

Local

2026
2027

MAGAZINE

McKENZIE



10

REASONS TO CHOOSE
McKENZIE
TENNESSEE

Community Spotlights

McKENZIE BANKING COMPANY
'YOUR HOMETOWN BANK SINCE 1934'

MARIA'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT
AUTHENTIC FOOD, GENUINE PEOPLE

CONGETTA'S CHI-TALIAN
BRINGS DOWNTOWN McKENZIE
A TASTE OF THE WINDY CITY

McKENZIE FUNZONE ACTION ARENA
ENDLESS FAMILY FUN, RIGHT HERE AT HOME

HOMETOWN HEALTH CLINIC
MORE THAN A CLINIC

Historic Milestones

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MCKENZIE MUNICIPAL CENTER

WELCOME MESSAGE

FROM MCKENZIE MAYOR RYAN GRIFFIN

Whether you're flipping through this magazine as a new resident, longtime local, or visitor just passing through—welcome. McKenzie may be a small town on the map, but don't let that fool you. We're a community full of heart, energy, and momentum.

You'll find that life moves at just the right pace here. From our local shops downtown to the family-friendly events at

City Park, there's always something going on—and always someone willing to lend a hand or strike up a conversation. That's just who we are.

We're proud of our strong schools, from our outstanding Special School District to higher education opportunities through Bethel University and TCAT. Education isn't just a service here—it's a point of pride and a key to our city's future.

You'll see the mural downtown—bright, bold, and unmis-

takably McKenzie. It's more than a photo opportunity; it's a snapshot of our history and our creative spirit. And while you're there, check out our Park Theatre, the splash pad, or grab something fresh at the Farmer's Market.

We don't try to be a big city. We just try to be the best version of ourselves—and we think we're doing a pretty good job of it.

Come see for yourself.



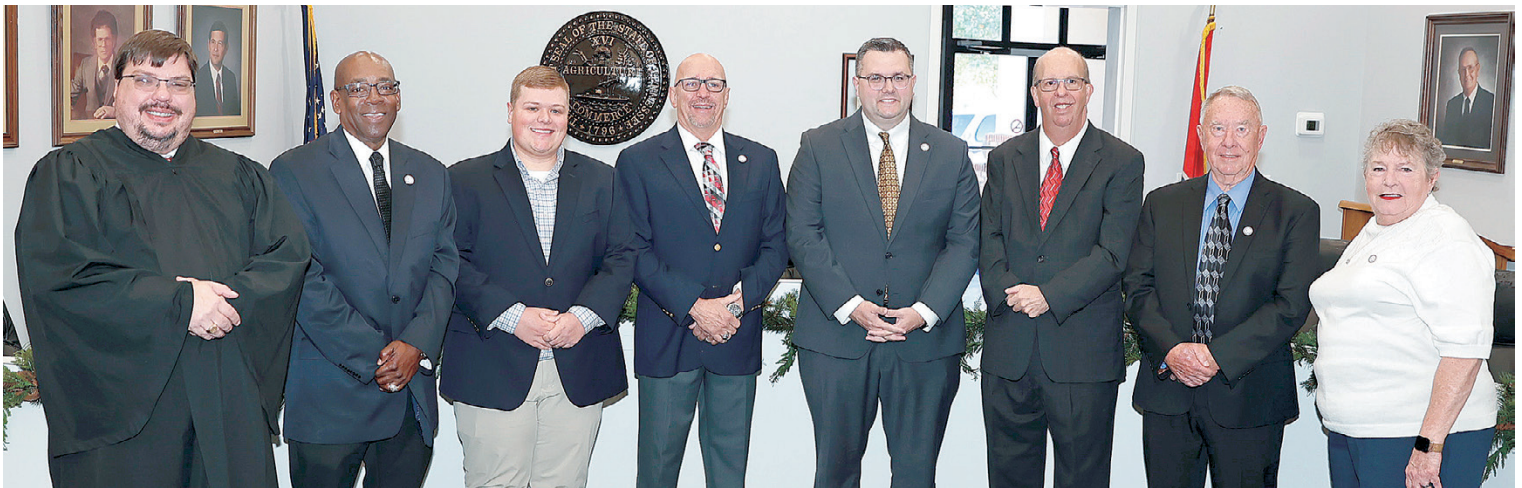
RYAN GRIFFIN

Mayor, City of McKenzie

731-352-2292 x4

ryan.griffin@cityofmckenzie.com

City of McKenzie MAYOR AND COUNCIL



City of McKenzie Mayor and Council — City Attorney Beau Pemberton, Jessie Townes, Vice Mayor Drew Beeler, Bobby Young, Mayor Ryan Griffin, Tim McBride, Tom Alexander and Carol Armpriest. Photo by Joel Washburn/The Banner



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WELCOME MESSAGE

FROM

McKENZIE

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE &
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Welcome to McKenzie — a small town with a big heart and even bigger opportunity.

Whether you're visiting for the weekend, moving here to start a new chapter, launching a business, or beginning your college journey at Bethel University, we are truly glad you're here.

McKenzie is located in the heart of Northwest Tennessee, where the counties of Carroll, Henry, and Weakley meet. With a population of just over 5,500, we offer the best of both worlds: the close-knit spirit of a rural town and the forward momentum of a community investing in its future.

Here in McKenzie, you'll find:

- ▶ A welcoming atmosphere grounded in faith, family, and tradition
- ▶ A growing downtown district filled with local shops, restaurants, and charm

- ▶ A thriving manufacturing base and growing economy
- ▶ Educational excellence through Bethel University, TCAT Henry/Carroll, and McKenzie Special School District
- ▶ Recreation and community events that bring people together all year long

The McKenzie Chamber of Commerce works daily to support local businesses, promote tourism, and build a stronger local economy. The McKenzie Industrial Development Board is committed to creating quality jobs, attracting investment, and developing the workforce needed to power tomorrow's industries.

Together, we are working to ensure McKenzie continues to be a place where:

- ▶ Families put down roots



- ▶ Students succeed and grow
- ▶ Entrepreneurs launch their dreams
- ▶ Workers build lasting careers
- ▶ Visitors feel instantly at home

We invite you to get involved, stay connected, and experience the sense of pride that defines our community. Whether you're here for a moment or a lifetime, McKenzie welcomes you with open arms.

Thank you for being part of our story. We're proud to have you here.

UPCOMING CHAMBER *Events*

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
August 15, 2026	5:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Freshman Carnival	Bethel University
August 20-23, 2026		Sweet Tea Festival	City of McKenzie
September 8, 2026	8:00 AM- 9:00 AM	JC Supplies Coffee	The RailYard Workspace
October 5, 2026	7:30AM - 9:00 AM	Manufacturing Breakfast Kick Off Manufacturing Week Invitation Only	TCAT
October 22, 2026	TBD	Boo Bash	City of McKenzie
November 5, 2026	8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	TCAT Coffee	TCAT
December 4-5, 2026		Hometown Christmas	City of McKenzie
December 7, 2026	TBD	Christmas Open House	5 Broadway



Located on the confluence of Carroll, Henry and Weakley counties, McKenzie serves as the hub city for the tri-counties. What started out as the Chickasaw Territory of Western Tennessee has developed into a pristine location ripe for retail, education, leisure and industry.

McKenzie's population of 5,632 residents makes it the largest city in Carroll County and the second-largest in Henry County behind the City of Paris.

Home to Bethel University and a Tennessee College of Applied

Experience McKENZIE TENNESSEE

Technology campus, education is an important factor in the growth of McKenzie. Public education falls under the dominion of the McKenzie Special School District. With its three schools, elementary, middle and high school, the school district works

to promote a safe environment with high expectations for every student.

From festivals to disc golf, pickleball and a dog park, McKenzie offers recreation to those of all ages. In need of worship services, McKenzie has over

three dozen churches in the surrounding area under a multitude of denominations.

If history is your thing then you are in luck as McKenzie is home to two museums.

McKenzie also is home to one of the finest assisted living facilities in West Tennessee, Lakeside Senior Living Community. Located on Carroll Lake, residents reserve top-notch care while still possessing individual flexibility.

The McKenzie community is fortunate to provide a host of activities and amenities to its residents and visitors.



MURAL AT THE PARK THEATRE IN DOWNTOWN MCKENZIE

Allison Bowers of Gleason was commissioned to paint the McKenzie downtown mural based on the history of the

157-year old city.

It includes themes around nine elements: Bethel University, Webb School, McKenzie Schools,

the railroad, Park Theatre, the downtown gazebo, the zip code, the airport and the tri-county star, representing McKenzie's

geographic location.

A committee helped choose the theme and the individual elements of the 66- x 16-foot mural.



