

County Electric Cancels Uncollectible Billing

HUNTINGDON (June 27) — Carroll County Electric’s Board of Directors voted to cancel \$63,926.13 in uncollectible accounts billed to customers for Fiscal Year 2024.

The amount is 0.15% of the total billing of the electricity distributor.

Ryan Drewry, general manager, said that compares to \$64,945 in the previous year, which was 0.14% of total billing.

In other business, Drewry presented Martha (Marty) Hurley with a plaque for 11 years of service on the Board of Directors. Vicki Williams of Bruceton will fill Hurley’s seat after being appointed by the Carroll County Commission.

The utility distributor received \$170,140.36 in FEMA funds as reimbursement for damage caused by a major wind storm in March 2023.

During a short meeting, the Board heard thirteen 13kV electrical breakers for the Trezevant substation will arrive in May 2025 to accommodate a new solar array in Trezevant.

The solar array (solar farm) in Trezevant will be constructed and owned by Silicon Ranch and requires significant upgrades to the substation in Trezevant. The enhancements will include isolation switches, other protective devices, and a fiber optic line for data transmission to monitor the substation. The estimated cost is \$1,467,000, to be paid by Silicon Ranch. The Tennessee-based solar company has installations throughout the state, including the nearest one at Puryear, which connects to Henry County’s Board of Public Utilities.

Silicon Ranch will in-

stall the array adjacent to CCED’s substation and provide electricity to the local distributor over a 30-year contract. Construction is expected to take 1.5 to 2 years.

The connection of the array is termed a ‘win-win’ situation because it will generate reliable power at less cost than TVA while helping CCED to upgrade the Trezevant substation without cost to CCED. The proposed solar farm installation will be a 118-acre solar farm. The proposed 6.25-megawatt array would be more extensive than the one along Interstate 40 near Brownsville.

CCED sold a 2014 truck on GovDeals for \$5,950. The truck was declared surplus and auctioned.

The next meeting is July 25, 2:30 at the Carroll County Electric Office.

Things that go 'Boom' in the Summer Night

Fireworks are staples of summer, when neighborhoods sporadically light up with multicolored splendor, and distant pops can be heard on a regular basis.

Most fireworks are made of a small tube called an aerial shell that contains various explosive chemicals, says the American Chemical Company. The shell has gunpowder and something called “stars,” which give fireworks their color when they explode. The shell is housed in a mortar that will launch the firework into the air after a fuse is lit. Ultimately, a bursting charge of the firework explodes and ignites the black powder and stars.

If the stars are randomly placed in the shell, they will produce random patterns. But many fireworks are carefully created so that the stars are placed to allow for specific patterns when the firework explodes. The following are some types of fireworks that surely will be lighting up night skies, courtesy of Sky Bacon Fireworks, Jake’s Fireworks, and American Pyrotechnics Safety & Education Foundation, and Pyro City.

Brocade: This firework

has a large number of trailing stars falling slowly in an umbrella pattern. It’s one of the most common firework effects.

Cake: Sometimes called a “repeater” or a “multi-shot aerial,” a cake is a firework that has a single fuse used to light several tubes in sequence. They fire at a rapid pace and can sometimes feature more than 1,000 shots. Cakes are often used as part of a show’s finale.

Chrysanthemum: This is a spherical break of colored stars that leave a visible trail of sparks.

Crossette: A crossette is a shell that contains several large stars that travel a short distance before breaking apart into smaller stars with loud crackling sounds. This creates a criss-crossing effect.

Dahlia: This shell produces a starfish-like shape when it bursts.

Firecrackers: These are more about bang than flash. They lay on the ground, and when the fuse is lit, will go off one after another with a loud bang.

Fish: These produce an aerial effect that seems like several objects swimming through the air and only

lasts a few seconds.

Fountains: These fireworks shoot between four and eight feet into the air and are very colorful. They are sometimes called “driveway items” or “safe and sane” because they don’t propel like other fireworks and may be safer for novices.

Pistil: A pistil features a center sphere of stars that burst in a spherical shape. Pistils contain an outer sphere of stars as well.

Roman candle: This firework has a paper tube that shoots flaming balls out of one end of the tube.

Strobe: Similar to other fireworks with a spherical break shape, this has the added effect of blinking components that makes it appear like shimmering water in the sky.

UFO: This firework spins very fast and lifts high into the sky, where it bursts into a special aerial effect. They’re sometimes called helicopters, sky flyers or planes.

There are many different types of fireworks that add bang and color to evening celebrations.

Bethel

...From Front Page

struggles and challenges and has always found a way to grow and survive. In the 1970s, Bethel had a significant downturn in enrollment, causing financial challenges. That coincided with the phasing down of the Vietnam War and the elimination of the military deferment in relation to college admission.

Bethel innovated and was one of the first universities to start adult degree-completion programs, called Success, that provided opportunities for non-traditional students to attain a

college degree. It also started a physician assistant training program, Renaissance, and many sports.

According to Dr. Watkins, the post COVID-19 enrollment shortfall faced by most educational institutions caught the university somewhat by surprise. Reduced enrollment also meant fewer funds for programs but without a corresponding reduction in expenses. Initially, a hiring freeze, suspension of the retirement matching program, and elimination of non-essential spending addressed the issue. Bethel also secured Employee Retention Credit funding from the federal government, which also alleviated the shortfall

somewhat.

Watkins continued, “In order to achieve a balanced budget, we took additional steps to reduce Bethel’s expenses to a level commiserate with our current enrollment and revenue. This included the elimination of our swimming, bowling, and inline skating programs, reduction in faculty and staff positions, cutting back operating expenses, and other measures.”

“We will truly miss those faculty and staff members affected by these layoffs, but these steps will allow Bethel to maintain the financial strength necessary to provide the educational and experiential learning environment necessary for our students to succeed,” Watkins said.

Faculty and staff reductions have cost a few of the employees their positions and numerous already vacant positions will not be filled.

Dr. Watkins’ tenure ended June 30. Bethel’s new president, Dr. Perry Moulds began his service at Bethel on July 1.

Dr. Moulds comes from Belmont University, where he served as senior assistant to the president for philanthropic initiatives. He previously served as Belmont’s vice president for advancement from 2014 until 2023. Moulds succeeds Walter Butler, who retired in December after leading the university for 10 years. Alumnus and former trustee Dr. Bob Watkins has served the university as interim president since Butler’s retirement.

Information from Matthew Gore, Cumberland Presbyterian Magazine, Banner staff, and other sources.



Above, Four Former Industrial Board Members Honored — Randy Webb, Matt Merrick, Gary Simmons and Keith Priestley were honored with a plaque for their service. Executive Director Monica Heath presented the plaques. Below Left, Russ Huffstetler, CEO and Co-Founder of Dynamix Physical Therapy was the featured speaker. Below Right, Phil Williams was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award. The award was presented by Joel Washburn. Williams has operated a furniture store in downtown McKenzie for 48 years. He is retiring this year.



McKenzie Chamber Presents Banquet, Community Awards

McKENZIE (June 25) — McKenzie Chamber of Commerce held its third annual banquet on Tuesday, June 25 at Bethel University’s cafeteria. The food was provided by the food service at Bethel.

Approximately 200 attended the event, the largest number to attend the annual banquets.

Monica Heath, executive director of the Chamber of Commerce, served as emcee.

The annual awards were presented.

Businessperson of the Year was Drew Beeler, owner of Hometown Hangout and McKenzie Nutrition. Beeler serves on the McKenzie City Council and is a member of McKenzie Rotary Club.

Business of the Year was awarded to Hometown Health Clinic, which has two clinics in McKenzie and others through the area.

Nonprofit of the Year was presented to Overflow Church for its community service and outreach. It provides a free carnival each year for area residents to enjoy.

Chamber Champion was presented to Tessa Kyle, who has volunteered her time to the Chamber throughout the year. Tessa is the Business Development Consultant with the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development. She is a resident of Gleason.

Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Phil Williams, owner of Williams Furniture. Williams has operated a furniture store in McKenzie for 48 years. He is retiring this year and closing the downtown business. Besides operating the store, along with family members and other employees, he is a lay minister and the longest-serving mayor in Tennessee. He is the mayor of McMoresville. His tenure as mayor began in 1977 following a four-year term as councilman, which began in 1973. He has served the citizens of McMoresville for fifty-one years.

Russ Huffstetler, CEO and Co-Founder of Dynamix Physical Therapy was the featured speaker.

The leadership for the 2023-24 Chamber year were: Jan Latimer, chairman; Jason Martin, vice-chairman; Myra Carlock, secretary-treasurer. Board members were: Shawna Fowler, Drew Beeler, Will Record, Christy Williams; Jay Phipps, Josh Crawford, and Joel Washburn-Indus-



Top, Hometown Health Clinic was honored as the Business of the Year. Tammy Etheridge (left) and Ellen Pruitt accepted the award from Christy Williams (right). Above, Overflow Church was honored as the Nonprofit of the Year. Chelsea Butler accepted the award from Monica Heath and Chamber Chairman Jan Latimer. Below, Tessa Kyle was honored as the Chamber Champion. Monica Heath (left) and Jan Latimer (right) presented her with the award.



trial Board representative. Latimer, Phipps, and Crawford rolled off the board for the 2024-25 year.

