different than her family members.

“I looked different, because I was different,” Carter stated... The Banner story continues online at www.mckenziebanner.com in a two-part series.

PUBLIC AUCTION/ HIGHEST BIDDER

2001 Ford Explorer Sport Trac
VIN # 1FMZU77E41UB88162
on **Friday, May 15, 2026**
at **10 a.m.**
at **Holmes Auto Repair**
18040 Highland Drive,
McKenzie, TN 38201
All rights reserved. Cash only.

R27460/17-1

PUBLIC AUCTION/ HIGHEST BIDDER

2005 Buick Park Avenue
VIN # 1G4CW54K454106645
on **Friday, May 15, 2026**
at **10 a.m.**
at **Holmes Auto Repair**
18040 Highland Drive,
McKenzie, TN 38201
All rights reserved. Cash only.

R27460/17-1

McKenzie Police Reports

Driving on a Suspended License — Alexis Michelle Blackard, State Route 22, McKenzie, was charged with Driving on a Suspended License on April 20.

Officer Timothy Dillon observed Blackard operating a motor vehicle, and he was aware of the status of her license. The officer initiated a traffic stop and cited Blackard for Driving on a Suspended License in General Sessions Court.

Driving on Suspended License #2 — Gwendela Hampton, Rowsey Street, Camden, was charged with Driving on a Suspended License - Second Offense

on April 22.

Officer Darren Davis observed Hampton disregard a stop sign and initiated a traffic stop. A license check revealed it was suspended in 2022. The officer cited her into General Sessions court for Driving on a Suspended License -Second Offense, Violation of Financial Responsibility, and Disregarding a Stop Sign.

Public Intoxication — Autumn Curtright, Decherd, Tenn., was charged with Public Intoxication on April 22.

Officer Jeff Winberry was notified that a female was on Morris Street and had an

argument with her mother, and then walked to Maple Street, where she had an argument at her sister's house. Curtright was arrested for Public Intoxication.

Arrest Warrant — Justin C. Smith, Walnut Circle, McKenzie, was arrested on two active warrants out of Milan Municipal Court on April 23.

Officer Matthew Cunningham arrived at Walnut Circle in an attempt to serve the two warrants. Officer Cunningham was granted permission to enter the home, where he located Smith attempting to hide in the bathtub.

Property Transfers

Erin Selph FKA Erin Grooms to Tim M. and wife Jeana Williams in District 16.

Brian W. and wife Alane M. Zimny to Andrew Ridgely in District 5.

Jimmy T. and wife Susie J. Horton to William Michael Lovelace in District 2.

Gitsit Real Property BB-PLC1, LLC to Jerry Dexter Richardson in District 11.

Bruce Martin and others to Irish Channel Funding, LLC in District 8.

Karen Watson Farmer to Natasha M. Forman. No district listed.

Patricia Evet Willis to Zene and wife Elaine Malinski in District 11.

Paul Howard Schneider Jr. as executor to Rebekah Kathryn Draper in District 2.

Jeremy Linn and David Mathew Rimmer to Lori Franklin Vaughn in District 22.

Kerry Laming as executrix to Kerry Laming and others in District 17.

James T. Ward to Cheryl E. Ward in District 4.

Joseph Ray Argo AKA Joe Argo to Andrew and wife Amanda Ridgely in District 2.

William Blow as co-ex-

ecutor to Neal Edward III and wife Katherine Noles Bostwick in District 11.

Thomas Chadwick and wife Laura Shaine Taylor to Robert Michael and wife Jane Anne Wilkins in District 11.

Tamika Foster as executrix to Christopher Lee McFarlin Trust in District 4.

Deborah Kimberlin as co-trustee to Tennessee Postal Holdings, LLC. No district listed.

James B. and wife Robin Dowland and others to Jonathan Jay and wife Amy Marie Murphree Trust in District 2.

Fred S. Morris and others to New Vision Trust Company Custodian FBO Chuck Leker Tradition in District 4.

Cachengo, Inc. to Chandler-Jack Trapper Brady Wortham in District 11.

Tammie Jo Adams a/k/a Tammie Decker to DRL56 Holdings, LLC. No district listed.

Douglas R. Ward to Brian Keith Ward and others in District 21.

Brian Curtis Pate to Daniel Gant in District 24.

Rusty L. Ross to Rusty Ross in District 11.

Humble Estates, LLC to Humble Builders, LLC in District 11.

Marialfred Acuna to Humble Builders, LLC in District 11.

Jeff Leiker, trustee of the Leiker Family Trust to Jose Becerra Hernandez in District 22.

Angela P. Tipton as Executor to Kevin and wife Patty Hart in District 11.

Randall Scott and wife Beth A. East to Makaya Baker in District 5.

R&R Farms to Tippitt Family Land LLC in District 5.

Carroll County General Sessions Court Report

HUNTINGDON (April 15) — The following cases were heard in Carroll County General Sessions Court on April 15.

The following cases were bound over to a grand jury: Jamie L. Garrison, Hwy. 70, Cedar Grove, bound over, Driving While in Possession of Methamphetamine; bound over, Schedule II Drugs: Meth – Mfg., Deliver, Sell, Possess.

Mark Daniel Noah, Bluebird Lane, Huntingdon, bound over, Meth – Possess or Casual Exchange.

Kristopher C. Stenberg, Holmes Street, Trezevant, bound over, Public Intoxication; bound over, Disorderly Conduct; bound over, Assault on First Responder.

The following cases resulted in a guilty plea or finding:

Raymond Blackburn, Mt. Moriah Road, Huntingdon, guilty, Speeding, no fine, payment arrangements through clerk's office; dismissed, Driving While License Revoked.

Jamie L. Garrison, Hwy. 70, Cedar Grove, guilty, Probation Violation – Booked,

no fine, 730 days, time-served credit nine days, can get day-for-day credit upon successful completion of treatment.

Chaslyn Irene Lockhart, Jessie Lane, Huntingdon, guilty, Theft of Merchandise – Up to \$1,000, no fine, 11/29, \$64.88 to Walmart, no contact with Walmart, supervised probation for sentence, cognitive behavioral training course, alcohol drug evaluation and recommendations, report to jail May 8 at 7 p.m.

David Scott, Bruceton Vale Road, Bruceton, guilty, Probation Violation – Booked, no fine, 11/29, concurrent with 26cr284-2, day-for-day credit if successfully completes rehab.

David A. Scott, Bruceton Vale Road, Bruceton, guilty, Domestic Assault, no fine, 11/29, no contact with victim, persistent domestic violence offender registry; dismissed, Public Intoxication.

Kristopher C. Stenberg, Holmes Street, Trezevant, guilty, Probation Violation – Booked, no fine, 11/29, can get day-for-day credit for successful completion

of treatment.

The following cases were dismissed:

Hope C. Abbott, Bear Creek Road, Pinson, dismissed, Contributing to Dependency/Neglect, litigation taxes only.

Earl Kinder, Hwy. 114, Bruceton, dismissed, Probation Violation – Booked.

Chaslyn Irene Lockhart, Jessie Lane, Huntingdon, dismissed, Burglary – Other Than Habitat or Non-Public Building.

Witt Wallace Mitchum, Main Street North, McKenzie, dismissed, Driving While License Suspended.

James Adam Vermillion, Carroll Street, McKenzie, dismissed, Driving While License Suspended; dismissed, Financial Responsibility Law.

Kaitlynn Autumn Webb, Woodside Drive, Dresden, dismissed, Probation Violation – Booked.

The following case was rescheduled: Jamie Lyn Barker, Bradley Keith Douglas, Skyley L. Hays, Maurice Lawrence.

Huntingdon Police Reports

Public Indecency Report — According to a report made on March 30, Sgt. Ethan Parham responded to Dollar Tree in reference to an unidentified male exposing himself inside the store.

Upon arrival, officers made contact with the store manager and obtained security footage and a written statement from an employee. Through the investigation, the suspect was identified as Rodney E. Wright, Jr.

On April 1, Lt. Barker and Sgt. Parham were dispatched back to Dollar Tree after receiving a call that Wright had returned. Officers made contact with Wright outside the store as he was walking to his vehicle. After being advised of his Miranda rights, Wright admitted to exposing himself inside the store and stated he had committed similar offenses at other locations.

Wright was cited into Carroll County General Sessions Court for public indecency.

Fraudulent Use of a Credit/Debit Card — According to a report made on April 6, Sgt. Ethan Parham responded to the Huntingdon Police Department and met with a complainant regarding fraudulent activity.

After speaking with the complainant and conducting an investigation, it was determined that between February 6 and March 2026, Stacy R. Hart unlawfully used the victim's credit/debit card information without consent to obtain U.S. currency.

The investigation revealed Hart conducted a series of unauthorized electronic transactions through Cash App. Bank records showed 33 unauthorized transactions totaling \$544.15, which were sent to an account associated with the name Renee Hart. The victim confirmed no authorization was given for any of the transactions.

A warrant was issued for Hart for fraudulent use of a credit or debit card.

Simple Possession Arrest — According to a report made on March 31, Sgt. Kristen Lee observed a white male acting erratically inside Huck's store in Huntingdon.

The subject was seen pacing the floor, speaking to a hat rack, repeatedly placing his hands in his pants, and making abrupt jerking movements. After entering the store, the subject told Officer Burson he needed to use the restroom, dropped the items he was holding, and quickly walked inside, where he began playing music loudly on his phone.

Store employees advised the subject had been outside near the gas pumps for approximately 45 minutes talking to himself without pumping gas, making customers uncomfortable, and requested that he leave.

While waiting for the subject to exit the restroom, Sgt. Lee observed only one vehicle in the parking lot. A registration check showed the tag returned to a Ford F-150, but the vehicle present was a Chevy Suburban. Officers made contact with the subject and advised him he needed to leave the property. Based on his behavior, including jerky movements, facial sores and altered pupils, officers suspected possible drug use.