Carroll Lake. Photo by Brittany Martin/The Banner

CARROLL LAKE

In 1949, the State of Tennessee purchased land on the edge of McKenzie to begin the construction of Carroll Lake. Before the state's acquisition, what we know as Carroll Lake was a small rail or dinky line used to haul ball clay from the "Hobb Mines."

After the purchase of the land, Ira H. Scates was awarded the contract to remove the timber to construct a 100-acre lake. His son, Theron, who helped in the construction of the lake became the long-time manager of Carroll Lake.

In 1998, the lake was drained and later refilled and restocked the following year.

In June 2014, Carroll Lake was forced to close due to heavy rains and flooding that caused the lake to overflow its earthen embankment damaging the mechanical spillway that controls the release of water.

The spillway gates were repaired in 2017, but the lake bed was unable to be dredged because of the marsh-like soil. Over the next three years, Carroll Lake was restocked with fish as water levels began to rise. In May 2020, the lake was opened to the public.



CARROLL LAKE GOLF COURSE

The 18-hole course at the Carroll Lake Golf Club facility in McKenzie, Tennessee features 5,517 yards of golf from the longest tees for a par of 71. The course rating is 68.5 and it has a slope

rating of 121 on Bermuda grass. From the back tees, the course will challenge even the best golfers. Designed by Roy Albert Anderson, the Carroll Lake golf course opened in 1961.



18-HOLE DISC GOLF COURSE

McKenzie opened its 18-hole professional disc golf course in 2014.

The real estate intensive sport is played just as golf, except with flying discs. Essentially, the object of the game is to complete the course with the fewest throws. Players can achieve par, birdies, and eagles, just as in regular golf. Players can play as individuals or teams in scramble play.

The course is located at the

McKenzie City Park on the far side of the pavilion (The Barn) by the water tower. It is a beautiful, well maintained, 18-basket course with manicured fairways.

The players have described the course as "challenging." It is filled with hazards, including trees and bushes, and holes that are not in the straight line of sight.

There is no cost to play other than the costs of the discs.



McKENZIE CITY PARK

McKenzie's primary recreational park is located at 570 Como Street. The park features a new walking trail, baseball, softball and soccer fields, a playground, a pond with a pier and a pavilion known as "the Barn."

Several events take place at City Park each year. The Festival of Freedom, held on or near the 4th of July each year, attracts large crowds, with cars lined up for miles to watch the fireworks extravaganza. Earlier in the day, you may find Betsy Ross or Uncle Sam

strolling the grounds while bands play and the crowd enjoys the ice cream contest, watermelon, grilled burgers, and all other types of picnic fare in anticipation of the main event.

The pavilion can be reserved for birthday parties, family gatherings and social events. Two new small pavilions do not require a reservation. The pond is stocked with catfish, bream and bass. TWRA stocks trout during the winter months.



DOG PARK

The city of McKenzie opened its dog park in August 2019 on Como Street.

McKenzie was the winner of a grant for a dog park from the Randy Boyd Foundation. Boyd, president of the University of Tennessee, viewed the newly completed facility.

Boyd was impressed with the design, the separate areas for large and small dogs, fencing, seating for humans, and the water fountains for the pets.



MULBERRY PARK

Located on Mulberry Street near the city's Public Works facilities (the old National Guard Armory) and historic Webb School, Mulberry Park has an illustrious history as

well. Many middle-aged citizens and baby boomers recall games played on the fields that were the city's main sports region before the founding of City Park.



GORDON BROWNING GENEALOGICAL MUSEUM

Housed in the historic old McKenzie Post Office Building, the Gordon Browning Museum and Genealogical Library is a publicly owned museum/repository for documents, images and artifacts that represent the history and culture of Carroll

County, Tennessee.

The museum is named in honor of the two-time Governor of the State of Tennessee; Gordon Browning. The museum contains numerous papers, photographs and personal effects of the former governor.



HARMONY PARK

Harmony Park, located beside the splash pad, is one of three new additions to McKenzie's parks and recreation ar-

reas. Located beside the splash pad, Harmony Park features five oversized musical instruments.



McKenzie Farmer's Market — Above Left, McKenzie is home to thriving Amish and Mennonite communities. On Saturdays, local residents can be found selling their homemade goods at the farmer's market. Above Right, a beautifully decorated door inside the farmer's market with a sign encouraging visitors to buy local. Right, Linda Swalley sells canned and freshly baked items. Photos by Brittany Martin

McKENZIE'S FARMER'S MARKET

Farmers' Markets are becoming increasingly popular. The U.S. Department of Agriculture states, between the years of 2008 and 2013, the number of farmers' markets doubled across the country.

One of the quaintest and nicest farmers' market in Northwest Tennessee can be found in McKenzie. The refurbished facility offers both indoor and outdoor booth space. In its season opening, McKenzie's Farmer's market had a record-breaking attendance with over 300 shoppers and 15 vendors.

The McKenzie Farmer's Mar-

ket is open on Saturdays in June through October from 8 a.m.-12 noon.

Farmers' markets will continue to thrive and expand as people increasingly realize the benefits of supporting local food providers.

By visiting a farmers' market, you are attempting to formulate a healthy diet to ensure a better quality of life and support the immune system to fight sickness, arthritis and numerous diseases.

Berries: Protect skin from summer sun damage.

Tomatoes: Protect against



cancer and high blood pressure.

Squash: Builds bone strength and boosts your immune system.

Kale and Spinach: Reduce risk of heart disease.

Visiting all the booths and vendors counts as exercise.

Any Saturday in June through October is perfect for grabbing a tote bag and browsing the wares

at McKenzie Farmer's Market. Shoppers are bound to find something fresh, unique and delicious.

Take the time to visit McKenzie and its farmers' market. You'll make new friends, stock up on produce, have a cup of coffee and browse the many booths of baked goods and homemade crafts.



THE DEPOT

McKenzie's train depot is a beautifully restored historic building located at 85 East Bruce Street. The Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railway Passenger Station is located at the southeast corner of the intersection of Bruce Street and Waldren Street in Downtown McKenzie. The old Nashville and Chattanooga railroad tracks still run along the southeast of the depot and the L and N railroad tracks (present

day University Drive) bordered the east elevation.

The depot was built circa 1926 to replace an earlier depot and is the only surviving example in West Tennessee of Renaissance Revival style architecture applied to a commercial building. The McKenzie depot is also an example of a "combination depot," which combines two passenger waiting rooms, freight area, and ticket office within one building.



Top Left, The Park Theatre. Top Right, McKenzie Station Splash Pad. Left, Pickleball Courts. Right, McKenzie Memorial Library.

PARK THEATRE

The Park Theatre began its second life in the community in 2016. Starting in 2011, ACT II: Plan, Preserve, and Protect was founded to identify and pursue grants as well as raise cash through a broad range of events and fundraisers.

Grants from LPRF and the Delta Regional Authority along with the City of McKenzie began the work of making the building structurally sound, safe, and usable for community meetings, workshops, theatrical performances and movies on the week-end.

Community Leaders such as McKenzie Banking Company, the McKenzie Industrial Board, Carroll Bank & Trust, Bank of Gleason, Ruth & John H. Morris Memorial, the Kermit Holland family and Beta Sigma Phi donated various sums of money to buy equipment for the theatre.

McKENZIE STATION SPLASH PAD

McKenzie Station Splash Pad opened in June 2017, to the great delight of many youngsters. The well-maintained facility is free to use by area children. Located downtown across from the former railroad depot with ample parking available on Waldren Street, parents and visitors can walk back and forth from the Splash Pad then one block over towards Broadway to visit the farmers' market and various businesses near the square. The mechanical housing was built to mimic the 1927 depot located next door. The splash pad is open daily 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

PICKLEBALL COURTS

The McKenzie pickleball courts opened Monday, May 22, 2023, replacing the former tennis courts located along Como Street in the city park.

There are six courts with concrete walkways and player benches. Sod completes the exterior landscaping.

The courts are lighted with LED fixtures that are controlled by a switch that activates the lights for two hours at a time. As the expiration time approaches, an indicator light alerts players, who can then activate the lights for another two hours. The lights shut down at 10 p.m.

McKENZIE MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The McKenzie Memorial Public Library is located at 15 Broadway in downtown McKenzie. The library contains 14,902 volumes and circulates 9,031 items per year.

The library has four public access Internet-ready computers and a wireless Internet option that may be used in the reception area on the main floor of the library.

SGT. LEE RUSSELL CARROLL COUNTY AIRPORT

Located at 535 Airport Lane in McKenzie, the Sgt. Lee Russell Carroll County Airport is a county-owned public-use airport. Offer a 5,507-foot runway, the airport is accessible to most private aircraft and corporate planes.