Incoming board members are: Matt Aird, Ashley Horn and Madison Endres. Jason Martin is the new chairman.

Also honored during the night were four former members of the McKenzie Industrial Board. Former chairman Gary Simmons had 30 years of service; Keith Priestley had eight years; Matt Merrick had 12 years; and Randy Webb had eight years.

The new appointees to the Industrial Board are:

Chuck Sisson, John Wright, Mark Anderson, Jr., and Craig Hobson.

McKenzie Industrial Board is the main sponsor for the McKenzie Chamber of Commerce.

Other major sponsors for the Chamber are Allegion, Centennial Bank, Cachingo, Haven Steel, McKenzie Valve and Machining, Baptist Memorial Hospital-Carroll County, Carroll Bank and Trust, City of McKenzie, Hometown Health Clinic, McKenzie Banking Company, and Stafford Real Estate.

The Chamber has 106 members.



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July 4th

...From Front Page

performing. Fireworks show at dark. It promises to be one of the biggest fireworks shows ever for the town.

McKenzie

McKenzie Fireworks Show

The annual fireworks show is at dusk at City Park, Como Street. Food trucks will be available including Hawg County Cookers Barbecue, hamburgers, lemonade. The city's train will provide transportation since automobiles are not allowed in the fireworks area.

Park closes to incoming traffic at 4:30 p.m.

McKenzie Church of Christ – July 5

Block Party starts at 4 p.m. with sports activities. Food is served at 6 p.m. Fireworks at 9 p.m. Everyone is welcome!

Paris

Paris Landing

Paris Landing State Park will be hosting its

annual fireworks show on Thursday, July 4 at dark. This event is sponsored by the Henry County Tourism Authority! Stop by when it gets dark to witness a spectacular display you won't want to miss.

Hollow Rock-Bruceton

Hollow Rock-Bruceton Independence Day Celebration

Hollow Rock Fire Department is celebrating Independence Day with a fireworks show on Saturday, July 6, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at Hollow Rock-Bruceton Central High School behind the football practice field. Caleb's Hill and friends will provide music and food trucks will be available. Fireworks at dark. Bring your lawn chair/ blanket and your appetite to enjoy the greatest display of fireworks.

Martin

Martin Loves America Free Fireworks Show

Join the City of Martin as it celebrates the 4th of July with the biggest bang in Northwest Tennessee at its Martin Loves America, free Fire-

works Show on Thursday, July 4 at 9 p.m. at Martin Recreational Complex, 8457 Highway 45 E South. Bring a picnic, chairs, and refreshments for the whole family and relax in the grass or watch and listen from your vehicle.

The city encourages you to make sure to post and share pictures using #MartinTN and #MartinLovesAmerica throughout the night! The Martin Rec Complex also offers a walking trail, pond for fishing, playgrounds, and a fenced in dog park. Make plans to bring the whole family and enjoy your 4th of July holiday with them!

Dresden

Dresden Freedom & Fireworks Celebration at Weakley County Rehab & Nursing

On Wednesday, July 3 at 8 p.m. bring your family and join the fun at Weakley County Rehab & Nursing Center's annual fireworks show in the rear parking lot! Weakley County Rehab & Nursing is located at 700 Weakley County Nursing Home Rd in Dresden, Tenn. Please remember to bring your lawn chairs.



Left, John Penn Ridgeway is the new president of TCAT-Henry/Carroll, which includes the Paris and McKenzie campuses. He returns to TCAT after serving as mayor of Henry County. His tenure as president began July 1. Ridgeway, who previously worked at TCAT-McKenzie, called the McKenzie campus the "Treasure on the Hill." Right, Dr. Flora Tydings, chancellor of the Tennessee Board of Regents, and Willie Huffman, president of the TCAT-Henry/Carroll. Huffman retired June 30 after a 36-year career in various levels at TCAT-McKenzie and TCAT-Paris.



TCAT

...From Front Page

A walkway will connect the current classrooms to the new administrative/classroom building.

Speakers at the event included: Dr. Flora Tydings, chancellor of the Tennessee Board of Regents; Willie Huffman, president of TCAT-Henry/Carroll; State Senator John Stevens, State Representative Tandy Darby, McKenzie Mayor Ryan Griffin, Carroll County Mayor Joseph Butler; John Penn Ridgeway-president-elect of TCAT Henry/Carroll; Monica Heath, Executive Director of the McKenzie Chamber of Commerce; Brad Hurley, President of the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, TCAT student Maddie Parks, and principal architect Mary Haizlip.

TCAT-McKenzie is soon to bear the name TCAT-Henry/Carroll along with its sister campus in Paris.

TCAT-McKenzie offers welding classes at a Dresden campus and residential building maintenance and welding at the Carroll County Technical School. For high school students, the latter is in Huntingdon as part of a dual enrollment program.

Advanced manufacturing technology is offered as dual enrollment at Clarksburg High School, and classes at the Benton County Vocational School provides dual enrollment in automotive technology.

Full enrollment at the McKenzie campus is estimated at 135 students in the various classes.

Tennessee's investment of nearly \$1 billion in technical education is becoming a reality as several groundbreakings — including McKenzie — recently took place in June. The funding, approved in



The groundbreaking for the new academic and administrative building at TCAT-McKenzie. It includes 2,600 square-foot community room for use for career fairs and other community events. Pictured is a rendering of the new building.

2022 by Governor Bill Lee and the General Assembly, has provided new capital outlay and maintenance investments for six new Tennessee College of Applied Technology campuses, seven outdated facilities, and the expansion and improvement of 16 existing campuses. This historic statewide revitalization for technical education across the state increases accessibility to our graduates and assures local businesses & industries have the highly skilled workforce they need to fill jobs.

The following groundbreakings below will take place in August/September:

TCAT Oneida, New Automotive and Collision Repair Building.

TCAT Livingston, New Academic and Administration Building.

TCAT Upper Cumberland, New Academic Building & New Truck Driving Facility.

TCAT McMinnville, Coffee County Facility.

TCAT Upper Cumberland, Bledsoe County Facility.

TCAT Chattanooga, New Academic Building.

TCAT Nashville, Allied Health Building.

TCAT Knoxville, Union County Campus.

A History of TCAT-McKenzie

The construction of the McKenzie school began in the spring of 1964 and was completed in 1965. It began operation under the local direction of Guy R. Kirk, who was appointed superintendent of the school by then Assistant Commissioner of Vocational Education in Tennessee, Charlie Dunn. The School enrolled its first students in July of 1965 in Automotive Mechanics, Drafting and Office Occupations. The first students to graduate from the Center did so in 1966.

In 1999, the Center underwent a two-million-dollar renovation project. This project included building new shop classrooms, installing a new heat and air system and an electrical system in the industrial building, renovating the administrative building, and connecting the two shop buildings to the administrative building by adding two new classrooms.

Water

...From Front Page

on July 23 meeting.

Thursday's meeting yielded a quorum, with only Councilmember Kelly Eubanks absent.

The council unanimously approved on second and final reading Ordinance No. 627, an ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 619, as amended by Ordinance No. 622 and Ordinance No. 624, the same being the General Fund, Drug Fund, Solid Waste Collection fund, DCPA Special Projects Fund, and Utility Fund Budgets of the Town of Huntingdon, Tennessee, for Fiscal Year 2024 (FY-024) (1 Jul 023 – 30 Jun 024) to provide for the routine fiscal year-end review and amendments. In essence, this moved various line items around to balance the year-end balance.

Next, the council voted 5-1 to approve on second and final reading Ordinance 628 to adopt and approve the General Fund, Drug Fund, Solid Waste Collection fund, DCPA Special Projects Fund, and Utility Fund Budgets of the Town of Huntingdon, Tennessee, for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

Anticipated revenue is valued at \$5,832,200 with

appropriations budgeted at \$5,808,300. The largest portion of expenditures is the Police Department at \$1,706,900. Finance and Administration is set at \$514,500; the Fire Department is \$710,800; the Street Department is \$760,700; Parks and Recreation is \$544,950; General Government is \$263,300; Solid Waste is \$380,000; the Dixie Carter Performing Arts Center is \$722,800.

The Water and Sewer has anticipated revenue valued at \$3,323,000 with an operating cost of \$3,286,250.

The budget goes into effect July 1, 2024. Opposing the measure was Councilmember Andrew Maddox.

Votes were further split, 4-2, on passage of the second and final reading of Ordinance No. 629, an ordinance to amend Title 18, Water & Sewers of the Huntingdon Municipal Code as outlined in Ordinance No. 620, Chapter 1, Water, Amending Section 18-113, Schedule of Rates; Title 18, Chapter 2, Wastewater Collection and Treatment Systems; Amending Section 18-209, Recovery of Cost (2) Sewer service charges; and Automatic adjust of rate to reflect cost of living.

This amended the current water and sewer rate by 3% for the annual cost

of living increase. This was done at the behest of the State of Tennessee. Opposing this ordinance were councilmembers Will Atkins and Andrew Maddox.

The council briefly discussed establishing a three-minute time limit for citizens' comments at meetings before settling on a limit of five minutes and a requirement for citizens to give 24 hours of notice that they wish to be recognized. The measure was approved unanimously.

Also approved was a request from Eastview Baptist Church for the use of Sesquicentennial Park for a God's Day event on Saturday, July 20.