The subject identified himself as Matthew L. Crittenden and stated he had recently purchased the vehicle and had not yet registered it. He also advised he had argued with his fiancée and came to the store to buy cigarettes. During a frisk, officers located approximately \$2,500 in cash, which Crittenden stated came from the sale of a bike and that he could provide proof. He also stated he had a prescription for Suboxone that may be in the vehicle.

Crittenden consented to a search of the vehicle. During the search, Sgt. Lee located a plastic bag containing a white crystal-like substance under the driver's seat. The substance field tested posi-

tive for methamphetamine and weighed approximately 0.93 grams.

Crittenden admitted to using methamphetamine a few days prior and stated he was still recovering from its effects.

Based on the findings, he was placed into custody and transported to the Carroll County Jail.

Crittenden was charged with simple possession of a controlled substance.

Aggravated Assault and Domestic Assault — According to a report made on April 5, Sgt. Kristen Lee responded to a residence on Timber Lane regarding a disturbance.

Upon arrival, officers made contact with the complainant, who stated her son, Donald W. Sledge, had been threatening her. The complainant reported that during an argument inside the home, Sledge became aggressive, grabbed her arm hard enough to leave visible bruising, and placed his hand around her neck while making threats.

She further advised that the argument continued into the living room, where Sledge grabbed both of her wrists, forced them into her body, and continued yelling. The complainant stated Sledge made repeated threatening statements, including saying it would be easier if she were dead than continuing to live with her, and that he wanted her to die. She also advised that Sledge had made prior threats to kill her and burn the house down, which contributed to her fear for her life.

The complainant reported that during the incident, Sledge threw pizza at her, striking her and causing sauce to splatter on her clothing and inside the residence.

During the investigation, officers observed injuries on the complainant's arm consistent with her statements, along with evidence inside the home that supported the reported altercation. Sledge denied that a physical assault had occurred; however, based on the totality of the circumstances, he was determined to be the primary aggressor.

Sledge was placed into custody and charged with aggravated assault and domestic assault.

Driving on Suspended License — According to a report made on April 8, Sgt. Kristen Lee was dispatched to a two-vehicle crash on Veterans Drive South and Buena Vista Road.

Upon making contact, the driver was unable to provide a driver's license and was identified as Trevor J. Willis. A records check confirmed Willis' license was suspended through multiple courts for failure to pay fines and failure to appear.

Willis was charged with driving on a suspended license.

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

PROBATE CASE NO: 2026PE69

ESTATE OF: JAMES GRADEN ROBINSON, LATE OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Notice is hereby given that on the 15TH day of APRIL, 2026 Letters Testamentary, of Administration, in respect to the Estate of JAMES GRADEN ROBINSON deceased, who died JANUARY 3RD, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court Clerk & Master of Carroll County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the Estate are required by law to file the same with the Clerk of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

(2) Twelve (12) months from the date of the decedent's date of death.

All persons indebted to the above Estate must come forward and make proper settlement with the undersigned at once.

This 15TH day of APRIL, 2026.

THIS NOTICE WILL RUN TWO CONSECUTIVE WEEKS.

FILE CLAIMS IN TRIPLICATE WITH: KENNETH TODD - CLERK & MASTER

99 Court Square, Suite 105, Huntingdon, TN 38344

JAMES RANDALL ROBINSON, Executor/Administrator

W. KENT JONES, Attorney

KENNETH TODD, Clerk & Master

A561/R27433/16-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

PROBATE CASE NO: 2026PE68

ESTATE OF: BETTIE SUE HILL, LATE OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Notice is hereby given that on the 15TH day of APRIL, 2026 Letters Testamentary, of Administration, in respect to the Estate of BETTIE SUE HILL deceased, who died OCTOBER 31ST, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court Clerk & Master of Carroll County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the Estate are required by law to file the same with the Clerk of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

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

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

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

All persons indebted to the above Estate must come forward and make proper settlement with the undersigned at once.

This 15TH day of APRIL, 2026.

THIS NOTICE WILL RUN TWO CONSECUTIVE WEEKS.

FILE CLAIMS IN TRIPLICATE WITH: KENNETH TODD - CLERK & MASTER

99 Court Square, Suite 105, Huntingdon, TN 38344

BERTIE DOUGLAS, Executor/Administrator

LAURA A. KEETON, Attorney

KENNETH TODD, Clerk & Master

A561/R27432/16-2

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Carroll County Emergency Communication District is accepting proposals for the Demolition of a structure and Dirt Work at 101 Dillahunt Lane, Huntingdon, TN, 38344.

Responses must be received on or before Friday, May 8, 2026, at 12:00 CST (noon).

Responses may be hand-delivered to the Carroll County Emergency Communication District, attention of Kristy Meggs, Director, 20405 East Main Street, Huntingdon, TN 38344.

Responses may be mailed to Carroll County Emergency Communication District, attention of Kristy Meggs, Director, 101 Dillahunt Lane, Huntingdon, TN 38344.

Electronic Responses will not be permitted.

Response to the bid should be in a sealed envelope, plainly identified in the upper left-hand corner with the company name.

For a copy of the proposal or questions, please contact the District office at 731-986-8911.

A3264/17-1

PUBLICATION NOTICE

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

APRIL DAWN OWENS, PLAINTIFF,

VS.

DAVID RANDALL OWENS, DEFENDANT,

DOCKET NO. 2026DR42

TO: DAVID RANDALL OWENS

In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint which is sworn to, that the whereabouts of the Defendant, DAVID RANDALL OWENS, is unknown and cannot be ascertained by the diligent search and inquiry made to that end. DAVID RANDALL OWENS is therefore, hereby, required to appear and Answer the Complaint filed in this Cause against him/her in the CHANCERY Court of CARROLL County, Tennessee, within thirty days of the last publication of this Notice and served a copy of Answer on Howard F. Douglass, P.O. Box 39, Lexington, TN, 38351, Attorney for Plaintiff, within said time. If you fail to do so judgement by default will be taken against you for relief demanded in the Complaint at hearing of the cause without further notice.

It is further Ordered that this Notice be published for four consecutive weeks in THE MCKENZIE BANNER.

This 2nd day of April, 2026.

Kenneth Todd, Clerk & Master

A8515/R27353/14-4

Carroll County Sheriff’s Reports

Vandalism / Stalking Investigation — On April 20, Deputy Jayden Flaurr responded to a complaint involving vandalism and stalking at a residence on Highway 70 in Cedar Grove. The complainant reported a male subject had come to the residence and slashed two tires on a boat trailer and three tires on a Ford Explorer, as well as breaking the windshield.

The complainant also reported a separate incident in which the same subject approached her vehicle at a business in Jackson and slashed a tire before leaving the area. The incident was not reported at the time.

The complainant advised the subject had sent text messages threatening to commit the acts and stating he would harm her. Deputies were also informed of a prior incident a few weeks back in which the subject entered the residence through the basement and started threatening her. Deputies searched the house and area surrounding the house, but the subject was not to be found.

This incident occurred in Carroll County.

Domestic Assault — On April 20, Deputy Jayden Flaurr responded to a disturbance at a residence on Joshua Lane in Huntingdon and made contact with the subject, Hunter Williams, 21, of Huntingdon. Williams advised he had struck his fiancée during an argument. Deputies made contact with the victim, who report-

ed the two had been arguing throughout the evening when Williams struck her in the face with a partially closed fist. She stated the incident occurred as she attempted to stand up after Williams tried to take her phone.

Williams stated he believed the victim was going to hit him and reacted based on instinct. He also stated he attempted to restrain her by placing her in a bear hug. Deputies observed visible redness and slight bruising around the victim’s eye.

This incident occurred in Carroll County.

Aggravated Assault, Domestic Assault, False Imprisonment — On April 18, deputies responded to a disturbance at a residence on Baker Road in Huntingdon involving Edwin Oliver, 66, of Huntingdon, after a caller reported a female was attempting to leave the residence and was being physically restrained.

Upon arrival, deputies made contact with the victim a short distance from the residence, where she had left in a vehicle to await law enforcement. The victim was visibly distraught, shaking and crying, and had red marks on her face and neck. Emergency medical services responded and evaluated the victim at the scene.

Deputies then made contact with individuals at the residence, including the victim’s grandfather, grandmother and father, who stat-

ed there had been an argument regarding the victim moving out but denied any physical altercation.

The victim reported there had been prior incidents of physical violence at the residence and that she had returned that day with others

to retrieve her belongings. She stated that during the incident, her grandfather confronted her inside the home and, as she attempted to leave, grabbed her and placed his arms around her neck, restricting her ability to breathe.

She stated she was able to break free after her grandmother intervened

and attempted to leave the residence, but her brother then blocked the doorway, preventing her from exiting immediately.

The victim’s boyfriend reported hearing the disturbance and, upon approaching the door, observed the victim being pulled back inside the residence by the neck as she attempted to exit.

After further investigation and statements collected on scene, deputies determined probable cause existed.

Oliver was taken into custody and transported to the Carroll County Jail. He was charged with aggravated assault, domestic assault and false imprisonment.

This incident occurred in Carroll County.

Marriage Licenses

Grace Elizabeth Connell, 24, of Hollow Rock to Justin Brian Haskins, 24, of Hollow Rock.

Sarah Marie Hurmiz, 24, of

Huntingdon to Patrick Hunter Laman, 25, of Huntingdon.

Kassidy Lynae Harris, 24, of Dresden to Nathan Ridley Nanney, 23, of McKenzie.

NOTICE

COUNTY PRIMARIES

May 5, 2026

TO THE VOTERS OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

You are hereby notified that the County Primary Election will be held in all voting precincts in Carroll County, Tennessee.

TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2026 FROM 8 A.M. TO 7 P.M.