In April 2025, the Carroll

County Commission unanimously approved the renaming of the county airport to Sgt. Lee Russell Carroll County Airport in honor of the late Tennessee State Trooper. Sgt. Russell tragically died in a helicopter crash while on duty in August 2022.



VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK

Named for the memorials that pay tribute to soldiers of Carroll County, the park, located in the central square downtown, is a place of beauty, with towering trees and peaceful park benches situated beneath old-style lamp posts amid flowers and greenery.

A central gazebo now graces the park where once a fountain stood, back when older gentlemen of the town sat and whittled, the cedar shavings from their efforts perfuming the air.



WEBB SCHOOL HISTORICAL MUSEUM

The Webb School Alumni Museum opened in 2016 and is housed inside the former Webb School, an all-African American school that opened its doors in McKenzie in 1927 and served 22 communities throughout West Tennessee. The school operated until 1966.

The museum pays tribute to the educators who played vital roles in this first African-Amer-

ican school in the county, in addition to displaying artifacts and items which reflect the educational curricula during this era.

In July 2024, The Webb Alumni Association hosted a ribbon-cutting to celebrate Webb Public School's placement on the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service of the United States Department of the Interior.





BROADWAY STREET. Drone photo by Joel Washburn/The Banner

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- Wagging Tails Grooming
- Serendipity Salon
- Smoke Shack
- Rivals Grill and Bar

We are all very grateful for your service and commitment to our community!

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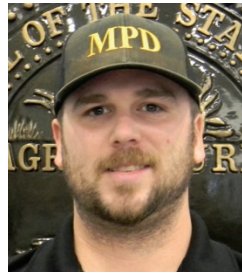
A SALUTE TO LOCAL HEROES



Ryan White
Chief



Trey Boucher
Asst. Chief



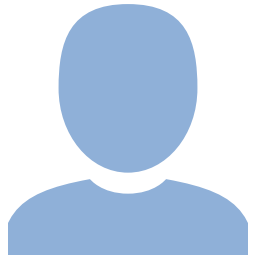
Justin Brister
Lieutenant



Austin Jones
Admin. Sergeant



Cody Coleman
Investigator / K-9 Officer



Dakota Meier
Investigator



Matthew Cunningham
Investigator



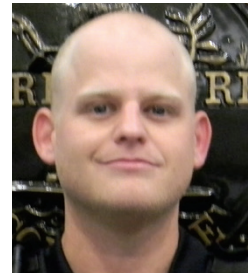
Kyle Beauchamp
Sergeant



Andy Weaver
Sergeant / SRO



Darren Davis
Sergeant



Tanner Jackson
Sergeant



Billy Burson
Sergeant



Jeff Winberry
Sergeant



Jason Artymovich
SRO



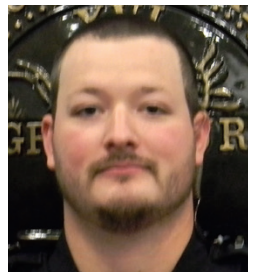
Colton Broyles
SRO



Dalton Raspberry
Patrolman



Daniel Pollard
Patrolman



Timothy Dillon
Patrolman



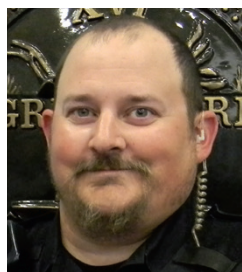
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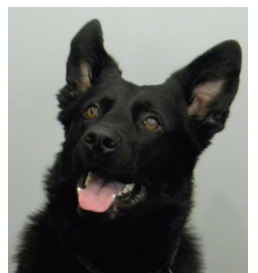
Tiesia Dowland
Dispatcher



Brandon Hill
Dispatcher



Dylan Nolin
Dispatcher



Toby
K9



A SALUTE TO LOCAL HEROES

McKENZIE FIRE

(L to R) Front Row: Tim Marr, Mikayla Vincent, Lacey Lane, and Hunter Petreman. Back Row: Robert Williams, Daniel Tucker, Alan Ninness, Jason Arnold, Daniel Hollowell, Nathan Nanney, Kevin Hill, Brian Tucker, John Nelson, Jonathan Castleman, Eric Pettit, Robert Ross, Roger Christian, Caleb Cary, and Josh Cary. Not pictured: Ben Boyd, Michael Hudson, Ashton Marr, Brian Bennett, and Ethan Travis.



McKENZIE, TENNESSEE

DEMOGRAPHICS

Population estimates, July 1, 2025, (V2025) ⚠ 5,632

PEOPLE

Population

Population estimates, July 1, 2025, (V2025) ⚠ 5,632

Population estimates base, April 1, 2020, (V2025) ⚠ 5,527

Population, percent change - April 1, 2020 (estimates base) to July 1,

2025, (V2025) ⚠ 1.9%

Population, Census, April 1, 2020 5,529

Population, Census, April 1, 2010 5,310

Age and Sex

Persons under 5 years, percent ⚠ 6.1%

Persons under 18 years, percent ⚠ 18.8%

Persons 65 years and over, percent..... ⚠ 19.3%

Female persons, percent..... ⚠ 47.7%

Race and Hispanic Origin

White alone, percent..... ⚠ 77.1%

Black alone, percent(a) ⚠ 17.8%

American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent(a) ⚠ 0.1%

Asian alone, percent(a) ⚠ 1.9%

Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent(a) ⚠ 0.0%

Two or More Races, percent ⚠ 1.7%

Hispanic or Latino, percent(b) ⚠ 3.1%

White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent ⚠ 75.8%

Population Characteristics

Veterans, 2020-2024..... 255

Foreign-born persons, percent, 2020-2024 4.0%

Housing

Housing Units, July 1, 2025, (V2025) X

Owner-occupied housing unit rate, 2020-2024..... 60.0%

Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2020-2024

..... \$154,500

Median selected monthly owner costs - with a mortgage, 2020-2024

..... \$1,128

Median selected monthly owner costs - without a mortgage, 2020-2024

..... \$383

Median gross rent, 2020-2024 \$663

Building Permits, 2025 X

Families & Living Arrangements

Households, 2020-2024 2,187

Persons per household, 2020-2024 2.24

Living in the same house 1 year ago, percent of persons age 1 year+ ,

2020-2024 86.8%

Language other than English spoken at home, percent of persons age 5

years+, 2020-2024..... 4.3%

Computer and Internet Use

Households with a computer, percent, 2020-2024 91.8%

Households with a broadband Internet subscription, percent, 2020-2024

..... 80.1%

Education

High school graduate or higher, percent of persons age 25 years+, 2020-

2024..... 87.2%

Bachelor's degree or higher, percent of persons age 25 years+, 2020-2024

..... 20.0%

Health

With a disability, under age 65 years, percent, 2020-2024..... 10.9%

Persons without health insurance, under age 65 years, percent

..... ⚠ 12.8%

Economy

In civilian labor force, total, percent of population age 16 years+, 2020-

2024..... 52.1%

In civilian labor force, female, percent of population age 16 years+, 2020-

2024..... 44.8%

Total accommodation and food services sales, 2022 (\$1,000)(c) D

Total health care and social assistance receipts/revenue, 2022 (\$1,000)(c)

..... 29,362

Total transportation and warehousing receipts/revenue, 2022 (\$1,000)(c)

..... NA

Total retail sales, 2022 (\$1,000)(c)..... 89,324

Total retail sales per capita, 2022(c) \$16,202

Transportation

Mean travel time to work (minutes), workers age 16 years+, 2020-2024

..... 20.2

Income & Poverty

Median households income (in 2024 dollars), 2020-2024 \$37,236

Per capita income in past 12 months (in 2024 dollars), 2020-2024

..... \$23,619

Persons in poverty, percent..... ⚠ 21.2%

Businesses

Total employer establishments, 2023 X

Total employment, 2023 X

Total annual payroll, 2023 (\$1,000)..... X

Total employment, percent change, 2022-2023 X

Total nonemployer establishments, 2023 X

All employer firms, Reference year 2023 X

Male-owned employer firms, Reference year 2023 X

Female-owned employer firms, Reference year 2023 X

Minority-owned employer firms, Reference year 2023..... X

Nonminority-owned employer firms, Reference year 2023 X

Veteran-owned employer firms, Reference year 2023..... X

Nonveteran-owned employer firms, Reference year 2023 X

Geography

Population per square mile, 2020 868.2

Population per square mile, 2010 848.5

Land area in square miles, 2020..... 6.37

Land area in square miles, 2010..... 6.26

FIPS Code 4744940

Value Notes

⚠ Methodology differences may exist between data sources, and so estimates from different sources are not comparable.