Finally, the council approved with no opposition the FY23 Audit report. Mayor Smothers said, "The [audit] had no current year financial statement findings. The report did list a Federal Award Finding that the Data Collection form was not filed by the deadline. The Town is going to work with the audit firm to ensure that the audit report and data collection form are filed timely in the future."

She added, "Our filing was timely, theirs getting back to us was not."

The meeting adjourned after eight minutes.

City of McKenzie

NOTICE

RE: Unsafe dilapidated structure located 244 Oaklawn Drive McKenzie, TN 38201 (Map 162K, Group C, Parcel 12).

This office has made an inspection of the structure located at the above mentioned address and determined that the structure is dilapidated and conditions exist there that are dangerous and/or detrimental to the occupants, and the occupants of neighboring structures and/or other residents of the municipality. According to our records, you are the owner and/or a party of interest of this property.

In accordance with section 13-203 of THE CITY OF MCKENZIE SLUM CLEARANCE ORDINANCE, a hearing has been set for 2 p.m., July 22, 2024 at McKenzie City Hall located at 2470 Cedar Street, McKenzie, TN. The owner and interested parties will have the opportunity to answer this complaint. The rules of evidence prevailing in courts of law or equity shall not be controlling in hearings before the Administrative Hearing Officers.

If you have any questions concerning this issue, please feel free to contact the City of McKenzie Building Inspector at 731-352-2292.

Jim Seaton, City of McKenzie

THIS INSTRUMENT WAS PREPARED BY JIM PILLOW, Master Code Professional, Certified Building Official, Certified Fire Marshall

AI/26-2

City of McKenzie

NOTICE

RE: Unsafe dilapidated structure located 569 Walnut Street, McKenzie, TN 38201 (Map 12M, Group A, Parcel 4).

Dear property owners and parties or interest:

This office has made an inspection of the structure located at the above mentioned address and determined that the structure is dilapidated and conditions exist there that are dangerous and/or detrimental to the occupants, and the occupants of neighboring structures and/or other residents of the municipality. According to our records, you are the owner and/or a party of interest of this property.

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Jim Seaton, City of McKenzie

THIS INSTRUMENT WAS PREPARED BY JIM PILLOW, Master Code Professional, Certified Building Official, Certified Fire Marshall

AI/26-2

City of McKenzie

NOTICE

RE: Unsafe dilapidated structure located 50 Olivet Road, McKenzie, TN 38201 (Map 12N, Group B, Parcel 29). This is the old Olivet Missionary Baptist Church.

This office has made an inspection of the structure located at the above mentioned address and determined that the structure is dilapidated and conditions exist there that are dangerous and/or detrimental to the occupants, and the occupants of neighboring structures and/or other residents of the municipality. According to our records, you are the owner and/or a party of interest of this property.

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AI/26-2

THE WIT AND WISDOM OF DAVID JOHNSON

School Bus Misadventures

Back in the 1970s, when I was in my twenties and still a couple of bubbles shy of plumb, I decided I could manage the dual role of a schoolteacher and a school bus driver.

“What could go wrong?” I asked myself.

You see, in your twenties it’s easy to do bold and stupid things because you can’t imagine all the things that could go wrong. For us guys our twenties are merely an extension of our teenage years. Jump off a roof onto a trampoline that will catapult you over three cars and eventually land you on the seat of a running motorcycle which you will drive across a frozen pond, all while blindfolded? Sure! Absolutely!

When I took the job as a bus driver, I never thought about asking about the route I was assigned. Why would it matter? A bus route is a bus route, right? (Oh, you foolish, foolish boy.)

At the first in-service meeting for bus drivers, I met all the other drivers. It was a seasoned bunch of men, which is a nice way to describe the grizzled-looking men each with a nervous twitch either in one eye, or shoulder, or leg. It made me wonder if they were combat veterans from World War Two or Korea. Surprisingly, that wasn’t the case.

“We’re veteran bus drivers,” they told me.

Now, see? That right there, that was my warning, a warning that flew right over my head.

A few of them asked me what route I was running. When I told them, some turned pale, genuflected, and muttered something, while others flinched and whispered, “High Pockets.” One snaggle-tooth driver put his hand on my shoulder and said, “Been nice knowin’ ya.”

They all moved slowly away as if I was a leper.

I laughed nervously, hoping they would also laugh and say, “We’re just kidding with you.”

All they did was look at me like they were viewing a body at a funeral home.

When I took the job, I en-

visioned a gleaming yellow bus with shiny wheels and tires. What I didn’t know was the newest driver gets the oldest bus. The bus I drove me think of a sway-back horse that hadn’t been curried or brushed in years. Some of the windows had cracks in them, and there were holes in the upholstery. The windshield wiper on my side worked fine. However, the other one acted like it took all the energy it could muster just to swipe across the window every minute or so.

Once I started picking up students on my route, I quickly learned what “High Pockets” meant. It was the nickname for hard-looking grandmother whose grandchildren lived with her.

It would be hyperbole to describe what they lived in as a house. It was more of a shack than a house. The yard wasn’t a yard, because there was no grass growing except around the edges of the three bald tires piled on top of each other, the two rusted-out cars, a couple of concrete blocks, and two ladderback chairs that the cane bottoms had rotted out of.

Her grandchildren were the first kids to be picked up on my route. On the first day, she marched them out to the bus and gave me a look that said, “Don’t mess with me!”

All she said to the kids was, “Y’all mind yourselves.” The best way I can describe the kids is to use the word hellions.

“Hellion: a disorderly, troublesome, rowdy, or mischievous person”

Yep, that’s what they were. I learned that being a bus driver required you to have the vision of a chameleon, one eye on the road and one eye on the mirror that showed the bus’s interior. Why not a camera to monitor behavior? Ha! Please, if you ask that question, you’re too young to fully appreciate this story.

One day, as I was dropping kids off at their homes, I noticed several of them had a red whelp or two on their cheek or neck. Some had tears in their eyes as they rubbed the whelps,

while others looked as angry as the whelps themselves. I asked an older boy about it, and he told me one of High Pockets’ kids had some hot peppers out of their garden and was swiping them across people’s faces.

Hellions.

When I stopped to let High Pockets kids off, I told them I was taking them to the principal’s office the next morning.

At home that night, while sitting in our living room that had green and white shag carpet tall enough to lose a young child in, my wife and I were watching one of the three channels our antennae could pick up the signal of, our wall phone with the thirty-foot cord rang. I lifted the receiver off the hook and before I could even say “Hello,” someone on the other end screamed a stream of cuss words that included some rather unkind remarks about me and whoever had given birth to me. There were also some threats thrown in about what was going to be done to me if I took their kids to the principal’s office.

Yes, it was High Pockets.

When she finally took a breath, I told her I wasn’t going to listen to talk like that, and I hung up the phone.

Before I had taken two steps toward the living room, the phone rang again. When I answered it, I was informed by High Pockets that hanging up was the wrong thing to do, at least that’s what I could glean from the curse-filled words she was slinging at me.

I hung up again.

That night, I slept the sleep of youth, unclouded by “what might happen.”

Pulling to a stop in front of where High Pockets lived, I opened the door of the bus and waited.

A few seconds later, her three grandkids burst out the front door whooping and hollering and carrying rifles and shotguns in each hand. It was Lord of the Flies in living color.

Even though I’m not Catholic, I thought about genuflecting—just in case.

A wiser man would have slammed shut the bus door

and raced off. But, I’ve already established I was anything but wise back then.

I sat there, transfixed by the untimely ending of my life.

When the kids reached the door, they yelled excitedly, “The house is on fire! The house is on fire! Ma says get the guns out first!”

Blinking my eyes and shaking my head, I said, “Huh?”

They repeated their apocalyptic message.

Reaching for the key, I shut off the bus and told them, “Show me.”

Inside the house, I first saw that the walls were covered in cardboard, the only insulation they could afford.

Next, the voices of High Pockets and a younger woman, who I learned was the mother of the kids, were yelling at each other while pointing at the point where the stovepipe from their woodburning stove went through a wall. The pipe had gotten so hot the cardboard was on fire.

They weren’t arguing about what to do about the fire; they were arguing over whose fault it was.

Rome was burning while Nero played his violin.

I turned to the kids and yelled, “Get me a bucket of water.”

A few moments later they returned from outside where the well was, carrying buckets of water.

One at a time I slung them against the wall, splashing the women in the process, which, apparently, they hardly noticed because they never missed a beat in the argument that had evolved into hair pulling and kicking.

Convinced the fire was out, I told the kids to get on the bus.

Once we were all seated, I checked to be certain they hadn’t snuck a gun on the bus, then said a silent prayer of thanks for delivery from the fiery furnace, cranked the bus and went on my way — a little older, a little wiser.

**Taken from The Wit and Wisdom of David Johnson, Volume 1: I Didn’t Know Donkeys Could Laugh.*

HCMC’s Unbreakable Bond

How Randy Dobbins and Tracy Ray’s Friendship Saves Lives

When you intentionally create relationships at work, your coworkers become your family.

Everyone works together to provide the best care for our patients. Besides simply working together, we care for each other on a personal level, which makes all the difference.

Two of our HCMC Environmental Service partners, Bro. Tracy Ray and Bro. Randy Dobbins exhibit the true meaning of creating a work family. They can read each other to the point of knowing what one will say before they say it. This strong connection fuels the desire to put forth their best work and can even save lives.