THE POLLING PLACES ON ELECTION DAY ARE AS FOLLOWS:

PRECINCT: LAVINIA
Lavinia Baptist Church
4200 Hwy 220
Lavinia, TN 38348

PRECINCT: TREZEVA NT
Trezevant Senior Citizens Center
135 Front St.
Trezevant, TN 38258

PRECINCT: McLEMORESVILLE
McLemoresville Community Center
5637 Main St.
McLemoresville, TN 38235

PRECINCT: CEDAR GROVE
Cedar Grove Fire Department
4215 Hwy 70
Cedar Grove, TN 38321

PRECINCT: CLARKSBURG
Clarksburg City Hall
65 Clarksburg Rd
Clarksburg, TN 38324

PRECINCT: RECYCLING CENTER
Carroll County Recycling Center
21650 Hwy 77
Huntingdon, TN 38344

PRECINCT: CIVIC CENTER
Carroll County Civic Center
201 Mustang Dr.
Huntingdon, TN 38344

PRECINCT: HUNTINGDON POLICE STATION
Huntingdon Police Station
12740 Lexington St.
Huntingdon, TN 38344

PRECINCT: HOLLOW ROCK
Hollow Rock City Fire Department
21280 Seminary Rd
Hollow Rock, TN 38342

PRECINCT: ATWOOD
Atwood City Hall
45 First St.
Atwood, TN 38220

PRECINCT: SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER
McKenzie Senior Citizens Center
172 South Main St.
McKenzie, TN 38201

PRECINCTS: CONCORD/WESTPORT
Westport Fire Department
7301 Westport Rd
Westport, TN 38387

PRECINCT: CHURCH OF CHRIST
Church of Christ
16300 Highland Dr.
McKenzie, TN 38201

PRECINCT: MCKENZIE CITY HALL
McKenzie City Hall
2470 Cedar St.
McKenzie, TN 38201

PRECINCT: BRUCETON
Bruceton Fire Station
30794 Broad St.
Bruceton, TN 38317

EARLY VOTING continues through Thursday, April 30, 2026, M-F 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. EARLY VOTING IS ONLY in the Carroll County Election Office, 625 High St., Suite 113, Huntingdon, TN 38344.

The ABSENTEE COUNTING BOARD will commence duties on Election Day, May 5, 4 p.m. in the Carroll County Election Commission Office, 625 High St., Suite 113, Huntingdon, TN 38344.

You can visit the Tennessee Division of Elections Website at <https://tnmap.tn.gov/voterlookup/> to check on your voter registration status and the location of your polling place.

ATTENTION VOTERS:

YOU MUST PRESENT A FEDERAL OR TENNESSEE STATE GOVERNMENT-ISSUED PHOTO ID WHEN APPEARING TO VOTE.

ATTENTION CANDIDATES

Display of campaign posters, signs or other campaign materials, distribution of campaign materials and solicitation of votes is strictly prohibited within 100 feet of any polling place. (TCA 2-7-111) During the hours that the polls are open, candidates are not to enter a polling place unless they are there to cast their vote. (TCA 2-7-103)

CARROLL COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION
Ronald R. Reiter, Chairman • Mike Corrado, Secretary
Julia A. Blanks, Commissioner • Michael K. Tate, Commissioner
Linda Wallace, Commissioner • Peg Hamlett, Administrator

SAMPLE BALLOTS FOR MAY 5, 2026 ELECTIONS

COUNTY PRIMARY ELECTIONS

The Carroll County Election Commission announces VOTING for the County Primary, May 5, 2026. Registered voters, in Carroll County, may cast a ballot on Election Day by personal appearance at their designated polling location.

State law requires voters to present a Federal or State government issued photo ID to vote, unless an exception applies. College student IDs will not be accepted. This photo ID requirement includes Early Voting and Election Day at the polls.

EARLY VOTING FOR THE MAY 5 PRIMARY is underway now through Thursday, April 30. Weekday voting is 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

SAMPLE BALLOT FOR CARROLL COUNTY
PRIMARY ELECTION HELD ON May 5, 2026

Please use a black or blue ink pen to mark your ballot. To vote for your choice in each contest, completely fill in the box next to your choice.

Carroll County Election Commission
Ronald R. Reiter, Chairman
Michael Corrado, Secretary
Linda Wallace, Member
Michael K. Tate, Member
Judy D. Alexander, Member
Peggy J. Hamlett, Administrator of Elections

REPUBLICAN PRIMARY BALLOT

COUNTY MAYOR
Vote for One (1)

☐ Joseph G. Butler
☐
Write-in

COUNTY COMMISSION District 1
Vote for Three (3)

☐ Darrell Ridgely
☐
Write-in

☐
Write-in

☐
Write-in

COUNTY COMMISSION District 2
Vote for Two (2)

☐ Daniel Lee Willman
☐
Write-in

☐
Write-in

COUNTY COMMISSION District 3
Vote for Two (2)

☐ Brandy Boyd
☐
Write-in

☐
Write-in

COUNTY COMMISSION District 4
Vote for Two (2)

☐ Morris L. Rogers
☐
Write-in

☐
Write-in

COUNTY COMMISSION District 5
Vote for Three (3)

☐ Jimmy Crossett
☐ Cyril Ostiguy
☐
Write-in

☐
Write-in

COUNTY COMMISSION District 6
Vote for Two (2)

☐ Madison Boyd Endres
☐
Write-in

☐
Write-in

COUNTY COMMISSION District 7
Vote for Two (2)

☐ Lori Dillahunt
☐
Write-in

☐
Write-in

COUNTY COMMISSION District 8
Vote for Two (2)

☐ Jay Phipps
☐
Write-in

☐
Write-in

COUNTY COMMISSION District 9
Vote for Three (3)
No Candidate Qualified

☐
Write-in

☐
Write-in

☐
Write-in

ASSESSOR of PROPERTY
Vote for One (1)

☐ John Austin
☐
Write-in

COUNTY TRUSTEE
Vote for One (1)
No Candidate Qualified

☐
Write-in

SHERIFF
Vote for One (1)

☐ Timothy W. Pratt
☐ Eric W. Sawyers
☐
Write-in

CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
Vote for One (1)

☐ Sarah Bradberry
☐
Write-in

COUNTY CLERK
Vote for One (1)
No Candidate Qualified

☐
Write-in

REGISTER of DEEDS
Vote for One (1)
No Candidate Qualified

☐
Write-in

ROAD SUPERVISOR
Vote for One (1)
No Candidate Qualified

☐
Write-in

CARROLL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD District 1
Vote for One (1)
No Candidate Qualified

☐
Write-in

CARROLL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD District 2
Vote for One (1)
No Candidate Qualified

☐
Write-in

CARROLL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD District 3
Vote for One (1)
No Candidate Qualified

☐
Write-in

CARROLL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD District 3
Vote for One (1)
No Candidate Qualified

☐
Write-in

HOLLOW ROCK-BRUCETON SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER 15th District
Vote for One (1)
No Candidate Qualified

☐
Write-in

HOLLOW ROCK-BRUCETON SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER 16th District, Town of Bruceton
Vote for One (1)

☐ Brandy Boyd
☐
Write-in

HOLLOW ROCK-BRUCETON SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER 16th District, Town of Hollow Rock Unexpired Term
Vote for One (1)
No Candidate Qualified

☐
Write-in

HOLLOW ROCK-BRUCETON SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER 16th District, Town of Bruceton
Vote for One (1)

☐ Eric Daniel Gonzalez
☐
Write-in

HUNTINGDON SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER At-Large
Vote for Two (2)
No Candidate Qualified

☐
Write-in

☐
Write-in

☐
Write-in

SOUTH CARROLL SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER At-Large
Vote for Two (2)

☐ Keith E. Hollowell
☐
Write-in

☐
Write-in

☐
Write-in

WEST CARROLL SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER Old Atwood District
Vote for One (1)
No Candidate Qualified

☐
Write-in

WEST CARROLL SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER Old County District
Vote for One (1)
No Candidate Qualified

☐
Write-in

CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
Vote for One (1)
No Candidate Qualified

☐
Write-in

WEST CARROLL SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER Old Trezevant District Unexpired Term
Vote for One (1)
No Candidate Qualified

☐
Write-in

WEST CARROLL SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER Old Trezevant District
Vote for One (1)
No Candidate Qualified

☐
Write-in

WEST CARROLL SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER Old Trezevant District
Vote for One (1)
No Candidate Qualified