Some estimates presented here come from sample data, and thus have sampling errors that may render some apparent differences between geographies statistically indistinguishable.

The vintage year (e.g., V2025) refers to the final year of the series (2020 thru 2025). Different vintage years of estimates are not comparable.

Users should exercise caution when comparing 2020-2024 ACS 5-year estimates to other ACS estimates. For more information, please visit the 2024 5-year ACS Comparison Guidance page.

Follow the U.S. Census Bureau citation guidelines to help credit your data sources correctly.

Fact Notes

(a) Includes persons reporting only one race

(b) Hispanics may be of any race, so also are included in applicable race categories

(c) Economic Census - Puerto Rico data are not comparable to U.S. Economic Census data

Value Flags

DSuppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information

FFewer than 25 firms

FNFootnote on this item in place of data

NANot available

SSuppressed; does not meet publication standards

XNot applicable

ZValue greater than zero but less than half unit of measure shown

-Either no or too few sample observations were available to compute an estimate, or a ratio of medians cannot be calculated because one or both of the median estimates falls in the lowest or upper interval of an open ended distribution.

NData for this geographic area cannot be displayed because the number of sample cases is too small.

QuickFacts data are derived from: Population Estimates, American Community Survey, Census of Population and Housing, Current Population Survey, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, State and County Housing Unit Estimates, County Business Patterns, Nonemployer Statistics, Economic Census, Annual Business Survey, Building Permits.

HIGH SCHOOL

Grade 9 - Grade 12

Principal: Kelly Spivey

23292 Highway 22, McKenzie, TN

Student Enrollment: 352

Student to teacher ratio 15:1

Racial/Ethnic Percentage:

American Indian or Alaska Native < 10 Students

Asian < 10 Students

Black/African American 17%

Hispanic..... 6%

Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander < 10 Students

White..... 76%

Students Specific Grouping:

Economically Disadvantaged..... 19%

Students with Disabilities..... 13%



McKenzie Special School District DATA & DEMOGRAPHICS



MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grade 5 - Grade 8

Principal: Josh Kee

80 West Woodrow Ave., McKenzie, TN

Student Enrollment: 384

Student to teacher ratio 17:1

Racial/Ethnic Percentage:

American Indian or Alaska Native < 10 Students

Asian < 10 Students

Black/African American 13%

Hispanic..... 8%

Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander < 10 Students

White..... 77%

Students Specific Grouping:

Economically Disadvantaged..... 24%

Students with Disabilities..... 20%

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Pre-Kindergarten - Grade 4

Principal: Tonya Brown

165 Brooks Ave., McKenzie, TN

Student Enrollment: 484

Student to teacher ratio 14:1

Racial/Ethnic Percentage:

American Indian or Alaska Native < 10 Students

Asian < 10 Students

Black/African American 16%

Hispanic..... 7%

Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander < 10 Students

White..... 76%

Students Specific Grouping:

Economically Disadvantaged..... 29%

Students with Disabilities..... 23%



Demographic Data found from the Tennessee Department of Education 2024 Profile Data Files and US News

10 REASONS TO CHOOSE McKENZIE TENNESSEE

1 STEADY GROWTH

McKenzie had an estimated 5,632 residents in 2025, an increase of approximately 1.9% since 2020. Its size gives residents a more manageable pace of life while still supporting schools, businesses, recreation and community services.

2 AMENITIES

- Airport
- Baseball/Softball Fields
- Basketball Court
- Carroll Lake
- Community Events
- Dog Park
- Harmony Park
- The Park Theatre
- Multiple Parks
- Pickleball Court
- Senior Center
- Skate Park
- Splash Pad
- Walking Trail

3 QUALITY EDUCATION & CAREER TRAINING

Higher education and skilled-trade training are available locally. McKenzie is home to the main campus of Bethel University and a branch campus of TCAT Henry/Carroll. Local TCAT programs include automotive technology, welding, industrial maintenance, information technology, machine-tool technology, office technology and HVAC/refrigeration.

4 COMMUNITY EVENTS

Regular community events create opportunities for residents to participate and connect. Annual activities include Nights on Broadway, the Sweet Tea Festival and the Festival of Freedom. The Sweet Tea Festival brings live music, food and craft vendors, family activities, shopping, theatrical performances and other events into downtown McKenzie annually. Nights on Broadway provides an opportunity to hear local talent on Thursday nights throughout the summer.

5 STRONG SCHOOLS

The McKenzie Special School District serves students from prekindergarten through 12th grade in three schools. For the 2023–24 school year, McKenzie High School reported a 96.6% graduation rate, 73.8% career-and-technical-education participation and an 82.8% Ready Graduate rate.

6 NO STATE INCOME TAX

Tennessee offers a favorable individual income-tax environment. Tennessee does not impose an individual state income tax on wages, employer-sponsored retirement income or most other forms of personal income. That can allow working families and retirees to retain more of their earnings.

7 SMALL TOWN CHARM

The historic downtown has local character and cultural attractions. Downtown McKenzie includes locally owned shops and restaurants, Veterans Memorial Park, the Park Theatre, McKenzie Memorial Library, the Gordon Browning Museum, McKenzie Farmer's Market, the historic railroad depot, McKenzie Station Splash Pad and Harmony Park.

8 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Housing is considerably more affordable than the Tennessee average. McKenzie's median owner-occupied home value was \$154,500, compared with \$286,700 statewide. Median gross rent was \$663 per month, versus \$1,189 across Tennessee.

9 THREE COUNTY TRI-POINT CITY

McKenzie is well positioned for commuters, employers and small businesses. Census data places the average commute at approximately 20.2 minutes. The city is also attractive for its central Mid-South location at the intersection of two state routes critical to West Tennessee commerce, Highways 22 and 79. Additionally, industrial development resources, customized workforce training through TCAT and quick access to the Sgt. Lee Russell Carroll County Airport are main reasons industries choose McKenzie.

10 SAFETY

A fully-staffed, certified police force protects the city along with highly-trained fire and rescue personnel. Advanced training allows McKenzie's first responders to improve patient outcomes by cutting down the wait between 911 call and medical response.

MCKENZIE

Mayor: Ryan Griffin 731-352-2292

City Council

Vice Mayor: Drew Beeler

Jessie Townes

Bobby Young*

Tom Alexander*

Carol Armpriest*

Tim McBride

City Recorder: Jennifer Waldrup

EMERGENCY SERVICES 911

Police Department

Ryan White, chief (731) 352-2265

Fire Department

Brian Tucker, chief (731) 352-3306

Public Works/Solid Waste Supervisor

Johnny Mercer (731) 352-3009

Water Department Supervisor

Earnest Umstead (731) 352-3114

Parks Department

Billy Hollowell (731) 352-2292

Building Inspector

Ricky Watkins (731) 609-8326

Codes

Ed Darrow (731) 415-5423

McKenzie City Hall

2470 Cedar St., McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 352-2292

www.mckenziectn.org

McKenzie Farmer's Market

2451 Cedar St., McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 352-2292

Park Theatre

2312 Cedar St., McKenzie, TN 38201

www.parktheatermckenzie.com

McKenzie Chamber of Commerce & Industry

9 Broadway St., McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 352-2004

Contact - Monica Heath

info@growmckenzie.com

Solid Waste Collection Contracts

Republic Services

MCKENZIE SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Spiridon L. Roditis

Misty Aird

Chad Brown

Karen Fowler

Brian Winston

Brian Keith Stafford

Matthew Lane

Civic and Service Organizations

American Legion Post 37

Beta Sigma Phi Sorority

Carl Perkins Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse

Carroll County Humane Society

McKenzie Garden Club

McKenzie Lions Club

McKenzie Rotary Club

Morning Glory Garden Club

Carroll County Relay For Life

United Neighbors

McKenzie VFW Post 4939



(L to R) Gov. Lee, Sen. Stevens, Rep. Darby, U.S. Rep. Kustoff, U.S. Sen. Blackburn and U.S. Sen. Hagerty.