Randy and Tracy have worked together in their current positions for the past six years.

But their friendship began many years ago, going back to their time together in high school. Randy and Tracy have always been work partners during their time at HCMC and neither would have it any other way.

Because they’ve spent every working day together over the past six years, Randy and Tracy have developed a deep connection. They’re not simply coworkers anymore, they’re brothers. They’re brothers who can read one another, understand each other, and care about the other in all aspects of their lives. This true connection went from enjoyable to crucial one night in December of 2022.

While they were at work at a satellite location, Randy could tell something was not quite right with Tracy. He had learned his attitude, mannerisms, and personality to such a degree that he could instinctively tell Tracy was ‘off’. Without hesitation, Randy got Tracy into the car, and they raced to the Emergency Room. Within minutes of arriving, Tracy stopped breathing due to an allergic reaction.

While this time it was Randy saving Tracy, Randy will be the first to tell you

he was saved by Tracy first. In March of 2022, Randy was at his lowest point; he lost his wife of many years due to Covid. As expected, when grieving the loss of a significant other,

Randy was having a hard time coping. Tracy took it upon himself to help his friend work through this difficult time. While at work, they prayed together, worshipped together, talked openly about the difficulties Randy was going through, and tried to find joy in each day.

Outside of work, Tracy’s care didn’t stop. Tracy and his wife met with Randy many times to continue checking on him and praying with him. Tracy helped pull Randy out of a dark place in his life, ultimately saving him.

Just as caring for each other comes naturally to them, Tracy and Randy know they are exactly where they’re meant to be.

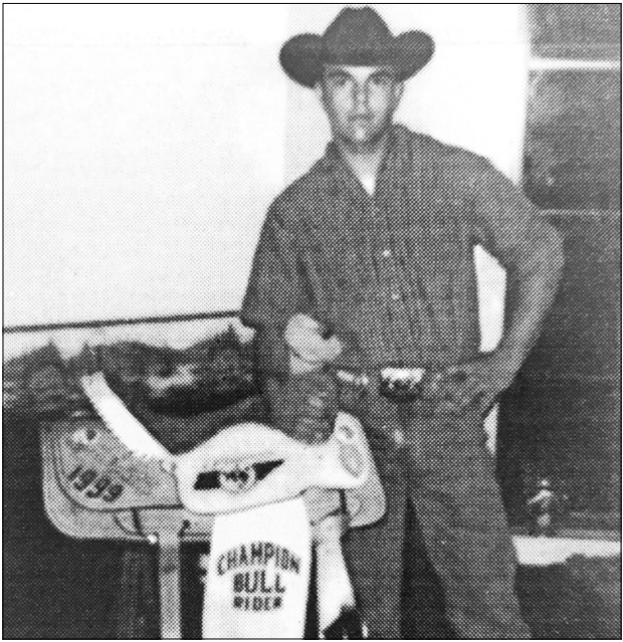
Both Tracy and Randy are caretakers outside of their roles at work. Randy cares for his adult son who is a two-time kidney transplant recipient. Tracy cares for extended family members, not to mention caring for himself amidst various health concerns. The two men exhibit selflessness as they put the needs of others above themselves time and time again.

Caring for others at HCMC is a joy for Tracy and Randy. They love being a part of the HCMC community and working as a team to provide the best care possible. They love the patients and enjoy being able to see and interact with them. More than that, they are proud to work for an organization that treats people with respect and dignity. They feel like they are part of a great family – working for HCMC is their true calling.

As stated in Matthew 9:37, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.” Randy and Tracy have found their harvest, and they are blessed to be the “workers” each and every day.



Left, 10 Years Ago — Congressman Fincher hosted a Job Fair for West Tennessee. SFC Melissa Walker (left) explained the opportunities provided by the Tennessee National Guard. Center, 25 Years Ago — Brandon Moore competed in the Tennessee High School Rodeo Association state finals in Cookeville and won first place in the bull-riding event. Moore represented Tennessee in the National High School final in Gillette, Wyoming. Right, 50 Years Ago — Mrs. June Mull received the silver tray from Mrs. Polly Roper on behalf of McKenzie B&PW Club. Mrs. June was named State Woman of Achievement at the Tennessee Federation of Business and Professional Women in Memphis.



Looking Back from Our Archives

10 Years Ago — Tom Hilton of Tosh Farms discussed the company with prospective employee Ralph Dennie of McKenzie. *Josh Grant of Sonic in

Huntingdon was presented a plaque by Police Officer Lt. Walter Smothers for donating corn dog coupons for the “Click It or Ticket” campaign.

25 Years Ago — Mrs. Robin Luther received a check from Modern Woodmen of America representative James A. Fuchs of Huntingdon. The Modern Woodman of America is a fraternal life insurance society founded in 1883 based on “people helping people.” *Murray Outdoor Products donated a new riding mower to the athletic de-

partment for use at the new high school. **50 Years Ago** — McKenzie Banner’s Editors and Publishers received a plaque for their 104 years of service to the community, state, and nation. W. T. Franklin, President of the TPA, gave the plaque. *Postmaster Dana Ramsay presented W. A. Mitchell a certificate of appreciation for his 32 years with the postal service.

75 Years Ago — Thousands of automobiles across Tennessee had a “Keep Tennessee Green” sticker. This was part of the effort headed by the UT Agricultural Department. J. H. McLeod, Director of the Agricultural Extension Service, was photographed putting a sticker on his car.

*The Park Theatre put an ad for the movie “Fighter Squadron,” a drama of World War II fighter pilots that co-starred Edmond O’Brien and Robert Stack. *A. J. Woodall Jackson, attorney and veteran of World War II, was elected State Commander of the Veterans of the four-day V. F. W. Convention.

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Obituaries

MICHAEL BRANDON 1981 – 2024

HUNTINGDON — Mr. Michael Brandon, 43, of Huntingdon, died Friday, June 21, 2024, at NHC Milan.

Memorial services were Monday, July 1, 2024, at 4 p.m. in the Chapel of Chase Funeral Home with Bro. James Smith officiating. Chase Funeral Home.

DENNIS LOWE 1972 – 2024

BRUCETON — Mr. Dennis Michael Lowe, 51, of Bruceton, died Wednesday, June 26, 2024, at his home.

A memorial service for Mr. Lowe is Tuesday, July 2, 2024, at 5 p.m.

Mr. Lowe was born July 23, 1972, in Huntingdon, to the late Larry Gene Lowe and Martha Ann Herndon Lowe, who survives. He was retired as a retail grocery manager. He was also preceded in death by his grandparents Ted and

Mildred Herndon, and Leon and Lucille Lowe of Clarksburg.

Along with his mother Martha, he is survived by his daughter, Kiele Lowe, two brothers, Larry Lowe, Jr. and Tracy Lowe. Chase Funeral Home.

JAMES HATLEY 1938 – 2024

MILAN — Mr. James (Jim) Bradley Hatley, 86, died Thursday, June 20.

Mr. Hatley was a retired high school teacher/coach, including in McKenzie, and a Marine Corps veteran. He was born on January 18, 1938, to the late Melvin Hatley and Mary Inez Hatley-Dail, in Camden. Besides his parents, James is preceded in death by his wife, Sarah C. Hatley; sister, Helen Marie Hatley; and son, Timothy W. Hatley.

He is survived by children, Kimberly A. Jones of Hickman, Ky., Jennifer L. Fields of Bradford, Tenn., Jim Hatley (Roxanne) of McKenzie, Amanda "AJ" Hatley of Milan; five grandchildren, and a sister, Joyce

Ann Hampton (Thomas) of Pensacola, Fla.

Funeral services were Wednesday, June 26, 2024, at Bodkin Funeral Home with burial in Hopewell Cemetery in Lavinia.

Bodkin Funeral Home, Milan.

JANICE CHANDLER 1940 – 2024

HUNTINGDON — Mrs. Janice Chandler, 83, of Huntingdon, died Thursday, June 27, 2024, at Huntingdon Health & Rehab.

Funeral services were Saturday, June 29, 2024, in the Chapel of Dilday-Carter Funeral Home. Interment was in Bethel Cemetery.

Mrs. Chandler was born December 4, 1940, to the late Gerald Carter and Frances Rich Carter. She was preceded in death by her husband, Neal Chandler and son, Kim Hicks.

She is survived by one son, Jason (Tina) Hicks of Huntingdon, and five grandchildren.

Dilday-Carter Funeral Home.

Inglenook Book Club News

BY BEVERLY MUELLER

The Inglenook Book Club met Wednesday, June 12 at 3 p.m. at Lakeside Senior Living Community in McKenzie for their monthly meeting. Twenty members were in attendance. President Gail Mack called the meeting to order by beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance, Club Aim and Motto.

Gail thanked everyone for the calls, cards, prayers, and kindness for her during her time of loss. She went on to thank hostesses Victoria Ard and Donna Ward for the delicious strawberry and coconut cake, along with assorted beverages and nut medley that was served.

Carolyn Moore was the June birthday lady.

Treasurer Donna Ward gave the treasurer's report. President Mack called for the committee reports from Sunshine, Telephone, Membership, and Publicity. She thanked the chairs for their graciousness for all they do.

Under new business, the announcement of the activities director at Lakeside has retired, and a new director will be coming soon.