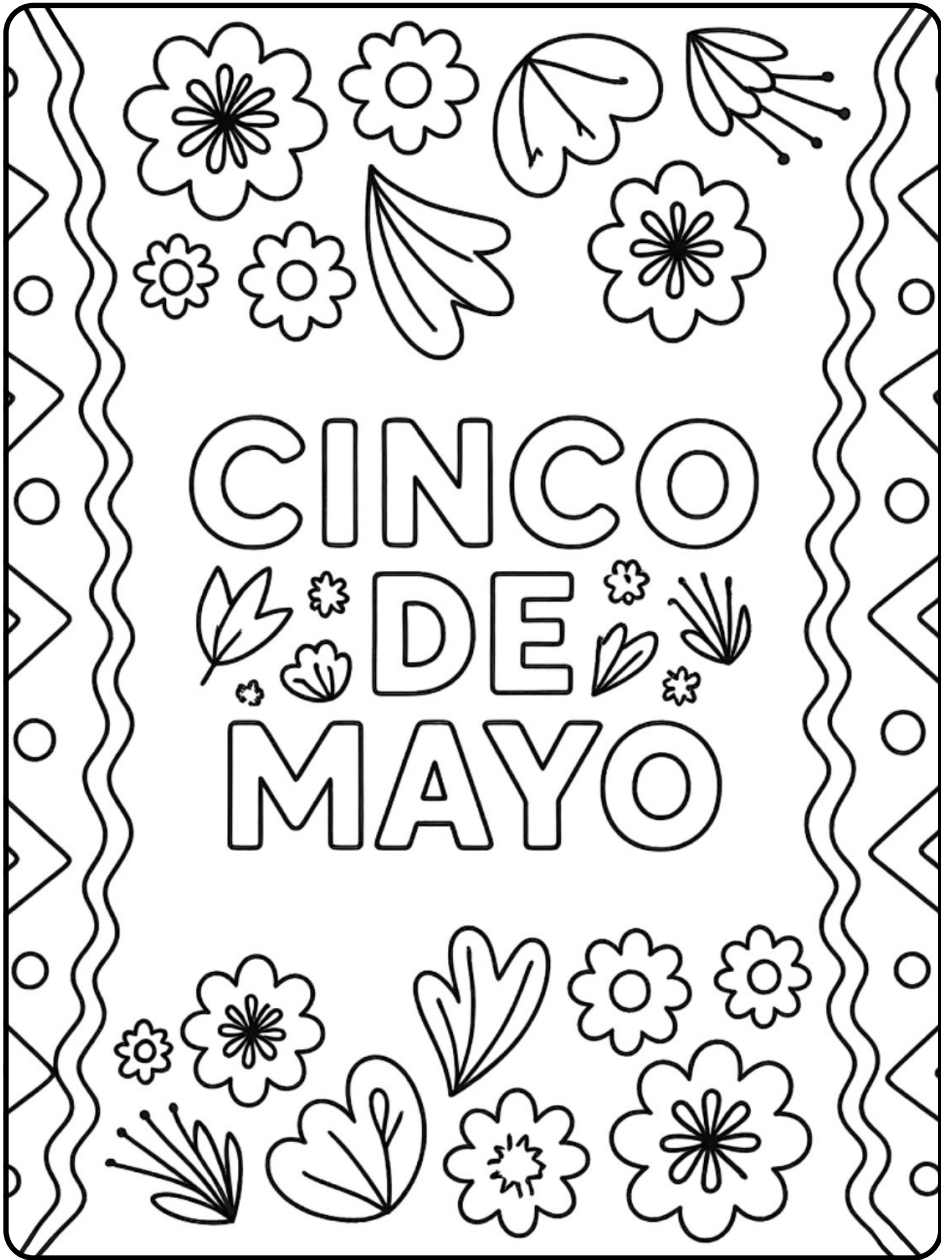
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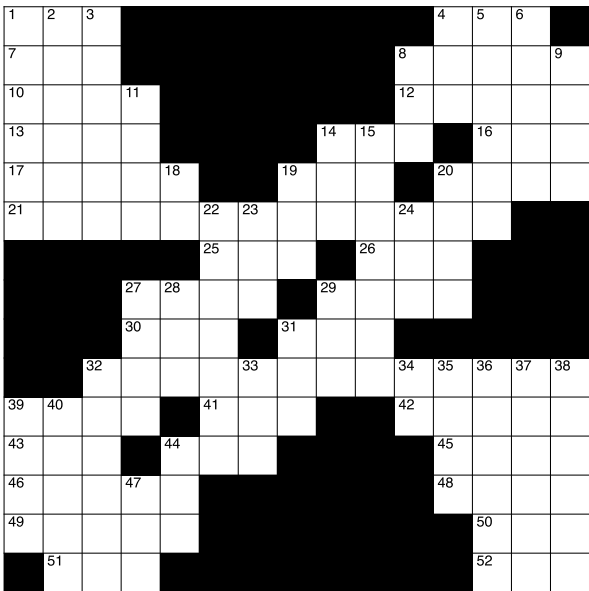
Color A Masterpiece



Weekly Crossword

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Purchase
- 4. British news organization
- 7. Midway between northeast and east
- 8. Language specialist group
- 10. Fancy automobile
- 12. Small loop or series of loops
- 13. Exploiter
- 14. Don't know when yet
- 16. Group of languages
- 17. One who's finished
- 19. After B
- 20. Angled
- 21. A place to adopt pets
- 25. Swiss river
- 26. Young boy
- 27. Unexciting
- 29. American comedian Vidale
- 30. Peyton's little brother
- 31. Corporate higher-up
- 32. "All in the Family" star
- 39. Strike something forcefully
- 41. Up in the air (abbr.)
- 42. Clay earth pigments
- 43. Means to record brain activity
- 44. Small constellation
- 45. Embraces
- 46. Brief description
- 48. Exclude
- 49. White (French)
- 50. Insect
- 51. A major division of



- geological time
- 52. Soviet Socialist Republic

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Type of whale
- 2. In tune
- 3. A citizen of Yemen
- 4. Actress Ling
- 5. One who supports
- 6. Circus performer
- 8. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
- 9. Quantitative fact
- 11. Utah city
- 14. Where a golfer begins
- 15. Attendant
- 18. The ancient Egyptian sun god
- 19. Book of Chronicles (abbr.)
- 20. Benedictine monk
- 22. Not turbulent
- 23. Car mechanics group
- 24. Buffer used in chemistry
- 27. Fall heavily
- 29. The Brits love it
- 31. Children's TV channel (abbr.)
- 32. Jacksonville footballer
- 33. Helps little firms
- 34. ___ and behold
- 35. A way to resemble
- 36. Fingers
- 37. Excessive indulgences
- 38. You might be an "empty" one
- 39. "How the West Was Won" writer
- 40. European river
- 44. They begin the alphabet
- 47. The body's messenger

Week 17

See solution in next week's edition.

Lots Of Laughs Word Search

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

Amusing
Banter
Chuckle
Comedy
Facetious
Funny

Guffaw
Hilarity
Irony
Jesting
Jocular
Levity

Merriment
Parody
Punchline
Quip
Satire
Slapstick

Snickertedium
Tickle
Uproarious
Witticism
Zany

THIS DAY IN HISTORY



1429: Joan of Arc arrives to relieve the Siege of Orléans.

1770: James Cook arrives in Australia at Botany Bay, which he names.

1967: Muhammad Ali is stripped of his boxing title after refusing induction into the US Army a day earlier.

SUDOKU

WEEK 17

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

Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

See solution in next week's edition.



Solve the code to discover words related to humor. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 10 = C)

A. 11 19 20 15

Clue: Funny saying

B. 10 19 18 14 10

Clue: Funny person

C. 7 2 17 26 23

Clue: Expresses humor

D. 2 17 12 14 15 25 10 15

Clue: People watching a show

Answers: A. joke B. comic C. laugh D. audience

LETTER MIX-UP

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

PUNCHLINE

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

Riddle Me This

Why did the bicycle fall over?

Answer: It was two-tired!

WORD SCRAMBLE

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

ILSESM

Answer: Smiles

GUESS WHO ?

I am a football player born in New Orleans on April 27, 2004. I am the grandson of a longtime New Orleans Saints quarterback and two of my uncles each won a pair of Super Bowls. I was a highly coveted recruit coming out of high school, and I ultimately chose to play for the Texas Longhorns.

Answer: Arch Manning

Peace of Mind.

One of the many services we provide.



PUZZLE SOLUTION

Week 16 Crossword Puzzle Solution

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

SUDOKU SOLUTION WEEK 16

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

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JOB POSTING

Title of Position: Carroll County Civic Center Custodian
Supervisor: Civic Center Director

Carroll County Government is accepting applications for a dependable and detail-oriented individual to serve in a part-time role as Custodian at the Carroll County Civic Center. This position plays a critical role in ensuring a clean, safe, and professional environment for the public.

Primary Duties and Responsibilities:

- Clean and sanitize restrooms, offices, hallways and public spaces
- Sweep, mop, vacuum, dust, and perform floor care as needed
- Empty trash and recycling containers and remove waste from the facility
- Replenish restroom supplies and monitor inventory
- Maintain entrances, including light outdoor work such as sweeping steps and removing debris
- Report maintenance needs or safety concerns to supervisor
- Secure cleaning equipment and supplies and ensure proper use of chemicals
- Follow all safety procedures and confidentiality guidelines required at the Civic Center

Qualifications:

- Prior custodial or janitorial experience strongly preferred
- Ability to perform physical tasks, including lifting, standing, bending, and climbing stairs
- Must be trustworthy, reliable, and able to work independently
- Ability to pass a background check required for work in a government facility

For questions, or to submit a résumé or application, please reach Director Natalie McMasters by phone at 731-986-1357 or email at nmcmasters@carroll.tn.org.

Carroll County Government is an equal opportunity employer. Employment will be based upon consideration of the qualifications of all applicants for employment. Discrimination based upon an applicant's race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, or disability will not be tolerated.

A5605/17-1

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R10014/A821

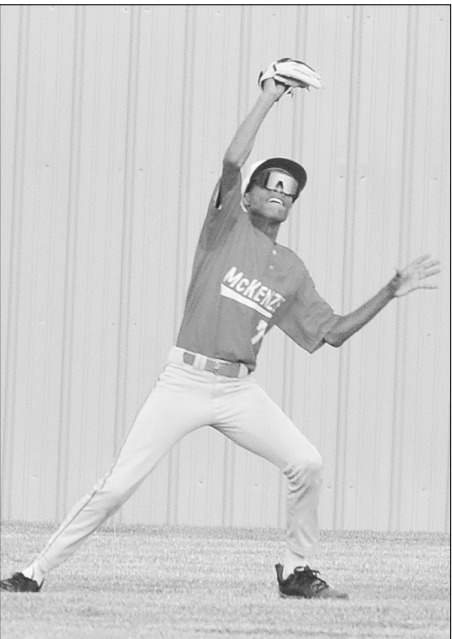


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Left, Rebel pitcher Seth Stafford reaches out to snag a pop-up bunt. Stafford earned the win for McKenzie, allowing one unearned run on one hit while walking three and striking out eight in five and a third innings. Right, Rebel right fielder Jackson Barden gets under a high fly ball for the out. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

Rebels Rout Camden, Advance to Title Game

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (April 23) — McKenzie Middle School baseball advanced to their district championship game with an 8-1 win Thursday over Camden. They would face the Lions again Friday with two chances to clinch the title.

The Rebels played as the away team on their home field as the Lions were the top seed and had a bye the previous day.

McKenzie scored three runs in the top of the second and two each in the third and fourth. Camden's lone run came in the bottom of the fourth. The Rebels added one in the fifth.