STATE & FEDERAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

U.S. Senator Bill Hagerty*

Russell Senate Office Building
Room 248
Washington, DC 20002
Phone: (202) 224-4944

U.S. Senator Marsha Blackburn*

357 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202) 224-3344

U.S. Congressman David Kustoff*

560 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: (202) 225-4714

State Senator John Stevens

425 Rep. John Lewis Way N.
Suite 710 Cordell Hull Bldg.
Nashville, TN 37243
Phone: (615) 741-4576
Fax: (615) 253-0161

State Representative Tandy Darby*

425 Rep. John Lewis Way N.
Suite 676 Cordell Hull Bldg.
Nashville, TN 37243
Phone: (615) 741-7847
Fax: (615) 253-0293

Governor Bill Lee*

State Capitol, 1st Floor
600 Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. Blvd.
Nashville, TN 37243
Phone: (615) 741-2001

CARROLL COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Carroll County Mayor

Joseph Butler (731) 986-1936

Circuit Court Clerk

Sarah Bradberry (731) 986-1932

Clerk and Master

Kenneth Todd (731) 986-1920

County Clerk

Darlene Kirk (731) 986-1960

Property Assessor

John Austin (731) 986-1975

Register of Deeds

Natalie Porter (731) 986-1952

Road Commissioner

Ronnie Wade (731) 986-1998

Sheriff

Eric Sawyers (731) 986-8947

Trustee

Paula Bolen (731) 986-1941

Administrator of Elections

Peg Hamlett (731) 986-1968

Other

Solid Waste Office (731) 986-1943

Ag Extension Office (731) 986-1976

Soil Conservation (731) 209-4153

Office on Aging (731) 986-1985

Transport. (NWTARA) (731) 986-9956

Carroll County Library (731) 986-1919

Emergency Mgmt. (731) 986-1912

County Fire Chief (731) 986-1916

Carroll Academy (731) 986-1350

Veteran's Affairs Office (731) 986-1346

Chancery Court (731) 986-1920

General Sessions Court (731) 986-1926

Juvenile Services (731) 986-1947

Jail (731) 986-1905

Civic Center (731) 986-1357

Airport (731) 352-7278

County Chamber (731) 986-4664

Health Department (731) 986-1990

Human Services (DHS) (731) 986-2554

Carroll County TDOT (731) 352-7743

CARROLL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

DISTRICT 1

Jimmy Halford

P.O. Box 305,
Atwood, TN 38220
Phone: (731) 571-6401

Randy Long

250 Brooks Rd.,
Atwood, TN 38220
Phone: (731) 225-5643

Darrell Ridgely

1715 Parker Store Rd.,
Cedar Grove, TN 38321
Phone: (731) 694-6213

DISTRICT 2

Lana Suite

P.O. Box 14,
McLemoresville, TN 38235
Phone: (731) 571-9387

Daniel Willman

399 Greer Ln.,
Huntingdon, TN 38344
Phone: (901) 628-8714

DISTRICT 3

Brandy Boyd

445 General Forrest Dr.
Bruceton, TN 38317
Phone: (731) 415-3641

Will McMackin

Elected August 6, 2026

DISTRICT 4

Jerry Wayne Burcham

Elected August 6, 2026

Morris Rogers

28730 Broad St.,
Hollow Rock, TN 38342
Phone: (731) 414-3837

DISTRICT 5

Jimmy Crossett

Elected August 6, 2026

Barry Mac Murphy

428 Knox St.,
Huntingdon, TN 38344
Phone: (615) 426-4201

Curt Taylor

Elected August 6, 2026

DISTRICT 6

Madison Boyd Endres

Elected August 6, 2026

Phillip Moore

3950 Clarksburg Rd.,
Westport, TN 38387
Phone: (731) 225-6790

DISTRICT 7

Lori Dillahunt

957 Tate School Road,
Huntingdon, TN 38344
Phone: (731) 358-3847

Walter Smothers

2440 Springhill Church Rd.,
McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 415-1169

DISTRICT 8

Willie Huffman

P.O. Box 4,
McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 571-0970

Dr. Jay Phipps

205 B Hospital Dr.,
McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 234-7199

DISTRICT 9

Jason R. Martin

3 Banner Row,
McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-3323

Spiridon L. Roditis

846 Stonewall St. N.,
McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 415-2926

Ricky Price

Elected August 6, 2026

* Information may change with Election 2026 results.



**McKenzie Valve &
Machining LLC**

145 Airport Road, McKenzie, TN 38201

731-352-5027

mckenzievalve.com



BRUMMITT-McKENZIE

FUNERAL HOME

1740 East Cedar Avenue | McKenzie, Tennessee 38201

(731) 352-4848 | (731) 352-2222 | Obituary Line: (731) 352-4811

WHERE TO SET UP

Services

IN CARROLL, HENRY,
WEAKLEY COUNTIES

WHERE TO GET ELECTRIC SERVICES

CARROLL COUNTY ELECTRIC

Electricity — Carroll County
103 W. Paris St., Huntingdon, TN 38344
Phone: (731) 986-8284
www.ccelectric.org

WEAKLEY COUNTY MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC

Electricity — Weakley County
11181 Hwy 22, Martin, TN 38237
Phone: (731) 587-9521
www.wcmes.com

PARIS BPU

Electricity — Henry County
117 E. Washington St., Paris, TN 38242
Phone: (731) 642-1322
parisbpu.com

WHERE TO GET NATURAL GAS

WEST TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITIES DISTRICT (WTPUD)

Natural Gas — Carroll, Henry, Weakley
14055 Paris St., Huntingdon, TN 38344
Phone: (731) 986-8289
www.wtpud.com

WHERE TO GET CABLE, PHONES & INTERNET

Area Cellular Phone Carriers: AT&T, Verizon

AENEAS INTERNET & TELEPHONE

Phone: (731) 352-9643
www.aeneas.com

BEASLEY ANTENNA & SATELLITE

440 Fairgrounds Rd., Paris, TN 38242
Phone: (731) 642-4077

RUSSELL CELLULAR VERIZON

15020 Highland Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-9892
russellcellular.com

CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS

24 Circle Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (866) 847-2389
www.spectrum.com

WK&T TELECOMMUNICATIONS

100 WK&T Technology Dr., Mayfield, KY 42066
Phone: (877) 954-8748
www.mywkt.net

CARROLL COUNTY ELECTRIC

103 W. Paris St., Huntingdon, TN 38344
Phone: (731) 986-8284 • www.ccelectric.org

The Carroll County Electric Department (CCED) provides affordable, reliable and quality electric services to approximately 16,000 customers in Carroll County and parts of northern Henderson County. CCED's business office is located in Huntingdon, and warehouse operations are in Huntingdon and McKenzie. To find more service information, pay your bill or see a near-time power outage map, visit ccelectric.org.



WEST TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITIES DISTRICT

14055 Paris St., Huntingdon, TN 38344
Phone: (731) 986-8289 • www.wtpud.com

West Tennessee Public Utilities District (WTPUD) provides natural gas to over 15,000 customers in Carroll, Benton, and Weakley Counties along with portions of Henry and Hender-

son Counties. If you reside or own a business inside our coverage area, the West Tennessee Public Utility District has got you covered with the best and cleanest source of energy today!

WHERE TO GET WATER

McKENZIE WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT

Phone: (731) 352-2292

TRASH AND RECYCLING

501K RECYCLING, LLC

360 Locust St., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 415-8480
www.501kcompany.com/

GERDAU METALS RECYCLING

1336 Bell Store Rd, McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-5888

www2.gerdau.com/metals-recycling

REPUBLIC SERVICES

21686 Hwy 22, McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-0401

www.republicservices.com

Services Offered: Residential, Recycling, Commercial Dumpsters, Roll Off Dumpsters.
Service Area: Benton, Carroll, Crockett, Decatur, Dyer, Gibson, Haywood, Henderson, Henry, Humphreys, Lake, Lauderdale, Madison, Obion, Weakley counties.

Directory Continues on Next Page ►



Business Hours Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

For power outages or emergencies,
Call [731] 986-8284 24/7.



CONTACT US!

931-722-6186

WWW.RAEKAR.COM

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and Portions of Henry and Henderson Counties.



731-986-8289

1-800-443-7794

West Tennessee Public Utility District

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ANY DIGGING PROJECTS. NO MATTER THE SIZE ALWAYS CALL.**

WE WANT TO KEEP YOU SAFE.



WHERE TO SET UP

Services

IN CARROLL, HENRY,
WEAKLEY COUNTIES

WHERE TO GET AUTOMOBILE LICENSE PLATES

CARROLL COUNTY CLERK

625 High St., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 986-1960

HENRY COUNTY CLERK

101 E. Washington St. #100, Paris, TN 38242
Phone: (731) 642-2412

WEAKLEY COUNTY CLERK

116 W. Main St. #104, Dresden, TN 38225
Phone: (731) 364-2285

WHERE TO GET TENNESSEE DRIVER'S LICENSE

TENNESSEE DRIVER'S LICENSE TESTING CENTER

1120 Tyson Ave., Paris, TN 38242
Phone: (731) 641-8863

WHERE TO REGISTER TO VOTE

CARROLL

Administrator: Peg Hamlett
Carroll County Office Complex
625 High St., Suite 113, Huntingdon, TN 38344
Phone: (731) 986-1968
Fax: (731) 986-1913
Email: carroll.commission@tn.gov
Absentee Info and By-Mail Requests:
carroll.commission@tn.gov
www.carrollcountytnelections.com
Hours: 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

HENRY

Administrator: DeLaina Green
P.O. Box 967, Paris, TN 38242
215 Grove Blvd., Suite B, Paris, TN 38242
Phone: (731) 642-0411
Email: henry.commission@tn.gov
Absentee Info and By-Mail Requests:
henry.commission@tn.gov
www.henrycountyttn.org/administrator-of-
elections/
Hours: 8 a.m.-4:30 pm., Mon.-Fri.