Beverly Mueller presented the program. She spoke to us on the word 'library'. So much history, past, present, and knowledge of 'library' were shared, and a lot of the members had stories to tell of a library experience they had in the past. Library derives from the Latin liber "book" and is traditionally a collection of books used for reading or study, or a building or room where a collection is kept. There are eight legendary ancient libraries, with the top three being in 1) modern-day Iraq, 2) Egypt, and 3) Turkey. It was an informative, learning program, enjoyed by all.

Book passing was com-

pleted by Mary Newman, book chair, with the next book passing date of June 26.

The next meeting is July 10, at 3 p.m. at Lakeside. The hostesses will be Carolyn Goodwin and Elaine Williams, with program presentation by Zia Locke. Members were encouraged to bring personal care (hygiene) items for the school donation.

Members present were: Victoria Ard, Mona Batchelor, Peggy Chappell, Carolyn Goodwin, Jean Hollomion, Suzanne Howell, Geneva Johnson, Gail Mack, Shirley Martin, Jean McKinnie, Carolyn Moore, Beverly Mueller, Mary Newman, Carolyn Potts, Marilyn Putman, Sheila Rogers, Suzanne Russell, Genia Sherwood, Donna Ward, and Elaine Williams.

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A063/STF

Mama T's

WHAT'S COOKIN'

E: recipes@mckenziebanner.com

By Teresa Washburn

Call 731.352.3323

Pineapple Casserole

1 (20 oz.) can pineapple chunks, drained
2/3 cup sugar
5 teaspoon flour
1/4 box, Ritz crackers, crushed
1 1/2 cups grated sharp Cheddar Cheese
1/2 cup margarine, melted

Place drained pineapple chunks in an 8x12 inch casserole dish. Mix sugar and flour together and sprinkle over pineapple. Cover with cheese, then top with cracker crumbs. Melt margarine and pour over the top. Bake at 350 degrees for 20-30 minutes.

Banana Split Cake

1 stick butter or margarine
1 (16 oz.) bag walnuts
8 oz. cream cheese
1 cup powdered sugar
1 large Cool Whip
6 bananas

Frozen or fresh strawberries

1 large can crushed pineapple, drained
Maraschino cherries, optional

Chocolate syrup

Melt butter. Crush walnuts. Mix walnuts and butter together. Spread in bottom of 9x11 pan to make your crust. Bake for 10 minutes in 350 degree oven. Remove and let cool. Combine cream cheese, powdered sugar and Cool Whip. Spread thin layer over crust. Then layer sliced bananas, sliced strawberries and half of drained crushed pineapple. Repeat layer. Top with maraschino cherries. When serving, drizzle chocolate syrup over top. Serves 6-8.

Butter Pecan Ice Cream

2 cups pecan halves
3 tablespoons butter
Saute pecan halves in melted butter (5 minutes or until toasted).

3 (14 oz.) cans evaporated milk
2 small pkg vanilla instant pudding
2 1/2 cups sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
2 quarts milk

Mix ingredients and pour liquid into ice cream freezer. Add nuts after liquid mixture begins to thicken.

cheese, grated

Crumble sausage and Bisquick; add grated cheese. Mix well and form into small balls.

Bake at 350 degrees oven for about 20 minutes.

Little Smokies

1 cup brown sugar
1 cup bourbon
16 oz. catsup
2 pounds smokies

Simmer brown sugar, bourbon and catsup for 40 minutes. Add smokies and simmer for 30 minutes. Serve in hot dish. Reserve some sauce in pan in case more are needed. Keeps and freezes well.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NEWSPAPER OFFICE CLOSED ON JULY 4-5

The McKenzie Banner office will be closed on Thursday, July 4 and Friday, July 5 in observance of Independence Day. The office will reopen on Monday, July 8 at 8 a.m. Please submit news/events for the July 9 edition by Wednesday, July 3 if possible. If you need to reach us, email banner@mckenziebanner.com. Our staff will also be covering area events. Thank you for allowing us this time with our families.

MOVIE NIGHT WITH NOLAN AT THE COURT THEATRE

The Court Theatre in Huntingdon is hosting a

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DESPICABLE ME 4 (PG)

Wed. 1:30, 4:30 (3D), 7:30
Thurs. & Fri. 4:30 (3D), 7:30
Sat. & Sun. 1:30, 4:30 (3D), 7:30
Mon. & Tues. 4:30 (3D), 7:30

SOUND OF HOPE: THE STORY OF POSSUM TROT (PG-13)

Wed. 1:25, 4:25, 7:25
Thurs. & Fri. 4:25, 7:25
Sat. & Sun. 1:25, 4:25, 7:25
Mon. & Tues. 4:25, 7:25

HORIZON: CHAPTER 1 (R)

Wed.-Tues. 3:55, 7:35

INSIDE OUT 2 (PG)

Wed.-Fri. 4:30 (3D), 7:30
Sat. & Sun. 1:30, 4:30 (3D), 7:30
Mon. & Tues. 4:30 (3D), 7:30

BAD BOYS: RIDE OR DIE (R)

Wed.-Fri. 4:35, 7:35
Sat. & Sun. 1:35, 4:35, 7:35
Mon. & Tues. 4:35, 7:35

A QUIET PLACE: DAY ONE (PG-13)

Wed.-Fri. 4:25, 7:25
Sat. & Sun. 1:25, 4:25, 7:25
Mon. & Tues. 4:25, 7:25

INFOLINE 731-642-7171

All Movies Now in Digital DLP/HD

special movie night on Tuesday, July 9 at 7 p.m. The movie will be Good Burger and proceeds will benefit the Nolan and Courtney Turner Memorial Scholarship. Donations will be accepted at the door instead of charging admission. Other items will be for sale as well. Nolan's father, Jesse Turner, said they are working on special cups and popcorn bags to make the night very Nolan-centric.

MCKENZIE CITY MEETINGS

Historic Zoning Committee Meeting — Wednesday, July 10 at 4 p.m. No agenda provided.

Parks & Recreation Meeting — Wednesday, July 10 at 5:30 p.m. No agenda provided. Meeting is supposed to be a follow-up to the June meeting regarding the location of soccer fields either near McKenzie City Park or at Mulberry Park.

Workshop/Public Hearing (Broadway Street) — Thursday, July 11 at 5 p.m. The public is invited to attend this meeting regarding the directional change of Broadway Street from two-way to one-way. Downtown business owners are strongly encouraged to attend. The public is allowed to address the council during a public hearing.

City Council Meeting — Thursday, July 11 at 6 p.m. No agenda provided. This is the regular monthly meeting of McKenzie City Council. Business in this meeting

includes the second reading of the Broadway one-way street ordinance, relevant discussion from the workshop and/or the directional reversal of Banner Row. If the public wishes to address the council, they must request to be added to the agenda at least 24-hours prior to the meeting time by Wednesday at 5 p.m.

Planning Commission Meeting — Wednesday, July 24 at 3:30 p.m. No agenda provided.

Workshop/Public Hearing for Board of Zoning Appeals — Wednesday, July 24 at 4 p.m.

Zoning Board Meeting — Wednesday, July 24 at 4:15 p.m. No agenda provided.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY FAMILY DANCE NIGHTS

The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 47 is hosting family dance nights on Thursdays in July from 7-9:30 p.m. at Carroll County Civic Center in Huntingdon, located at 201 Fairgrounds Road. On July 11 Wallace and Company will perform, July 18 will be the Trailblazers Band, and on July 25 Crooked Creek will perform. There will be no dance on July 4.

WEBB SCHOOL NATIONAL REGISTER CELEBRATION

The Webb Alumni Association is planning a cele-

bration and ribbon cutting on July 20 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the school, located at 938 Walnut Street West, in McKenzie to commemorate the addition of Webb Public School to the National Register of Historic Places. You are cordially invited to attend.

T.A.R.P. ADA CELEBRATION

T.A.R.P. Center for Independent Living is hosting an ADA Celebration on July 31 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at 1108 Tyson Avenue in Paris. Cake sponsorships and cake donations needed for cake walk. Call 731-644-0026, visit www.tarp1.org or email info@tarp1.org.

MCKENZIE MEMORIAL LIBRARY'S HOURS

The McKenzie Memorial Library, Broadway Street, is open, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays throughout the summer for the Summer Reading Program. Additionally, the library has programs on most Saturdays beginning at 11:30 a.m.

CARROLL HUMANE SOCIETY EVENTS

Dog Vouchers

We are currently selling spay/neuter vouchers for dogs. The cost is \$50 and surgeries will be done at the Huntingdon Animal Clinic. Must be 6 months or older at time of the appointment. No residency or income re-

quirements. Vouchers must be purchased in person at the shelter during business hours Tuesday-Saturday 8 a.m.-12 p.m. We are running low on spay vouchers so hurry if you want one. We have several more neuter vouchers. Cash or card only.

Cat Vouchers

We always have spay/neuter vouchers for cats at a cost of \$50 and to be used at Paris Vet Clinic. If you need to pay with cash, come by the shelter to purchase. Otherwise, we have a NEW NUMBER to purchase using a credit/debit card. Please leave a message and the volunteer will return your call very soon, 731-514-0878.

MCKENZIE TOPS TO MEET

The McKenzie TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Chapter meets on Mondays at 3 p.m. at the McKenzie Church of Christ gym. Anyone interested in losing weight can join. For more information, contact Linda Lawrence at 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. There are no meetings in February and July.