Rebel Rex Thompson was 3-for-3 with a triple, three RBIs and a run scored. Dirks Ghyers was 2-for-3 with a double, a walk and an RBI. Owen Epperson was 2-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored. Jake Ghyers was 1-for-2 with two walks and a run scored. Seth Stafford was 1-for-4 with a double and a run scored. Reed Gaskins was 1-for-3 with a walk and two runs scored. Jackson Barden was 1-for-4 with a run scored. Leighem Broyles was 1-for-4 with a stolen base. Kenden Coleman was 0-for-2 with a walk, an RBI and a run scored.

Lion Gavin M. was 1-for-2. Ryder J. was 1-for-3. Weston P. was 0-for-3 with a run scored and two stolen bases.

Seth Stafford earned the win for McKenzie, allowing one unearned run on one hit while walking three and striking out eight in five and a third innings. Mason Davidson pitched the final two-thirds of an inning, allowing no runs on one hit with no walks.

Gavin M. got the start for Camden, allowing two earned runs on three hits while walking one and striking out one in one inning. Jack M. faced four batters, allowing one earned run on two hits and two walks. Ryder J. threw the final five innings, allowing five runs (one earned) on seven hits while walking two and striking out five.

Camden Walk-Off Eliminates Mustangs

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (April 23) — Huntingdon Middle School faced the Camden Lions Thursday night in a district tournament elimination game. Momentum went back-and-forth in the contest. The Lions took an early lead, then the Mustangs rallied to pull ahead in the middle innings. In the fifth and final frame, Camden claimed a 6-5 walk-off win on a passed ball.

The Lions scored a run in the bottom of the first, then added three in the second. Huntingdon tied it with four in the top of the third, then took the lead with a run in the fourth. Camden scored two in the fifth to pull ahead for the win.

Mustang Elijah Harris was 2-for-2 with two doubles and two RBIs. Banks Butler was 1-for-2 with a double, a walk, an RBI and a run scored. Cohen Gray was 2-for-3 with a double, two runs scored and a stolen base. Max Kelley was 2-for-3 with an RBI and a run scored. Bryce Maddox was 0-for-1 with two walks. Miller Holmes was 0-for-2 with a walk and a run scored. Nathan Huss was 0-for-3 with an RBI.

Lion Weston P. was 1-for-3 with a double, an RBI, a run scored and two stolen bases. Ryder J. was 1-for-2 with an RBI and a run scored. Gavin M. was 1-for-3. Jackson K. was 0-for-2 with a walk, a run scored and a stolen base. Klay P. was 0-for-1 with a walk and a run scored. Tripp

P. was 0-for-1 with two walks. Max P. was 0-for-2 with an RBI.

Gavin M. got the start for Camden, allowing four earned runs on five hits while walking three and striking out three in two and two-thirds innings. Jack M. pitched a third of an innings, allowing no runs or hits with one walk. Knox K. threw the final two frames, allowing one earned run on two hits while walking one and striking out one.

Bryce Maddox started for Huntingdon, allowing six runs (one earned) on three hits while walking three and striking out four in four and a third innings. Banks Butler faced the final batter for a walk.

Lady Rebels Fall to McEwen, 8-0

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

McEWEN (April 20) — McKenzie High School softball traveled Monday for a district contest against McEwen. The host Lady Warriors pulled away early for an 8-0 win.

McEwen scored two runs in the first, two in the second and four in the third.

Lady Warrior Laila

Darden was 2-for-3 with a home run, a walk, two RBIs, two runs scored and a stolen base. Tylee Tummins was 1-for-3 with a home run, three RBIs and one run scored. Ava Lastovka was 1-for-3 with a double, a walk and an RBI. Carley Baker was 1-for-3 with a run scored and three stolen bases. Kylie Ange was 1-for-4 with a run scored.

Lady Rebel Ridley Holt

was 1-for-2. Kynadie Brown was 1-for-3.

Ava Lastovka earned the complete-game shutout for McEwen, allowing two hits with no walks and 16 strikeouts.

Aurora Johnson took the complete-game loss for McKenzie, allowing eight runs (five earned) on six hits while walking three and striking out three.

Gleason Bulldogs Defeat Bradford, 8-3

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

GLEASON (April 23) — Gleason High School baseball hosted Bradford Thursday and took an early lead for an 8-3 win.

The visiting Red Devils struck first with a run in the top of the first, but the Bulldogs jumped ahead with four in the home half. Bradford plated a run in the second, and Gleason answered with a pair. Both teams pushed across a run in the fifth, and the Bulldogs added another in the sixth.

Bulldog Trey Mayo was 2-for-4 with two RBIs and a run scored. Drake Lehmkuhl was 1-for-4 with a double, an RBI and a run scored. Ty Keeling was 1-for-2 with

two walks, two runs scored and a stolen base. Ashton Morgan was 1-for-3 with a sacrifice fly, two RBIs and a run scored. Parker Morgan and Caleb Jones were both 1-for-3 with a run scored and two stolen bases. Brody Sanders was 0-for-2 with a walk, an RBI, a run scored and two stolen bases. Brock Dilday was 0-for-1 with a walk and a stolen base.

Red Devil Trevor Harrington was 2-for-3 with a walk, an RBI and a stolen base. Brodie McDaniel was 1-for-3 with a walk and a stolen base. Jaxon Street was 1-for-3 with a run scored and a stolen base. Braxton Lynch was 1-for-3 with a run scored. Hayden White was 1-for-3. Luke Clifton

was 1-for-4 with an RBI and a stolen base. Gunner Skerrett was 0-for-1 with a walk, a run scored and two stolen bases.

Bryce Pettit earned the win for Gleason, allowing three runs (two earned) on seven hits while walking three and striking out six in six and two-thirds innings. Ty Keeling pitched the final third of an inning, allowing no runs, hits or walks with one strikeout.

Hayden White took the loss for Bradford, allowing seven runs (six earned) on five hits while walking four and striking out five in five innings. Braxton Lynch threw the final frame, allowing one unearned run on two hits while walking none.

Fillies Blank Waverly, 3-0

BY BRAD SAM
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HUNTINGDON (April 21) — Huntingdon High School softball hosted Waverly Tuesday for a district contest. After four scoreless innings, the host Fillies broke through in the late innings to claim a 3-0 victory.

Huntingdon scored a run in the bottom of the fifth, then added a pair in the sixth.

Fillies Ellie Wilson and Gracey Martin were each 1-for-3 with a double and an RBI. Millie Luther was 1-for-2 with a run scored and a stolen base. Aubry Castleman was 1-for-3 with a run scored and a stolen base. Kylie Tippitt was 1-for-3 with a stolen base. Knox Bennett was 1-for-3.

Lady Tiger Kenedie Taylor was 2-for-3. Abigail White was 2-for-4. Carley McKlemurry, McKensey

Waggoner and Ashton Cash were each 1-for-3. McKenzie Elmore was 1-for-4.

Marcie Mitchell earned the complete-game shut-out for Huntingdon, allowing eight hits while walking none and striking out four.

McKenzie Elmore took the complete-game loss for Waverly, allowing three runs (one earned) on six hits while walking none and striking out five.

Tigers Sweep Irish in Home-Away Set

BY BRAD SAM
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BRUCETON/ERIN (April 20-21) — Hollow Rock-Bruceton Central High School baseball began the week with a home-away set against district foe Houston County. On Monday, at home, the Tigers blanked the Irish, 8-0. Tuesday's game at Houston County was back-and-forth, but Central claimed an 8-5 win for the sweep.

Central Tigers 8, Houston County Irish 0

In Monday's home shutout, Central started strong with five runs in the bottom of the first, then added two in the fourth and one in the sixth.

Tiger Braxton Howard was 2-for-4 with a triple, two RBIs and a stolen base. Drake Hollingsworth was 2-for-3 with two RBIs and a run scored. Brayden Maness was 1-for-3 with a double, a walk and an RBI. Brody Huff and Parker Finley were each 1-for-3 with an RBI. Parker Boyd was 1-for-3. Tanner Walters was 0-for-2 with two walks, two runs scored and two stolen bases. Dalton Howard was 0-for-3 with an RBI and a run scored.

Houston County's Ryder Forrester was 1-for-3 with a double. Carson Spurgeon was 1-for-2.

Gage Weatherly earned the complete-game shut-out for Central, allowing two hits and a walk while striking out eight.

Ryder Forrester took the loss for the Irish, allowing seven runs (four earned) on seven hits while walking four and striking out two in four innings. Carson Spurgeon pitched one inning of relief, allowing no runs, hits or walks with one strikeout. Brady Donehue threw the final frame, allowing one earned run on one hit while walking none and striking out two.

Tigers 8, Irish 5

On the road Tuesday, Central struck first with two runs in the top of the first and one in the second. Houston County scored one in the bottom of the third, and the Tigers added one in the fourth. In the fifth, the Irish took the lead with four runs. Central quickly regained the advantage with two in the sixth, then added two more in the seventh.

Tiger Braxton Howard was 1-for-2 with a double, three walks, two RBIs, two runs scored and two

stolen bases. Tanner Walters was 2-for-5 with a triple, two runs scored and a stolen base. Gage Weatherly was 2-for-5 with a triple, two RBIs and a run scored. Brody Huff was 2-for-4 with a double, an RBI and a run scored. Drake Hollingsworth was 2-for-5 with an RBI. Brayden Maness was 0-for-2 with three walks and a run scored.

Houston County's Ryder Forrester was 2-for-4 with a home run. Brody Harris was 2-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored. Carson Spurgeon was 1-for-3 with a run scored.

Drake Hollingsworth earned the complete-game victory for Central, allowing five runs (two earned) on five hits while walking one and striking out three.

Carson Spurgeon got the start for the Irish, allowing three runs (one earned) on two hits while walking four and striking out five in two innings. Samuel Ferrel pitched four and a third innings of relief and took the loss, allowing five runs (four earned) on seven hits while walking five and striking out four. Grayson Mitchell threw the final two-thirds of an innings, allowing no runs, hits or walks.

Lady Tigers Earn Walk-Off Win Over Irish

BY BRAD SAM
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BRUCETON (April 23) — Hollow Rock-Bruceton Central High School softball hosted Houston County Thursday for a district contest. The visiting Lady Irish had the momentum early, but the Lady Tigers rallied late for the tie, then won it on a walk-off single by Amelia Bennett.