WEAKLEY

Administrator: Alex Britt
135 South Poplar St., Suite A,
Dresden, TN 38225
Phone: (731) 364-5564
Fax: (731) 364-3229
Email: elections@weakleycountyttn.gov
Absentee Info and By-Mail Requests:
elections@weakleycountyttn.gov
www.weakleycountyttn.gov/
electioncommission.html
Hours: 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Mon.-Fri.



REPUBLIC SERVICES McKENZIE RECYCLING

21686 Highway 22,
McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-0401
www.republicservices.com



WHERE TO SET UP, CHANGE SOCIAL SECURITY

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Paris, Tennessee, Office
186 Commerce St., Paris, TN 38242
Phone: (866) 698-2507

WHERE TO OBTAIN, CHANGE MAILING ADDRESS

UNITED STATES POST OFFICE

AT MCKENZIE

15075 Highland Dr.,
McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-7977

WHERE TO OBTAIN BUSINESS AND VENDORS LICENSES

CITY HALL

2470 Cedar St., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-2292

OTHER SERVICES AND DEPARTMENTS

HOUSING AUTHORITY

22 McDonald Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-5335

MEALS ON WHEELS

22 McDonald Ave., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-5188

POISON CONTROL CENTER

Phone: 1-800-222-1222

SEWAGE DISPOSAL PLANT

Clark St. S., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-3608

CHILDREN & YOUTH RESOURCES

CARL PERKINS CENTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE

341 Redden St., Huntingdon, TN 38344
Phone: (731) 986-5920

LA LECHE LEAGUE INTERNATIONAL INC.

605 Clear Lake Rd., McKenzie, TN 38201

TEAMS INSTITUTE

1944 Cedar St., McKenzie, TN 38201

YOUTH VILLAGES - SERVING MCKENZIE AND CARROLL COUNTIES

107 Memorial Dr., Suite B, Paris, TN 38242
Phone: (731) 641-4152

Rotary

Club of McKenzie



JOIN US FOR A MEETING!



Meetings held every Tuesday
at Bethel University, McKenzie,
Tennessee at NOON.

 Rotary Club of McKenzie, Tennessee  mckenzierotaryclub@gmail.com
SERVICE ABOVE SELF • District 6760 • Club No. 3824



CARROLL

INSURANCE AGENCY

A Westan Insurance Group Company

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15865 Highland Drive • McKenzie, TN

203 Main Street • Gleason, TN

(731) 352-2194 • (731) 648-5506

www.bankofgleason.com



Member
FDIC

WHERE TO FIND
Directory

ADULT BEVERAGES

79 SPIRITS & WINE

17833 Highland Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 393-0417

CITY WINE AND LIQUORS

15846 Highland Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 393-0602

LIQUORLAND

15980 Highland Dr, McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 207-1107

NEAREST AIRPORTS

SGT. LEE RUSSELL

CARROLL COUNTY AIRPORT(KHZZ)

535 Airport Ln., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-7278

McKELLAR-SIPES

REGIONAL AIRPORT (MKL)

308 Grady Montgomery Dr., Jackson, TN 38301
Phone: (731) 423-0995
53.3 mi. from McKenzie

**MEMPHIS INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT (MEM)**

2491 Winchester Rd, Memphis, TN 38116
Phone: (901) 922-8000
<https://flymemphis.com>
129.5 mi. from McKenzie

**NASHVILLE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
(BNA)**

1 Terminal Dr, Nashville, TN 37214
Phone: (615) 275-1675
<https://flynashville.com>
135.3 mi. from McKenzie

ANIMAL SERVICES

CARROLL COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY

21822 Highway 22, McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-9950
www.cchspet.org

SOUTHERN GRACE PLAY & STAY

35 Georgia Ave., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (615) 712-0326

TRI-COUNTY ANIMAL CLINIC

40 Connie Allen Rd., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-6000
[tricountyanimalclinic8.securevetsource.com/
index.pml](http://tricountyanimalclinic8.securevetsource.com/index.pml)

WAGGING TAILS GROOMING

15158 Highland Dr, McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-5252

D & D WRECKER SERVICE

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With over 30 years of experience, D&D Wrecker Service offers 24/7 towing, wrecker, lockout, winch-out, small building moving and storage building moving services. Call Keith Foster at (731) 352-0104 for a quote.



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Phone: (731) 207-1090
www.holmesautorepair.org

With 17 years of experience under owner Richard Holmes' belt, Holmes Auto Repair offers all general automotive diagnostics and repairs, including tires and alignments. For a full list of services, visit holmesautorepair.org/services.



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Phone: (731) 352-2431
nationalguard.com

**NATIONAL GUARD
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AND NURSING HOMES**

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Phone: (731) 352-3908
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14510 Highway 79, McKenzie, TN 38201
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COMMUNITY**

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Phone: (731) 352-4567
www.lakesidesenior.com

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ATTORNEY AT LAW**

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Phone: (731) 207-1299

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ANDERSON TIRES

126 Oak St., McKenzie, TN 38201
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AUTO CLINIC

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Phone: (731) 393-0091
Mike Hayes, Owner

AUTO ZONE

14795 Highland Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-9156
www.autozone.com

BIRMINGHAM'S AUTO REPAIR

380 Winston Rd., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-7133

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2095 Blackburn Rd, McKenzie, TN 38201
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[https://countylinerepairservices.
godaddysites.com/](https://countylinerepairservices.godaddysites.com/)

D & D WRECKER SERVICE

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Phone: (731) 352-7251
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223 Main St S, McKenzie, TN 38201
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Phone: (731) 418-1094

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Phone: (731) 352-9884

HEAVENLY NAILS

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Phone: (731) 352-3342

SAINTS BLEND BARBERSHOP

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Phone: (731) 393-0098

SALON SERENDIPITY

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Phone: (731) 393-5030

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Phone: (731) 207-1115

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AMAZING CREATIONS PRESCHOOL

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mckenziecoc.com/preschool

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CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

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Phone: (731) 352-2709
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CHURCH SCHOOL OF DISCOVERY

16835 Highland Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 352-2440

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938 Walnut Ave. W., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-7170
nwcommunityaction.org

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See Public Facebook Group

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MCKENZIE YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE

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www.brsupplyinc.com

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15955 Highland Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 352-3435

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45 Broadway St., McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 352-5090

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Need a shed, garage, barn, storm shelter or guest house? Visit Twin Oaks Buildings in McKenzie or twinoaksbuildings.com and take a look at their carriage house, utility shed, high barn shed, high barn cabin, A-frame cabin, A-frame garage and high barn garage styles. Military veterans receive \$100 off on all shed purchases.



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www.servallpestcontrol.com

Phone: (731) 415-6142

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25335 Highway 22, McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: 731-681-0017

twinoaksbuildings.com

WINSTEAD CONCRETE, LLC

790 Bell Store Road, McKenzie, TN 38201

COUNSELING

BEATING HEARTS HELP CENTER

21203 Highway 22, McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 207-1400

www.beatingheartshelpcenter.com

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727 Main St. N., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-3050
www.careycounselingcenter.org

MSHN ENTERPRISES

350 Old McKenzie Rd., McKenzie, TN 38201
Lisa Cavin, Executive Director: (731) 214-1969
Michelle Black, DCOO: (901) 410-9062
www.mshnllc.com

DENTAL

RUSSELL FAMILY DENTAL

594 N. Main St., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 393-0455
www.russellfamilydental.com
Dr. Travis Russell, DDS

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541 Stonewall St., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-4500

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256 Paris St., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 234-5879
www.trevathanelectrical.com

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CARROLL LAKE GOLF CLUB

1305 Carroll Lake Rd., McKenzie, TN 38201
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McKENZIE FUNZONE ACTION ARENA

12915 Highway 79, McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 316-0101
warzoneaxntag.square.site

PARK THEATRE

2312 Cedar St., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 393-0555

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5 BROADWAY

5 Broadway Street, McKenzie, TN 38201

LIBERTY CHURCH WEDDING AND EVENT VENUE

5585 Hilliard Rd., McKenzie, TN 38201

SOMERSET GETAWAYS

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somesetgetaways@gmail.com
somesetgetaways.com

THE VENUE AT WADDELL PLACE

940 Joy Sparks Rd., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 415-8277

BEATING HEARTS HELP CENTER

21203 Highway 22, McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 207-1400 • www.beatingheartshelpcenter.com

Beating Hearts Help Center is organized to help people determine the best course of action when faced with an unexpected pregnancy, housing crisis, financial crisis or any other life challenges. Beating Hearts provides pregnancy/adoption resources, trauma/anger management/birthing/pregnancy/parenting classes and children's clothing and items.