CARROLL DEMOCRATIC PARTY MEETS

The Carroll County Democratic Party meets the third Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. at 12740 Lexington Street, Huntingdon.

CARROLL REPUBLICAN PARTY MEETS

Carroll County Republican Party meets monthly each fourth Tuesday, 7 p.m. in the Public Safety Building in Huntingdon.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

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

NEED TO GET THE WORD OUT?

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The Waters of McKenzie Earns Quality Award

MCKENZIE (June 2024) — The Waters of McKenzie announces it has been recognized as a 2024 recipient of the Bronze Commitment to Quality Award for improving the lives of residents through excellent care. This national award signifies a formal commitment

to continuous improvement and is the first of three progressive award levels through the AHCA/NCAL National Quality Award Program.

The program honors providers across the nation that have demonstrated extraordinary dedication to improving quality of care for the na-

tion's elders and individuals with disabilities.

The Waters of McKenzie was one of twenty Tennessee facilities among 709 nursing homes and assisted living facilities in 48 states recognized by the American Health Care Association/National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL).

Gasoline Prices Increase Over Week

TENNESSEE (July 1) — Average gasoline prices in Tennessee increased 11.9 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.09/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 3,821 stations in Tennessee. Prices in Tennessee are 3.1 cents per gallon higher than a month ago and stand 3.4 cents per gallon higher than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has risen 1.4 cents in the last week and stands at \$3.77 per gallon.

The Banner observed gasoline at 2.99 at McKenzie Fuel and Food on Saturday, June 29. According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Tennessee was priced at \$2.65/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$4.19/g, a difference of \$1.54/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.65/g while the highest was \$4.19/g, a difference of \$1.54/g.

The national average price of gasoline has risen 5.0 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.46/g today. The national average is down 6.0 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 5.4 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over

150,000 gas stations across the country.

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

July 1, 2023: \$3.06/g (U.S. Average: \$3.52/g)
July 1, 2022: \$4.44/g (U.S. Average: \$4.83/g)
July 1, 2021: \$2.86/g (U.S. Average: \$3.12/g)
July 1, 2020: \$1.91/g (U.S. Average: \$2.18/g)
July 1, 2019: \$2.40/g (U.S. Average: \$2.72/g)
July 1, 2018: \$2.56/g (U.S. Average: \$2.84/g)
July 1, 2017: \$1.98/g (U.S. Average: \$2.23/g)
July 1, 2016: \$2.06/g (U.S. Average: \$2.27/g)
July 1, 2015: \$2.53/g (U.S. Average: \$2.76/g)
July 1, 2014: \$3.46/g (U.S. Average: \$3.67/g)
Neighboring areas and their current gas prices:
Chattanooga — \$3.06/g, up 23.8 cents per gallon from last week's \$2.83/g
Nashville — \$3.20/g, up 17.1 cents per gallon from last week's \$3.03/g
Huntsville — \$3.09/g, unchanged from last week's \$3.09/g
"As we approach July 4 later this week, motorists have seen the national average price of gasoline inch up ever so slightly for the third straight week," said Patrick

De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "While the increases have been fairly tame, with oil continuing to hold above \$80 per barrel, we could continue to see the national average climb slightly. Other areas that see price cycling saw prices shoot up early in the week, but those areas are now starting to see prices fall back down. For many Americans hitting the road for the July 4 holiday, prices in most areas are very comparable to what we saw last July 4. However, with Hurricane Beryl now formed in the Caribbean, we're reminded that gas prices could experience some jolts in the second half of the summer should a storm threaten refining capacity in Texas or Louisiana."

GasBuddy is the authoritative voice for gas prices and the only source for station-level data. GasBuddy's survey updates 288 times every day from the most diverse list of sources covering nearly 150,000 stations nationwide, the most comprehensive and up-to-date in the country. GasBuddy's averages, graphs, maps and historical pricing data covering the U.S. and Canada is available 24/7 at <http://prices.GasBuddy.com>. SOURCE GasBuddy.

49TH ANNUAL

Cottage Grove Freedom Festival

THURSDAY, JULY 4TH 2024 • FIREWORKS DISPLAY

9:00 am - 1 pm Turkey/Trap Shoot * Corner of 140 & Hays Road
Sounding the Tornado Siren will signal the start of the Parade. This will suffice for the July Test.

10:00 am Parade - Prizes for Best of Parade, Best Float, Best Golf Cart, and Most Patriotic.

10:30 am-12:30 pm Game Booths Open
Firehouse International Kitchen
Outside Concessions Open
Hay Rides Begin
Cake Walk Begins

10:30 am Country Store Opens
A dollar a spin for homemade, homegrown and canned farm goods

1 pm Treasure Island Money Hunt
2-12 years

1:00 - 2:00 pm Auction

2:00 pm Tug O War Contest

2:00 pm - 5:00 pm DJ / Music

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm Bingo

5:00 pm Corn Hole Tournament by Paris Cornhole

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Music

8:45 pm 50/50 Drawing (minimum win is \$50.00)

9:00 pm Fireworks Display

NO COOLERS PLEASE

THIS EVENT IS A FUNDRAISER.
Proceeds benefit Cottage Grove Volunteer Fire Department

Go to the Cottage Grove Fire Department Facebook page for updates & Info.

For Further Information Contact

John Weiher @ 731-782-3657

Michael Stewart @ 731-336-7420

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A532/27-TF

A black and white line drawing of a top hat with a banner that says "INDEPENDENCE DAY!" and the text "4th of JULY" at the top. The hat has stars on its band and is flanked by two American flags. The background is decorated with stars.

See solution in next week's edition.

See solution in next week's edition.

Answer: Katie Falco

CALL 731.352.3323

Huntingdon Police Reports

Shoplifting — Briana Pugh, 32, of Huntingdon, and Dallas Baker were cited into Carroll County General Sessions court for Theft of Property involving merchandise by Officer Ethan Parham on June 17. Officer Parham reported to a call from Walmart in Huntingdon in reference to shoplifting. Walmart's loss prevention officer informed Parham that Briana Pugh and Dallas Baker had recently gone through the self-checkout and put multiple items in their grocery bags without scanning them. This incident was captured by security cameras. The two failed to scan 12 items, totaling \$46.88, for which they owe restitution to Walmart.

Theft of Property — Stella Hughes, 82, of Trezevant, was cited into court for Theft of Property under \$1000 and given 10 days to book into Carroll County Jail on June 6. On June 5, officers took a report of money being stolen from

Murphy USA on June 3 in Huntingdon. The victim of the theft had \$460 in a TVA Credit Union envelope at the gas station. She paid for gas and thought she had the envelope. Officers reviewed the video footage of the incident and found that the victim had laid the envelope down on the counter at the cash register while speaking to the cashier. The defendant, Stella, was in the checkout line behind the victim. The defendant went to the counter once the victim left and took the envelope. The defendant then went to her vehicle and put the envelope in the car on the driver's seat. Hughes was notified by a Carroll County deputy to come to Huntingdon Police Department to speak to officers about the incident.

Shoplifting, Harassment — Derek Williams, 34, was arrested and transported to the Carroll Co Jail on June 15 for Harassment and Shoplifting. Sgt. Tony King responded to a call

at Walmart in Huntingdon of a white male taking a 12 pack of twisted tea and drinking the beverages and taking the remainder from the store. While Williams was in the store, he began harassing a clerk wanting a ride and a place to stay. The victim was in fear for her safety so had other employees walk her to her vehicle after her shift. As she arrived at her second place of employment, the defendant had been there waiting to talk to her. Earlier on the same day there were reports of this subject being in and around the court square acting strangely making the workers of Court Theater nervous.

No Driver's License — Juan Martinez, 28, of Huntingdon, was involved in a vehicle crash in front of Carroll County Motors. While investigating the crash, officer Brad Allen spoke with Juan and found out that he has never had a driver license and only had ID from Mexico. He was cited into General Sessions Court for Driving Without a License.

Sheriff's Reports

Narcotics Found by Citizen — On June 22, Carroll County Sheriff's Department received a call from Captain Davis from the National Guard Training Center located in Milan, TN. Captain Davis stated that one of his soldiers brought him a bag with money, marijuana (2.4 grams) and drug paraphernalia. The soldier stated that he was spraying weeds around the fences and was headed to the volleyball court to spray weeds around that area and that was when he discovered the bag. The bag was opened and when he saw the contents he turned it in to Captain

Davis. There was one glass jar that had small baggies inside the jar and two of the baggies contained a green leafy-like substance believed to be marijuana, \$70 cash, 1 scale, 1 box of plastic baggies, and one small bag of tobacco.

Trespass — Caleb Isaiah Crisp, 19, of Madison, Alabama, was charged with Criminal Trespass on June 20. Deputy Jeremy Smith received a call from police officer Justin Roberts that Caleb Crisp was back on a property he was banned from previously. After calling dispatch, Deputy Smith confirmed Crisp had trespassed. Upon arrival, Crisp

admitted he knew he was banned from the home.