Houston County struck first with three runs in the top of the first frame. Central answered with one in the home half. Each team scored three in the third, then two in the fifth. The Lady Tigers tied it with two in the bottom of the sixth, then walked off with a run in the seventh.

Lady Tiger Madison Holder was 2-for-3 with a home run, a walk, two

RBIs and two runs scored. Kyleigh Baker was 1-for-4 with a home run, three RBIs and a run scored. Lilly McGee was 3-for-4 with two triples, three runs scored and a stolen base. Abby Baker was 3-for-4 with an RBI and two runs scored. Cloe Morgan was 1-for-4 with a double and a run scored. Kylie Craig was 1-for-3 with a stolen base. Addison Tucker was 1-for-3. Amelia Bennett was 1-for-4 with an RBI.

Houston County's Addie Horn was 2-for-4 with two doubles and three runs scored. Peyton Brooks was 2-for-4 with a run scored and a stolen base. Ally Mitchell was 2-for-4 with a run scored. Madelynn Brooks was 1-for-2 with a walk and an RBI. Brilee Anderson was 1-for-3 with a sacrifice fly, three RBIs

and a stolen base. Preslee Moore was 1-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored. Jakelyn Boone was 1-for-4 with two runs scored.

Kyleigh Baker got the start for Central, allowing seven runs (three earned) on seven hits while walking none and striking out three in four and a third innings. Madison Holder pitched the final two and two-thirds innings and earned the win, allowing one earned run on three hits while walking one and striking out three.

Brilee Anderson started for the Lady Irish, allowing eight runs (seven earned) on 11 hits while walking one and striking out five in six innings. Jakelyn Boone pitched a third of an inning of relief and took the loss, allowing one earned run on two hits with no walks.

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

Lady Bulldogs Defeat West Carroll

BY BRAD SAM
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GLEASON (April 23) — Gleason High School softball hosted West Carroll Thursday, and the host Lady Bulldogs coasted to an 18-4 win in five innings.

Gleason struck first with four runs in the bottom of the first. The Lady War Eagles answered with three in the top of the second, then tied it with one in the third. The Lady Bulldogs regained the lead with two runs in the third, then pulled away with a dozen in the fourth.

Lady Bulldog Marley Crews was 2-for-2 with a double, a walk, four RBIs and two runs scored. Ava Bennett was 2-for-3 with a double, two walks, two RBIs and two runs scored.

Emma Pettit was 2-for-2 with two walks, an RBI and two runs scored. Zoe Healy was 2-for-4 with a double, three RBIs and a run scored. Kristiana Addison was 1-for-1 with a double, a walk, three RBIs, two runs scored and a stolen base. Olivia Scarbrough was 2-for-3 with a walk, an RBI, two runs scored and a stolen base. Haylye Roberts was 1-for-2 with a walk, an RBI and three runs scored. Sophie Beasley was 1-for-3 with a walk, an RBI and a run scored. Kinley Baumgartel was 0-for-1 with two walks, three runs scored and two stolen bases.

Lady War Eagle Abby O'Bryan was 1-for-2 with a triple, two RBIs and a run scored. Ava Martinez

was 2-for-3 with a run scored and two stolen bases. Mackenzie Finley was 1-for-1 with a walk, an RBI and a run scored. Candy Mulligan was 1-for-2 with a run scored. Hayden Weaver was 0-for-1 with two walks and a stolen base.

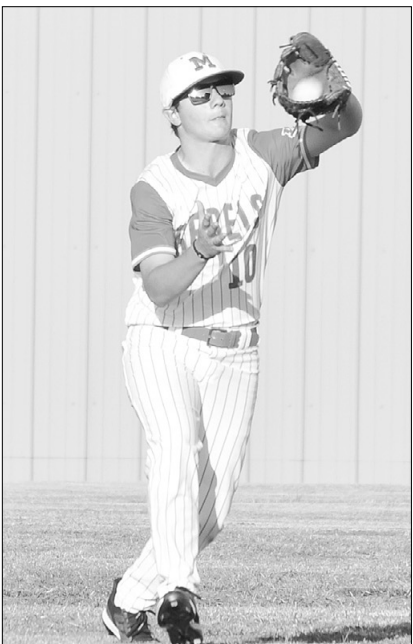
Emma Pettit got the start for Gleason, allowing four earned runs on five hits while walking three and striking out two in two and a third innings. Marley Crews pitched the final two and two-thirds innings and earned the win, allowing no runs, hits or walks with one strikeout.

Hayden Weaver took the complete-game loss for West Carroll, allowing 18 earned runs on 13 hits while walking 11 and striking out two.

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MIDDLE SCHOOL BASEBALL



Left, Rebel centerfielder Jake Ghyers makes a catch on a low fly ball. Right, Mustang centerfielder Cohen Gray battles the sun to make a running catch. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner

District Tournament Begins with Wild Rebel Comeback over Mustangs

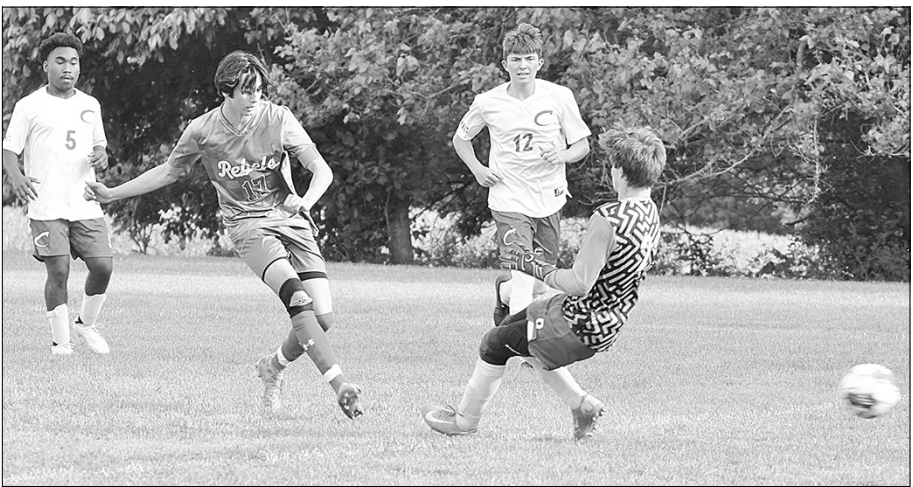
BY BRAD SAM

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MCKENZIE (April 22) — The middle school baseball district tournament, hosted by McKenzie Middle School, began Wednesday with the Rebels facing Huntingdon. The visiting Mustangs had a 6-2 lead heading into the sixth and final inning, but the Rebels pieced together a five-run rally to claim a 7-6 win. Both teams advanced in the double-elimination bracket, along with Camden, who earned a first-round bye as the top seed. The Mustangs struck first with a run in the top of the first, answered in kind by McKenzie in the bottom half. Huntingdon regained the lead with a pair in the third, and the Rebels cut the deficit with a run in the fourth. The Mustangs added two more in the fifth and one in the top of the sixth before McKenzie rallied for five in the home half. The Rebels managed to load the bases with no outs. Three

batters later, the score was tied, and another three batters later, Jackson Barden drove in the winning run with a walk-off, line-drive single. Rebel Leighem Broyles was 2-for-3 with an RBI and a run scored. Rex Thompson was 1-for-2 with a double, a walk and a run scored. Dierks Ghyers was 1-for-2 with an RBI and a run scored. Jackson Barden was 1-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored. Kenden Coleman was 1-for-3 with a run scored. Jake Ghyers was 1-for-4. Seth Stafford was 0-for-2 with a walk, an RBI and two runs scored. Reed Gaskins was 0-for-3 with a walk and an RBI. Mustang Cohen Gray was 2-for-4 with a double, two runs scored and two stolen bases. Bryce Maddox was 1-for-3 with a walk, an RBI and a stolen base. Max Kelley was 1-for-3 with a walk and a run scored. Elijah Harris and Nathan Huss were each 1-for-3 with an RBI. Banks Butler was

0-for-2 with two walks, two runs scored and two stolen bases. Miller Holmes was 0-for-2 with two walks and a run scored. Leighem Broyles got the start for McKenzie, allowing five runs (two earned) on three hits while walking five and striking out four in four innings. Kenden Coleman pitched one inning of relief, allowing one earned run on three hits and no walks. Rex Thompson threw the final frame and earned the win, allowing no runs or hits while walking one and striking out one. Bryson Bolen got the start for Huntingdon, allowing two unearned runs on four hits while walking two and striking out six in five innings. Bryce Maddox faced three batters, allowing three runs (two earned) on one hit and no walks. Miller Holmes pitched the final third of an inning and took the loss, allowing two earned runs on two hits and two walks with one strikeout.



Rebel Aiden Mason shoots past the Rocket goalkeeper for one of his three goals. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

Rebels Defeat Rockets

BY BRAD SAM

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MCKENZIE (April 21) — McKenzie High School soccer hosted Clarksburg Tuesday for a district match. The host Rebels scored seven goals in the

first half en route to a 9-0 win. Rebel Jony Hernandez scored four goals. Aiden Mason had a hat trick (three goals) and an assist. Liam Moore had one goal and one assist.

Morgan Christman scored one goal. Carter Chow had two assists, and Bentlee Shands and Sawyer Nunnery each had an assist. McKenzie goalkeeper Brody Davis had seven saves. Clarksburg goalkeeper Camden Blackburn had 12 saves.