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Phone: (731) 352-2194 • www.bankofgleason.com

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tificates of Deposit, Passbook Savings, the Christmas Club, Individual Retirement Accounts, Money Market Deposits or Preneed Burial Accounts.

www.waddellplace.com

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www.facebook.com/BakersAcresTN

H & H FARMS

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Phone: (731) 333-1266

R & R FARMS

675 Hill Rd., McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 352-3438

SHOMAKER FARMS

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www.shomakerfarms.com

STACY'S BLOOMING ACRES

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www.stacysbloomingacres.com

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1145 Hico Rd, McKenzie, TN 38201
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TOSH FARMS

321 Joy Sparks Rd, McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-0308
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WHITWORTH FAMILY FARMS

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www.facebook.com/WhitworthFamilyFarms

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BANK OF GLEASON

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15132 Highland Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-9450

CARROLL BANK & TRUST

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(731) 352-2282
www.carrollbank.com

CENTENNIAL BANK

16830 Highland Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-9998
www.mycentennial.bank

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654 Main St. N., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-7822
Brents K. Priestley, AAMS
www.edwardjones.com

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Phone: (731) 352-2262
www.foundationbank.org

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1966 Cedar St, McKenzie, TN 38201
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www.raymondjames.com

REGIONS BANK

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Phone: (731) 393-4920
www.regions.com

SECURITY FINANCE

16190 Highland Dr., Unit B, McKenzie, TN 38201
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www.securityfinance.com

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DYNAMIX PHYSICAL THERAPY

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Phone: (731) 393-8000
www.dynamix.life



McKENZIE BANKING COMPANY

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www.brummittmckenziefuneralhome.com
Funeral Obituary Line Phone: (731) 352-4811

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www.curtismonuments.com

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EXXON

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www.exxon.com

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MARATHON

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Phone: (731) 352-7402

MAVERICK QUICK STOP

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Phone: (731) 352-0558

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(731) 352-9207

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us.allegion.com

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www.havensteel.com

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Phone: (731) 352-5027
www.mckenzievalve.com

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Phone: (731) 352-5341
www.profilemetal.com

SHOMAKER LUMBER COMPANY

24895 Highway 22, McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-5777

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15140 Highland Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201
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www.sunstartn.com

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CLEANERS - LAUNDRY

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Phone: (731) 358-2514

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Main St. S., McKenzie, TN 38201

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CARROLL INSURANCE AGENCY

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westaninsurance.com

Carroll Insurance Agency, McKenzie's branch of Westan Insurance Group, offers specialties in business insurance, home insurance, farm insurance and group health insurance. For a full list of coverage offered, visit westaninsurance.com/contact/mckenzie-tn-insurance/.



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15715 Highland Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-2424 • www.sunstartn.com

Sunstar Insurance Tennessee in McKenzie offers personal, commercial and life insurance policies and coverage for employee benefits and surety

bonds. Contact risk advisor Micki Cunningham at (731) 352-2424 or visit sunstartn.com/location/mckenzie/ to get a quote.

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CARROLL COUNTY LIBRARY

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Huntingdon, TN 38344
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www.tn-roots.com/GordonBrowning/

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www.baptistonline.org

CARROLL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

633 High St., Huntingdon, TN 38344
Phone: (731) 986-1990

CHRISTIAN FAMILY MEDICINE & PEDIATRICS / FAST PACE

15015 Highland Dr, McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 393-8111
fastpacehealth.com

HOMETOWN HEALTH CLINIC & CONVENIENT CARE

Main Clinic: 205 Hospital Dr.,
McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-7907

Convenient Care: 1894 Cedar St.,
McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 207-6496
hometownclinics.com

Bethel Student Health Clinic: 175 Wildcat
Lane, McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: 731-352-4027

WEST TENNESSEE HEALTHCARE HENRY COUNTY HOSPITAL

301 Tyson Ave., Paris, TN 38242
Phone: (731) 642-1220
www.hcmc-tn.org

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THE McKENZIE BANNER

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Email: banner@mckenziebanner.com
www.mckenziebanner.com

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SMITH & ANDERSON OPTOMETRY

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Phone: (731) 352-2020
www.thomasksmithod.com



HOMETOWN HEALTH CLINIC & CONVENIENT CARE

Main Clinic: 205 Hospital Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201 • Phone: (731) 352-7907
Convenient Care: 1894 Cedar St., McKenzie, TN 38201 • Phone: (731) 207-6496
hometownclinics.com

With two locations in McKenzie, Hometown Health Clinic is here to provide patient care for all ages. The main clinic on Hospital Drive is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Services offered at the main clinic are: primary care, men's health, women's health, geriatric medicine, allergy testing, sleep study, immunizations, pediatric care, walk-ins, work comp/pre-employment physicals and telemedicine. McKenzie's other Home-

town Health Clinic location on Cedar Street offers convenient care seven days a week. Convenient care offers services for cold or flu symptoms, earache or ear infection, fever, migraine, sore throat, urinary tract infection, minor cuts or burns, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), muscle strains or sprains, COVID-19 testing, flu and strep test, rash or hives, Conjunctivitis (pink eye), acid reflux and bug bites or stings.



WEST TENNESSEE HEALTHCARE HENRY CO. HOSPITAL

301 Tyson Ave., Paris, TN 38242
Phone: (731) 642-1220 • www.hcmc-tn.org

West Tennessee Healthcare - Henry County Hospital is committed to serving the healthcare needs of Henry County and the adjoining region. With 142 beds, the hospital provides a range of inpatient

and outpatient services including emergency medical services, home health and hospice care. For a full list of services, visit <https://www.hcmc-tn.org/services-specialties/>.

Directory Continues on Next Page ►

SPIVEY EYE CLINIC

45 Hospital Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-2473
www.spiveyeyeclinik.com

PHARMACY

PHIPPS PHARMACY

15385 Highland Dr, McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-0820
www.phippspharmacy.com

SUPER DRUGS

2340 Cedar St., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-3242

WALGREENS PHARMACY

14735 Highland Dr., Mc Kenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-7744
www.walgreens.com

PHOTOGRAPHY

AMY BOURNE PHOTOGRAPHY

178 Sugar Lane, McKenzie, TN 38201
amy@amybournephotography.com
amybourne.com
Amy Bourne, Photographer

JESSICA LYNN PHOTOGRAPHY

295 Paris St, McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 415-4900
jessicalynnpotography@outlook.com

PICS BY JULEYANNE

Phone: (731) 415-0604
picsbyjuleyanne.com
Juleyanne Weatherford, Photographer

TAMMY GRAVES PHOTOGRAPHY

Phone: (731) 225-4887
tgphotography@yahoo.com
Tammy Graves, Photographer

PLUMBING

A & A PLUMBING

Owner: Ricky Watson
Phone: (731) 697-1455

R H PLUMBING

580 Winston Rd., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 426-3246

ROBERT'S PLUMBING & SEWER SERVICES

McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-9211

ROBERTSON BACKHOE & SEPTIC SERVICES

95 Hico Rd., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 234-9369

SPIVEY EYE CLINIC

45 Hospital Dr.,
McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-2473
www.spiveyeyeclinik.com

Father-daughter optometrist duo Drs. Scott and Brooke Spivey welcome you to Spivey Eye Clinic.

The clinic offers cataract evaluations and pre/post-op care, contact lens fitting, migraine relief and management, diabetic eye exams, dry eye syndrome (Certified Dry Eye Center), emergency eye care (24-hour availability), fashion eyewear, glaucoma management, LASIK evaluations and pre/post-op care, macular degeneration management, thyroid eye disease management, myopia management, refractive error care (glasses, contacts, therapy), safety eyewear protection, special needs patient care, surgical procedures (lump & bump), toxic medication co-management and wellness care.