Domestic Assault — Christian Workman, 27, of Trezevant is accused of Domestic Assault on June 20. Deputy Jeremy Smith received a call for a domestic dispute in Trezevant. The victim was standing by at Trezevant City Hall. On the deputy's arrival, he saw the victim who had visible bruising on her arms, chest, two swollen and bruised eyes, and a busted lip. She gave a written statement that Christian Workman assaulted her. The two black eyes were from a previous incident on May 29 from the same man. Workman also punched the victim's car on the driver side twice leaving two dents on the door.

McKenzie Police Reports

Criminal Trespass, Public Intoxication — Maurice L. Lawrence, 31, Coleman Road, Memphis was charged with Public Intoxication on June 29.

Sergeant Cody Coleman responded to Walnut Circle after a concerned citizen reported a male standing on the sidewalk and talking to himself. A check of the person, Lawrence, revealed he was intoxicated. He was charged with Criminal Trespass for violation of a ban notice by the McKenzie Housing Authority.

Driving on Suspended License — Destiny Dawne Jones, 35, Morris Street, McKenzie was charged with Driving on a Suspended License, Violation of Financial Responsibility, and Violation of Display of Registration.

Officer Darren Davis stopped Jones' vehicle on Main Street for not having lights on the registration

plate. The driver admitted the suspended license and also not having insurance. The license tag was not registered to the vehicle. She was cited into court.

Domestic Assault, Aggravated Assault — Two persons were arrested on June 27 for Assault.

Officer Steven Scott responded to a report of a fight on Forrest Avenue. He met with Magan Walls, 31, Forrest Avenue, McKenzie, and Phillip Murley, Jr., 37, Forrest Avenue, McKenzie. The two had argued and then assaulted each other. Murley was arrested for Domestic Assault. Wall was arrested for Domestic Assault and Aggravated Assault after she reportedly threw a beer bottle at Murley. He sustained a laceration to the face and was transported to Baptist Hospital for treatment.

Driving on Suspended License — Jonathan Navarro, 21, Stonewall, McK-

enzie, was charged with Driving on a Suspended License, Violation of Financial Responsibility, and Failure to Exercise Due Care on June 29.

Officer Darren Davis stopped Navarro's vehicle for having Failure to Exercise Due Care. A check of his driver's license revealed the suspended status. He was cited into Carroll County General Sessions Court.

Misuse of Vehicle Registration — Dwayne Patrick Jones, 53, McDonald Avenue, McKenzie, was charged with Misuse of Registration, Improper Display of Registration, and Violation of the Light Law on July 1.

Officer Dustin McClure stopped Jones' vehicle that had a homemade license plate. The vehicle was towed from the scene and Jones was cited into McKenzie City Court.

Carroll County General Sessions Court

HUNTINGDON (June 26) — The following cases were heard in Carroll County General Sessions on June 26.

Bound over to the Grand Jury of the Circuit Court were two cases.

Jacob A. Hinson, Bertha Street, McKenzie, was bound over on charges of Meth-Manufacturing, Delivering, Sell, or Possession; Simple Possession; Possession of Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia.

Billie James, York Drive, Paris, bound over on charge of DUI-First Offense; Implied Consent; and Possession of a Handgun While Under the Influence; Use of a Handheld Mobile Telephone While Driving.

The following cases resulted in a guilty plea or finding.

Joshua Agee, Purdy Road, Huntingdon, guilty, Possession of Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia, \$150 fine, probation; dismissed, Meth-Possess or Casual Exchange.

Qiana Akins, Rucker Avenue, Dyersburg, was convicted of criminal Impersonation, sentenced to 17 days in jail, supervised probation, and dismissed for possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

Russell R. Clark, Highway 22, Huntingdon, guilty, Failure to Carry Drivers License.

Caleb Crisp, Stevemill Dr., Madison, Ala., guilty, Guilty of Trespass, no contact with the victim.

Lewis Darnell, Triangle

Circle, McKenzie, guilty, Retailer Sale of Alcohol to Minors, \$100 fine, 11/29 jail suspended to 24 hours, probation.

Jeffrey Keith Goodrum, Rolling Hills Lane, McKenzie, guilty, Probation Violation, 14 days jail, probation extended.

James Henry, Bertha Street, McKenzie, guilty, Meth-Possess or Casual Exchange, \$750 fine, probation, alcohol and drug evaluation; dismissed, Simple Possession/Casual Exchange; dismissed, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

Dallas Kennedy, Stanton, Tenn., guilty, Probation Violation, probation extended six months.

Rodger Dale Lawson, Florida Avenue, McKenzie, guilty, Disorderly Conduct.

Malik Lee, Farris Carter Street, Atwood, guilty, Probation Violation.

Elizabeth Minter, Odell Bunn Road,, McKenzie, guilty, Driving While Canceled, 48 hours jail, probation, must obtain drivers license; dismissed, Light Law Violation.

William D. Moore, Old Lavinia Road, Cedar Grove, guilty, Probation Violation, 90 days jail, probation extended.

Mack Jewett Napier, Jr., Old Stage Road, Huntingdon, guilty, Failure to Provide Immediate Notice of Accident; dismissed, Leaving the Scene of Accident.

April Sharvon Patterson, Wingo Lane, Trez-

eant, guilty, Driving While Canceled, probation, must obtain a valid driver's license.

Katherine P. Trull, Main Street, Atwood, guilty, DUI-First Offense, 48 hours jail, probation, DUI School, not to drive for one year; guilty, Simple Possession, \$250 fine; dismissed, Implied Consent; dismissed, Driver Failed to Exercise Due Care; dismissed, Violation of Financial Responsibility; dismissed, Contraband in Penal Facility.

Alexis Natae Wilson, Wren Avenue, Camden, guilty, Probation Violation, probation.

The following cases were dismissed.

Abdulmalek Qayed Al-najjar, Bethel Court, McKenzie, dismissed, Money Laundering, Aggravated Gambling, Possession of Gambling Device.

Amber Marie Hilliard, Carnal Drive, Huntingdon, dismissed, Driving While Suspended; dismissed, Speeding.

Kiera Leann Hones, Douglas Avenue, McKenzie, dismissed, Contribution to Delinquency of a Child; dismissed, Schedule II Drugs - Manufacturing, Deliver, Sell or Possess.

Trinity Gordan Maynard, Oaklawn Street, McKenzie, dismissed, Meth-Manufacture, Deliver, Sell or Possess; dismissed, Simple Possess; dismissed, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

Property Transfers

Jeana L. James to James F. Jr and Tammy R. Jackson in District 16.

Sterling Shores, LLC to Jonas Schwartz in District 7.

Tasha N. and Christopher L. Webb to Christopher Webb in District 16.

Paula Doster to Andrew Mack Doster in District 4.

Dwayne Tordsen to Michael Mainstruck, Jr. in District 17.

Dawane Tordsen to Dwayne Tordsen in District 17.

Angela F. and Michael

W. Bledsoe to Joseph Lynn Lewis in District 14.

Mark O. and Michele S. Bouchard to Justin Stoltzfus. No district listed.

James and Patti Patterson to Bradley C. and Hailey M. Bynum in District 4.

John Michael Drinkard to Mark D. Brasher in District 6.

Edward Augustine Hubbard to Julius Pratt Hubbard in District 22.

Casey B. Drewry to Brian A. Arnold. No district listed.

Justin Stoltzfus to Greg

Hooper. No district listed.

Sherry A. Cooper to Shirley Cooper in District 16.

Taylor Fortner to Esperanza Rita Crisler. No district listed.

Michael L. Umstead to Madison Taylor Hughes in District 13.

Mitchell Darrin Allen to Dan and Brenda Willis in District 4.

Barbara Johnson to Dorothy McLeskey in District 10.

Sterling Shores, LLC to Brad Meeks in District 7.

Rhonda Swafford to Sheffield Invest, LLC. No district listed.

Marriage Licenses

Brian Joseph Corban, 46, of Yuma to Kendra Lynn Shawford, 47, of Yuma.

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State of Tennessee
Carroll County
Probate Division

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
As Required by TCA
§30-2-306

Case Number
2024-PA-128

Estate of BILLY JOE KIRKENDOLL, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that on JUNE 26 of 2024, letters of administration in respect of the estate of Billy Joe Kirkendoll, who died intestate, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of Carroll County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required 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 the 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.