Lady Rebels Edge Clarksburg in Extras

BY BRAD SAM

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CLARKSBURG (April 23) — Clarksburg High School hosted McKenzie Thursday for a district softball contest. The host Lady Rockets scored three runs in the bottom of the seventh to force extra innings, but the Lady Rebels scored in the eighth and held on for an 8-7 win. McKenzie struck first with four runs in the top of the second inning. Clarksburg answered with one in the home half, then scored two more in the third. The Lady Rebels padded their lead with a pair in the fourth. The Lady Rockets plated one in the sixth, but McKenzie did the same in the top of the seventh. Clarksburg rallied for three and a tie game in the bottom half, and McKenzie scored a go-ahead run in the eighth. Lady Rebel Haylee Beard

was 2-for-3 with a double, a walk and an RBI. Braylin Auvenshine was 1-for-2 with two walks, two runs scored and a stolen base. Maggie Hall was 2-for-5 with two RBIs. Kailie Hudgins was 1-for-4 with a triple, an RBI and a run scored. Aurora Johnson was 1-for-3 with a double, a walk and a run scored. Danie Parker was 2-for-4 with an RBI and a stolen base. Addyson Littleton was 1-for-4 with two runs scored and a stolen base. Ridley Holt was 0-for-3 with a walk and two runs scored. Lady Rocket Carlie Swinford was 2-for-4 with a triple, a double and two RBIs. Addison Milam was 2-for-5 with an RBI, two runs scored and a stolen base. Molly Williams was 1-for-5 with a double, two RBIs and a run scored. Cari Glosson was 1-for-3 with a

triple and two runs scored. Brooklyn Laws was 1-for-4. Alyssa Belew was 0-for-2 with two walks and an RBI. Ivy Swinford was 0-for-3 with a walk, an RBI and two stolen bases. Braylin Auvenshine got the start for McKenzie, allowing seven runs (four earned) on six hits while walking four and striking out seven in seven innings. Aurora Johnson pitched the final frame and earned the win, allowing no runs on one hit with no walks. Addison Milam took the loss for Clarksburg, allowing eight earned runs on ten hits while walking three and striking out four in five and a third innings. Carlie Swinford pitched the last two and two-thirds innings, allowing no runs or hits with two walks and a strikeout.

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Mustangs Sweep Camden in Home-Away Set

BY BRAD SAM

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HUNTINGDON/CAMDEN (April 20-21) — Huntingdon High School baseball began the week with a home-away set against district foe Camden. Monday, the Mustangs dominated at home for a 10-0 win in five innings. They were just as dominant Tuesday in Camden, defeating the Lions 12-1, again in five innings.

Huntingdon Mustangs 10, Camden Lions 0

In Monday's home win, Huntingdon scored three runs in the bottom of the first inning, six in the second and one in the third.

Mustang Braylin Dearmon was 2-for-3 with a double, three RBIs and a run scored. Colt Wood was 1-for-1 with a triple, two walks, an RBI and a run scored. Kenton Smith was 1-for-2 with a triple, a walk, an RBI and two runs scored. Hayes Eubanks was 2-for-3 with a run scored and a stolen base. Owen Kreuziger was 2-for-3 with an RBI. Cy Hankins was 1-for-2 with two RBIs and a run scored. Silas Sharp was 1-for-3 with a double and a stolen base. Caleb Ezell was 1-for-3.

Lions Axel Mansfield and Hudson Barrett were each 1-for-2. Carter Maines was 0-for-1 with a walk.

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

Ethen Ingram got the start for Camden, allowing nine runs (six earned) on seven hits while walking two and striking out four in an inning and two-thirds. Amaury Rogers threw two and a third innings of relief and took the loss, allowing one earned run on four hits while walking one and striking out one.

Mustangs 12, Lions 1

In Tuesday's road win, Huntingdon struck first with a run in the top of the second, then added four in the third and five in the fourth. Camden's lone run came in the bottom of the fourth. The Mustangs added



Above, Mustang Caleb Ezell earned the complete-game shutout on Monday, allowing two hits and a walk while striking out five. Below, Mustang Kenton Smith scores on a passed ball after reaching on a triple. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner



a pair in the fifth.

Mustang Owen Kreuziger was 3-for-3 with three RBIs and a stolen base. Colt Wood was 1-for-3 with three RBIs and a run scored. Broox Bennett was 1-for-2 with an RBI, two runs scored and two stolen bases. Kenton Smith was 1-for-2 with a sacrifice fly and an RBI. Maddox Holmes was 1-for-1 with an RBI and three runs scored. Kainan Moore was 1-for-1 with two runs scored and a stolen base. Braylin Dearmon was 1-for-2 with two runs scored. Owen Hugueley was 1-for-1 with an RBI. Hayes Eubanks was 1-for-3 with a

stolen base. Cy Hankins was 0-for-1 with two walks and two runs scored. Lion Carter Maines was 1-for-2 with a home run. Kenton Smith earned the complete-game one-hit victory for Huntingdon, allowing one earned run with one walk and nine strikeouts. Carter Maines took the loss for Camden, allowing seven earned runs on six hits while walking two and striking out six in three and a third innings. Harper French pitched the final inning and two-thirds, allowing five runs (four earned) on five hits while walking one and striking out two.

Rebels Sweep Clarksburg in Home-Away Set

BY BRAD SAM

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MCKENZIE/CLARKSBURG (April 20-21) — McKenzie and Clarksburg high school baseball started the week with a home-away district set. McKenzie earned a sweep, winning Monday at home, 13-0, and Tuesday on the road, 6-1.

McKenzie Rebels 13, Clarksburg Rockets 0

In Monday's five-inning home shutout, McKenzie scored six runs in the bottom of the first, six in the third and a final run in the fourth.

Rebel Cole Brown was 3-for-3 with a double, a walk, three RBIs, two runs scored and two stolen bases. Parker Ross was 2-for-2 with a double, three RBIs and two runs scored. Xander Johnsey was 2-for-4 with a double, an RBI, three runs scored and a stolen base. Fletcher Holt was 2-for-3 with a double, a walk, an RBI and two runs scored. Aiden Legens was

2-for-3 with an RBI and a run scored. Hudson Garrett was 1-for-3 with two RBIs and a run scored. Maddox Shiell was 0-for-1 with a walk and two runs scored. Ace Brown was 0-for-2 with an RBI. Lelan Gordon was 0-for-2 with a walk. Rocket Greysen Jones was 0-for-1 with a walk.

Xander Johnsey threw the no-hitter for McKenzie, walking one and striking out eight. Taylor Lawler took the loss for Clarksburg, allowing eight runs (seven earned) on five hits while walking four and striking out one in two innings. Jayden Reed pitched two innings of relief, allowing five earned runs on seven hits while walking none and striking out three.

Rebels 6, Rockets 1

Clarksburg struck first at home on Tuesday with a run in the bottom of the first. McKenzie tied it in the top of the third, then took the lead with a run in the fourth and added four in the fifth.

Rebel Aiden Legens was 1-for-4 with a home run, five RBIs and one run scored. Maddox Shiell was 1-for-2 with a walk and a run scored. Cole Brown was 1-for-4 with a run scored. Parker Ross was 1-for-3. Lelan Gordon was 0-for-2 with two walks and a run scored. Rocket Trae Cobb was 1-for-3 with a run scored and a stolen base. Taylor Lawler was 1-for-2 with a walk. Walker Aston was 0-for-2 with a walk, an RBI and two stolen bases. Fletcher Holt earned the complete-game win for McKenzie, allowing one earned run on two hits while walking two and striking out five. Reagan Halter took the loss for Clarksburg, allowing six unearned runs on three hits while walking two and striking out one in five innings. Greysen Jones pitched the final two frames, allowing no runs on one hit and one walk.

Lady Rockets Edge Bradford, 5-4

BY BRAD SAM

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BRADFORD (April 21) — The Clarksburg High School Lady Rockets traveled Tuesday for softball against the Bradford Lady Red Devils. The visiting Lady Rockets took an early lead and held on for a 5-4 victory.

Clarksburg struck first with two runs in the top of the first inning, adding a run each in the third and fourth. Bradford got on the board with two runs in the bottom of the fourth. The Lady Rockets added one in the fifth, and the Lady Red Devils scored two in

the sixth. Lady Rocket Ivy Swinford was 1-for-3 with a double and two RBIs. Carlie Swinford was 2-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored. Natalie Scott was 1-for-4 with a double, an RBI and a run scored. Molly Williams was 1-for-3 with a walk, a run scored and two stolen bases. Cari Glosson was 1-for-2. Alyssa Belew was 0-for-3 with a run scored and a stolen base. Lady Red Devil Paige Allen was 1-for-2 with a run scored. Olivia McAfee was 1-for-3 with a run scored and a stolen base.

Cara Copous was 1-for-4 with a stolen base. Sophie Matlock was 0-for-3 with two RBIs. Carlie Swinford earned the complete-game win for Clarksburg, allowing four unearned runs on three hits while walking to and striking out three. Olivia McAfee got the start for Bradford, allowing three runs (two earned) on four hits while walking one and striking out two in three innings. Cara Copous pitched the final four innings, allowing two unearned runs on two hits while walking none and striking out four.



Left, The Fillies basketball team was named as MVP at the banquet. Pictured (L to R) Front Row: Macie Grice, Kaylen Cary, Knox Bennett, Tatum Rich, Ellie Wilson, Emalynn Maness and Grier Bartholomew. Back Row: Maria De Vicente, Ali Harris, Wylie Kee, Krystin Moore, Millie Luther and Harley Chandler. Right, Receiving individual awards at the basketball banquet for the Mustangs were (L to R) Caleb Ezell, Kelton Johnson, Lucas Smith, Garvin Kee and Bryson Whiteside. Photos by Russell Bush/The Banner

HHS Celebrates Outstanding Basketball Seasons at Banquet

BY RUSSELL BUSH
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Huntingdon High School held its basketball banquet on April 22 in the high school cafeteria, and the theme of the night was a different type of celebration when compared to past banquets. The Fillies celebrated the first-ever state championship in school history. The Mustangs reached the sectional round for only the third time in school history and were three minutes away from making the state tournament. Mustangs Head Coach Porsche McClerking was also celebrated as he is stepping away from coaching after 17 years. Head Coach David Wilkins for the Fillies chose not to give individual awards for the season as he stated winning a state championship was a team effort and every player contributed to winning a Gold Ball for the first time in school history.