Date: 02-16-2024
Notarized by: DELORIS KIRKENDOLL, PEDIGO
Ministry: G. ROBERT WHITFIELD, III
Date: 6/26/24
Date: 6/16/24
Clerk & Master: KENNETH TODD

A561/R23848/27-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

PROBATE CASE NO: 2024PE127

ESTATE OF: NELLIE ANN HALE, LATE OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Notice is hereby given that on the 26TH day of JUNE, 2024 Letters Testamentary, of Administration, in respect to the Estate of NELLIE ANN HALE deceased, who died NOVEMBER 17TH, 2023, 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 26TH day of JUNE, 2024.
THIS NOTICE WILL RUN TWO CONSECUTIVE WEEKS.**

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

**JASON HALE, Executor/Administrator
STEVEN L. WEST, Attorney
KENNETH TODD, Clerk & Master**

A561/R23847/27-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE AT HUNTINGDON

IN RE:

THE ESTATE OF TAMMY JEAN LEE
DECEASED

NO. 2024PA107

DAAVID KELLETT HOCHREITER
PETITIONER

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

IN THIS CAUSE, IT APPEARING FROM THE PETITION WHICH IS SWORN TO, THAT THE WHEREABOUTS OF CODY WAYNE LEE, AN INDIVIDUAL ENTITLED TO NOTICE IN THESE PROCEEDINGS, IS UNKNOWN TO THE PETITIONER AT THIS CURRENT TIME, AND THE WHEREABOUTS OF CODY WAYNE LEE HAS NOT BEEN ASCERTAINED AFTER REASONABLE SEARCH AND INQUIRY BY THE PETITIONER. THEREFORE, YOU ARE HEREBY REQUIRED TO SERVE UPON BEAU E. PEMBERTON, ATTORNEY FOR THE PETITIONER, WHOSE ADDRESS IS P.O. BOX 789, DRESDEN, TN 38225, AN ANSWER TO THE PETITION FILED IN THIS CAUSE, WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS OF THE PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICABLE TENNESSEE LAW.
IF YOU FAIL TO DO SO, JUDGMENT BY DEFAULT WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF DESCRIBED IN THE PETITION. A COPY OF SAID PETITION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE CLERK AND MASTER OF SAID COURT.
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED THAT THIS NOTICE BE PUBLISHED FOR FOUR (4) CONSECUTIVE WEEKS IN THE MCKENZIE BANNER, A NEWSPAPER OF LOCAL GENERAL CIRCULATION IN CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE.
THIS THE 28TH DAY OF MAY, 2024.

BEAU E. PEMBERTON, BPR # 27461
BRADBERRY AND PEMBERTON, ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER
P.O. BOX 789, DRESDEN, TN 38225 731-364-5411

KENNETH TODD, CLERK & MASTER

R23670/24-4



Pictured are Eugene Johnson and Alex Sadler, both of TVA, Monica Heath of the Industrial Board, and Craig Hobson, the newly installed member of the Industrial Board.

McKenzie Industrial Board Receives Training from TVA

McKenzie (June 27) — Members of the McKenzie Industrial Board received training in economic development from associates of the Tennessee Valley Authority on Thursday, June 27.

Eugene Johnson and Alex Sadler attended the monthly meeting to speak about recruiting and retaining industries in a community.

TVA partners with local communities by providing community data, financing, and reliable electricity.

The Board recently received training from the Municipal Technical Advisory Service, a division of the University of Tennessee.

Craig Hobson was welcomed to the Board as the newest member. He was appointed in June by McKenzie Mayor Ryan Griffin and affirmed by members of the McKenzie City Council.

The Board is self-funded and receives no local government funds. Monica Heath is the executive director of the McKenzie Industrial Board and the McKenzie Chamber of Commerce.

McKENZIE

New Lighting In Downtown

McKENZIE — New decorative lighting is now completely installed in downtown McKenzie. Associates of Wade Electric Company installed the final lighting fixtures last week in Veterans Park. Additional lighting was placed on Broadway, Lee, and Waldren streets in downtown.

The lighting project was first proposed in 2018 and was part of the Broadway sidewalk replacement project approved during the Jill Holland administration. The new decorative lighting replaces lights installed in the 1980s during the Mayor Joe Morris' administration when the downtown gazebo was constructed, in part, by masonry students at the McKenzie TCAT.



BIG BANG FIREWORKS

The Big Panda Comes to Town



It's usually the big blue and white tent that attracts fireworks enthusiasts but in McKenzie its a giant 20-foot inflatable panda. The new temporary addition to McKenzie comes courtesy of Big Bang Fireworks. The pictured location is on Highland Drive (Hwy 79) in McKenzie between Save-a-lot and Dairy Queen. With the lowest prices in Tennessee and the biggest panda in the area, customers are flocking to the seasonal vendor. Open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Big Bang Fireworks are stocking them deep and selling them cheap. Also every kid gets a little something for free.

Huntingdon's Hunter Ensley Helps Vols Earn National Championship

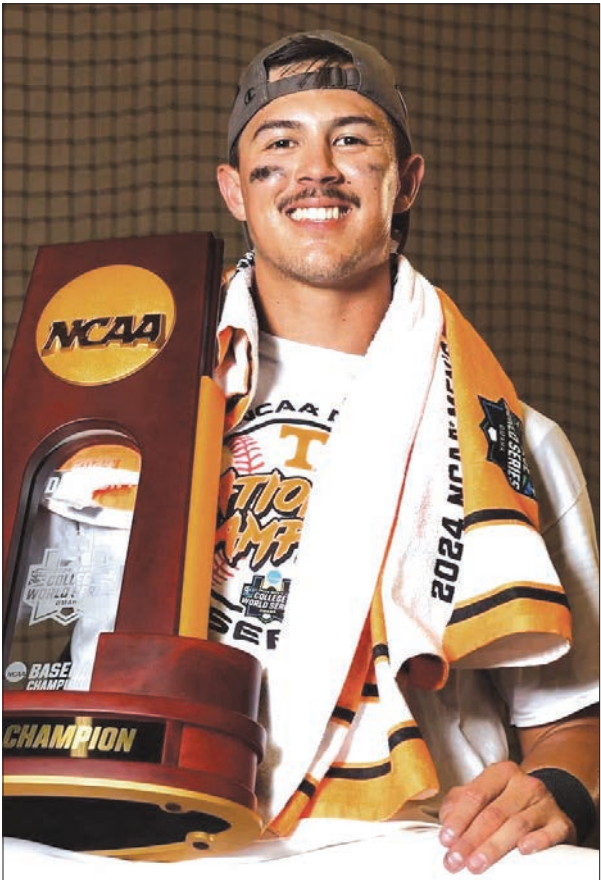
BY DR. JOSH GREER
banner@mckenziebanner.com

OMAHA (June 24) — In a season marked by grit, determination, and unforgettable moments, the University of Tennessee Volunteers clinched their first College World Series National Championship with a thrilling victory over the Texas A&M Aggies in game 3. This historic win not only represents the Volunteers' first baseball national championship title but also breaks a 16-year national championship drought for the university.

One of the stars of the series was Huntingdon, Tennessee native Hunter Ensley. Ensley played a pivotal role in the Volunteers' success. His performance throughout the tournament showcased his ability to deliver in clutch moments—ultimately helping to secure the championship.

Ensley's bat and base running ability were just as crucial as his glove. Throughout the College World Series, he provided timely hits, drove in essential runs, and showcased dynamic base running. His consistency ensured that the Volunteers remained competitive in every game.

Ensley's ability to stay calm under pressure and deliver in high-stakes situations was instrumental in Tennessee's route to the title.



Hunter Ensley holds the National Championship Trophy.

His journey from Huntingdon to Omaha is an inspiring story of dedication and passion for the game of baseball. Ensley's success has brought pride not only to the University of Tennessee but also to his hometown.

The championship series against the Texas A&M Aggies was a testament to the Volunteers' resilience and teamwork. Tennessee's pitching staff kept the Aggies' lineup in check, after the early pitching woes in game 1.

The Volunteers' national championship marks a significant milestone in the history of Tennessee athletics. It's a triumph that reflects the collective effort of the players, coaching staff, and supporters who have believed in the team's potential.

McKenzie Youth League All Star Softball Shows Well in Local State Tournament



McKenzie All-Star Softball has great showing at West Tennessee State Tournament. Above, The 6U girls took first place in the Big Bang Tournament. Pictured (L to R) Front Row: Laila Wilkerson, Ella Manns, Brooklyn Morton, Evelyn Freeman, Hailey Manns and Nora Wallace. Middle Row: Elizabeth Case, O'Shyn Taylor, Faith Lynn French, Ollie Fawcett, Piper Russell and Briley Stafford. Back Row: Coaches Brian Stafford, Travis Russell, Clint Manns and Zach Wallace. Below, The 8U were runners-up in the Big Bang Tournament. Pictured (L to R) Front Row: Emmalynn Adkins, Julianne Stafford, Blair El-dridge, Merritt Ghyers, Briley Cupples, Hadley Wilkins, Charlee Pierce, Ellie Cross, Layla Jones, Avery Winston, Marlee Kate Wheat and Graclyn Rose. Back Row: Coaches Brian Winston, Starla Cupples, Mark Ghyers and John Wilkins.



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Unemployment Increases Slightly in Tri-Counties

NASHVILLE — The tri-counties of Carroll, Henry and Weakley counties sustained a slight increase in unemployment in May as compared to one month earlier.

Tennessee experienced a slight decrease, landing at 3.0 percent in May as compared to 3.1 in April and 3.1 one year earlier.

Carroll County's rate is 3.4 percent in May, up from 3.1 in April and down from the 3.6 rate one year earlier. From a labor force of 11,697, there were 11,302 employed and 395 unemployed.

Henry County's rate of unemployment in May was 3.1 percent, up from the 3.0 percent in April and down from the 3.5 percent one year earlier. From a labor force of 13,603, there were 13,182 employed and 422 unemployed.

Weakley County's rate of unemployment was 3.3 in May, compared to 3.0 in April and 3.5 one year earlier. From a labor force of 14,792, there were 13,310 employed and 482 unemployed.

Combining the three counties, there were 40,093 in the workforce, 38,794 had employment, and 1,299 were unemployed.

Of the 95 counties in Tennessee, no county had unemployed higher than 4.4 percent, which was recorded in Bledsoe County. The least unemployment was in Sevier County and Williamson County at 2.1 percent.

The unemployment rate in the United States was 4.0 percent in May.

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