The Fillies finished the season with a 31-3 record, which was a school record, won the Point Guard Club Christmas Classic, the District 12-AA championship, Region 6-2A championship and the State

Championship. Wilkins also quoted stats that identified how good the Fillies were. They had a 46.5 percentage on offensive rebounds, averaged 66 points a game, allowed only 36.1 points per game, averaged 17.8 steals a game, averaged 21.2 deflections per game and held opponents to 33.8 percent on field goals and 24 percent from the three-point line. Caleb Ezell was named MVP for the Mustang basketball team. Ezell was a four-year starter for the Mustangs, scored 1,300 points and had 300 assists. McClerking described Ezell as a player that showed up and did things the right way. McClerking also recognized the two senior Mustangs, Ezell and Kelton Johnson. He remarked that their presence and impact on the program will be missed. He talked about how their hard work, unselfishness, and character are the qualities we want from every Mustang that comes through our program. Johnson was named as Most Improved Player. Johnson was All-District, All-Region, averaged ten points a game, four rebounds,



Recognized at the banquet were basketball cheerleaders (L to R) Front Row: McKenzie Drinkard, Aubrie Harris, Claudia Cooper, Korra Doyle and Isabella Souza (seniors). Middle Row: Madisyn Barton, Destani Whitson, Brylee Douglas, Greenlee Hilliard and Aubrey McArthur. Back Row: Hailey Foster, Claudia Williams, Apryl Reindl and Mary Cardon Smothers. Not pictured: Katie Pratcher, McKinley Spellings, Eden Pritchard and Harmony Webb. Photo by Russell Bush/The Banner

two steals and had 55 assists. He only turned the ball over 49 times during the season. Lucas Smith was named 6th Man of the Year/Hustle Award. He started the year coming off the bench, was thrust into a starting role and was literally the ultimate team play-

er and glue guy. Bryson Whiteside was given the Coaches Award. He earned All-District honors and led the team with 17 charges taken during the season. Garvin Kee, a sophomore, was named Newcomer of the Year. Although he was on the team last

year, Kee popped on the scene this season with All-District honors, averaged ten points per game, five rebounds, two assists, two steals, 70 percent on free throws, 60 percent on field goals and 40 percent on threes. The Mustangs earned as high as a number four state ranking during the season, a regional championship appearance and a substate appearance. Coach McClerking also stated he is turning over the reins of the Mustang basketball program to Macom Bullock. McClerking is stepping away to spend more time with family after coaching for 17 years. The cheerleaders were also recognized for the season. Receiving certificates were McKenzie Drinkard, Aubrie Harris, Claudia Cooper, Korra Doyle, Isabella Souza, Madisyn Barton, Katie Pratcher, Destani Whitson, Brylee Douglas, Greenlee Hilliard, Aubrey McArthur, Hailey Foster, Claudia Williams, Apryl Reindl, Eden Pritchard, Mary Cardon Smothers, McKinley Spellings and Harmony Webb.

McKenzie Tennis Celebrates Senior Day



McKENZIE (April 20) — McKenzie High School tennis celebrated Senior Day during Monday's home matches. Five seniors were recognized courtside along with their parents. Pictured (L to R) Owen Walker, son of Will Walker, Dusty Johnson and Brooke Walker; Davarion Gilbert, son of Ambi Gilbert; Morgan Little, daughter of Patrick Little and Ashley Bell; Head Coach Dru Emerson; Tobey Brooks, son of Sonny and Misty Brooks; Raychel Oliver, daughter of Jessica Spaulding and Sean Oliver; and Ashley Dunavant, daughter of Melissa Oswalt. Photo by Joel Washburn/The Banner



Huntingdon High School Mustang baseball seniors (L to R) Silas Sharp, Owen Kreuziger, Caleb Ezell, Braylin Dearmon and Broox Bennett. Additional photos online. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

Mustangs Celebrate Senior Night

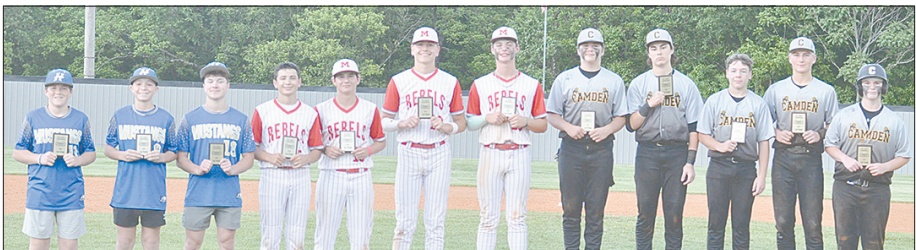
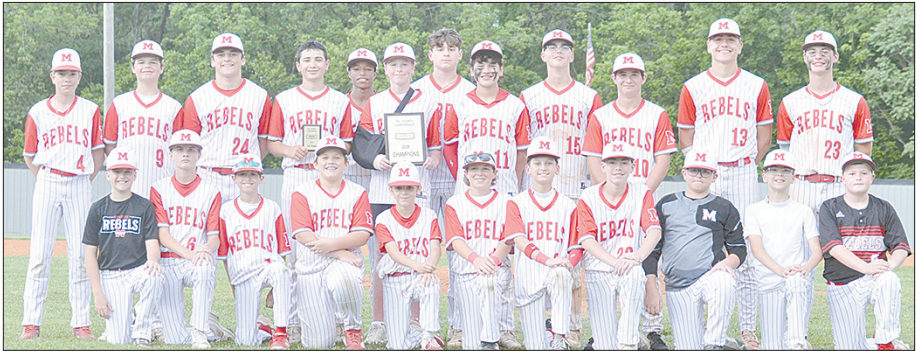
BY BRAD SAM
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HUNTINGDON (April 20) — Huntingdon High School baseball celebrated Senior Night prior to Monday's district win over Camden. Five senior Mustangs were honored on the field and in turn honored some very important people in their lives. Each senior was joined by his parents as well as an influential teacher from the

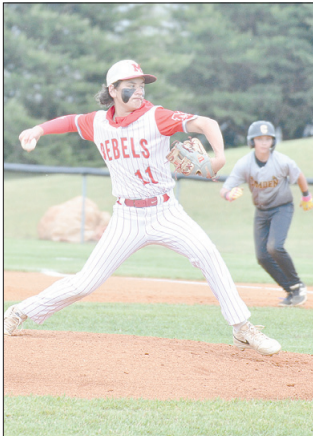
primary, middle and high schools. Silas Sharp was joined by his parents, Michael and Tara Sharp, and teachers, Kelley Wallace, Ryan Vincent and Ginger Taylor. Owen Kreuziger was joined by his mother, Tisha Kreuziger, and teachers, Courtney Cole, Heather Lewis and Ginger Taylor. Caleb Ezell was joined by his parents, Clint and Monica Ezell, and teachers, Summer Tippitt, Macon

Bullock and Elizabeth Lott. Braylin Dearmon was joined by his parents, Joey and Krista Darnall, and teachers, Jana Luther, Ashley Villalobos and Hillary Clift. Broox Bennett was joined by his parents, Seth and Jill Bennett, and teachers, Debbie Wilkins, Trevor Burlison and Robbie Miller. Additional photos from Senior Night are included in the online version of this story.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BASEBALL



Top, The Tri-County Conference champion McKenzie Middle School Rebels. Above, The Tri-County All-Conference team included Camden's Ryder Johnson, Max Petreman, Gavin Medlin, Weston Palmer and Jack Matlock; McKenzie's Leighem Broyles, Seth Stafford, Jake Ghyers and Dierks Ghyers; and Huntingdon's Cohen Gray, Bryce Maddox and Max Kelley. Below Left, Rebel Kenden Coleman earned the complete-game win, allowing one earned run on six hits while walking four and striking out one. Below Right, Rebel Rex Thompson lays down a perfect bunt for a base hit. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner



Rebels Top Camden, Claim Conference Title

BY BRAD SAM
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McKENZIE (April 24) — The McKenzie Middle School Rebels claimed the Tri-County Conference baseball championship Friday with an 8-1 win in five innings over the Camden Junior High Lions. The Rebels' title run began with a walk-off win over Huntingdon Wednesday and continued with a dominant win Thursday, also 8-1 over Camden. Following the championship game, plaques were presented to the champion and runner-up, and the All-Conference team was announced. Based on the regular season, honorees included Camden's Ryder Johnson, Max Petreman, Gavin Medlin, Weston Palmer and Jack Matlock; McKenzie's Leighem Broyles, Seth Stafford, Jake Ghyers and Dierks Ghyers;

and Huntingdon's Cohen Gray, Bryce Maddox and Max Kelley. Huntingdon Head Coach Cody Ezell was named Coach of the Year. In Friday's title game, McKenzie struck first with three runs in the bottom of the second. Camden's lone run came in the top of the third, but the Rebels pulled away with four in the home half and added one in the fourth. Rebel Seth Stafford was 1-for-2 with a walk, three RBIs and a run scored. Rex Thompson was 1-for-2 with two runs scored. Jake Ghyers was 1-for-2 with a walk. Dierks Ghyers was 0-for-0 with two walks, an RBI and a run scored. Kenden Coleman was 0-for-0 with three walks and two runs scored. Jackson Barden was 0-for-2 with a walk and two runs scored. Leighem Broyles was 0-for-3 with two RBIs. Lion Jack Matlock was 2-for-2 with a walk. Weston Palmer was 1-for-3 with a double and a run scored. Colton B. was 2-for-2. Max Petreman was 1-for-2 with a walk. Gavin Medlin was 0-for-3 with an RBI. Kenden Coleman earned the complete-game win for McKenzie, allowing one earned run on six hits while walking four and striking out one. Weston Palmer took the loss for Camden, facing two batters for two walks. Jack Matlock threw two and a third innings of relief, allowing five runs (four earned) on one hit while walking four and striking out three. Colton B. pitched two-thirds of an inning, allowing two runs (one earned) on two hits while walking one and striking out one. Max Petreman threw the final frame, allowing one unearned run on no hits with two walks and a strikeout.