PHIPPS PHARMACY

15385 Highland Dr, McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-0820 • www.phippspharmacy.com

Phipps Pharmacy marked 25 years of service in 2025 and the growing company celebrated with the opening of a new storefront.

Phipps Pharmacy's lives by its motto, "The cure for the common drugstore."

The pharmacy demonstrates this by

providing exceptional care and developing relationships with patients.

Owner Jay Phipps says, "You can expect us to know your name when you enter the pharmacy, and we will take the time to answer your questions and offer guidance whenever you need it."

Changes? Do you see an addition or correction that needs to be made in this magazine? Let us know so we can fix it in the next edition. Thank you for helping us improve.

Email: editor@tricopub.com **Call:** 731.352.3323 **Mail:** McKenzie Banner, 3 Banner Row, McKenzie, TN 38201

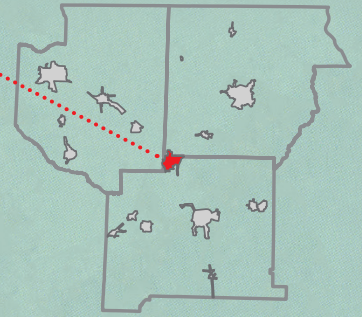
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McKENZIE

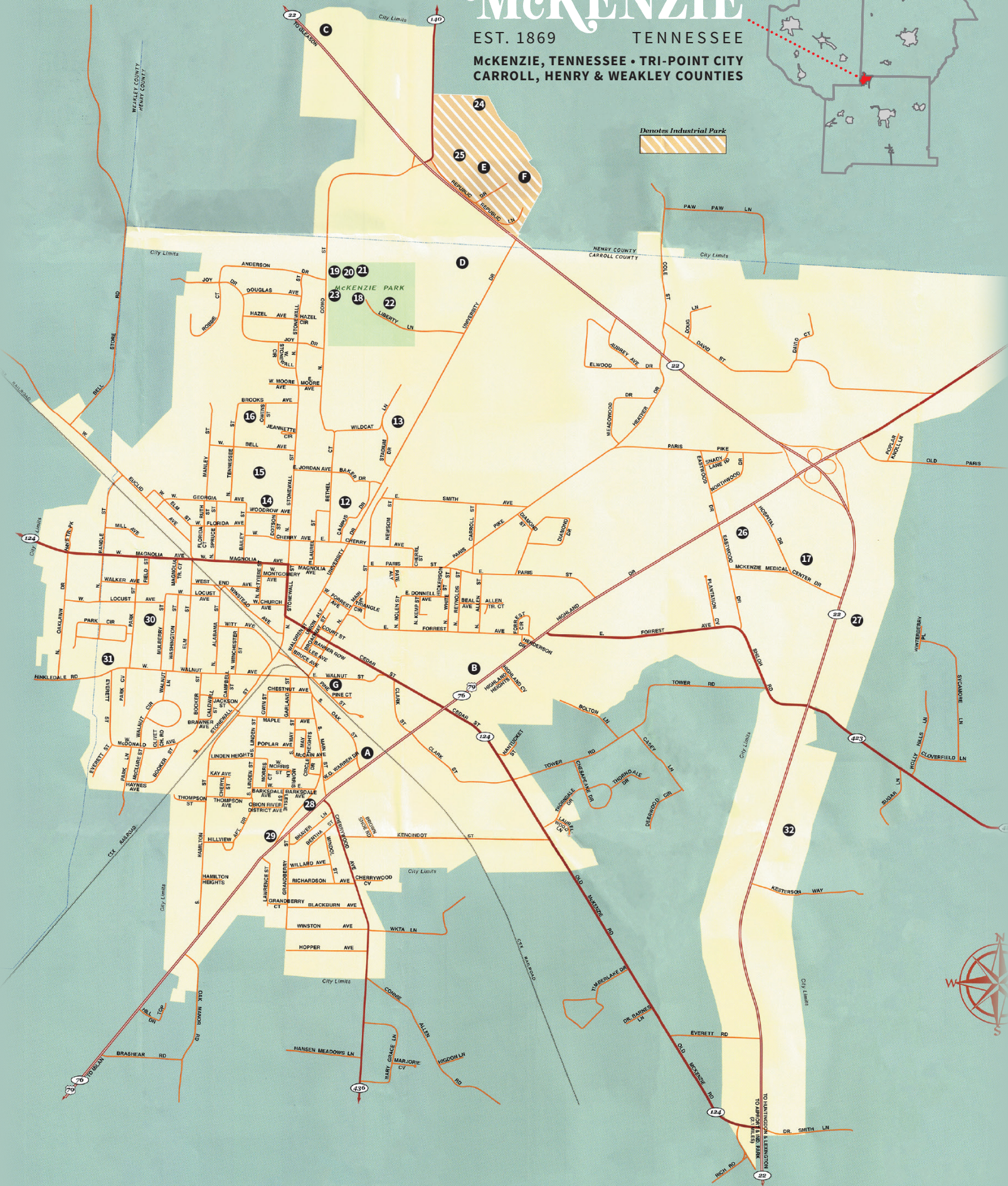
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TENNESSEE

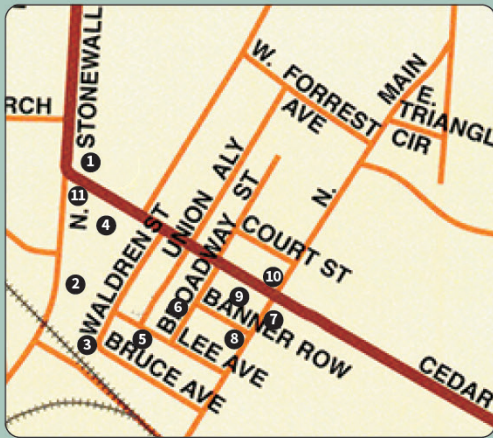
McKENZIE, TENNESSEE • TRI-POINT CITY
CARROLL, HENRY & WEAKLEY COUNTIES



Denotes Industrial Park



DOWNTOWN McKENZIE



INDUSTRIAL PARK-SOUTH



POINTS OF INTEREST

1. McKenzie City Hall, Police & Fire Dept.
2. McKenzie Station Splash Pad/ Harmony Park
3. Historic Railroad Depot
4. Farmers' Market
5. The Nook
6. McKenzie Memorial Library
7. Gordon Browning Genealogical Museum
8. McKenzie Banner
9. Veterans Park
10. Park Theatre
11. United Neighbors
12. Bethel University
13. Bethel Wildcat Stadium
14. McKenzie Middle School
15. Randy Thomas Football Field
16. McKenzie Elementary School
17. Medical Facilities
18. McKenzie Park
19. McKenzie Dog Park
20. Walking Trail
21. Disc Golf
22. Softball/Baseball Fields
23. Pickleball Court
24. National Guard Armory
25. McKenzie Industrial Park-North (Henry Co.)
26. TCAT-McKenzie
27. McKenzie High School
28. McKenzie Skate Park
29. Post Office
30. Mulberry Park
31. Webb School & Museum
32. Carroll Co. Humane Society
33. Carroll Lake
34. Carroll County Airport

LOCAL INDUSTRIES

- A. Mid-Way Materials
- B. Diversified Contractors
- C. Haven Steel
- D. Shomaker Lumber
- E. Allegion (Republic)
- F. Profile, Inc.
- G. J&J Auto Racing
- H. McKenzie Industrial Park-South
- I. McKenzie Valve and Machining
- J. Vacant Industrial Building
- K. Pottery Direct
- L. Stanley-Black & Decker (MTD)
- M. Parts Depot
- N. VP Racing Fuels

McKENZIE / CARROLL COUNTY



WHERE TO FIND
Directory

**TOLBERT PLUMBING
& ELECTRIC**

8030 Highway 124, McKenzie, TN 38201
Donald Tolbert, Owner
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15928 Highland Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201
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www.stafford-realestate.com

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McKenzie, TN 38201
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Phone: (731) 352-9261

WEAKLEY COUNTY METALS

6121 TN-124, McKenzie, TN 38201

WILL'S ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION

Phone: (731) 621-9758
www.willsroofingandconstruction.com

SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITY

BETHEL UNIVERSITY

Directory Continues on Next Page ►



NICKY JOE STAFFORD REAL ESTATE

15928 Highland Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-2761 • www.stafford-realestate.com

Recipients of the 2024 Tennessee Valley Association of Realtors Top Producer Award, Nicky Joe Stafford Real Estate brokers Sandi Roditis and Valarie Mc-

Mackin serve Carroll, Weakley and Henry counties with all of their real estate needs. For new listings, visit usamls.net/stafford-realestate/default.asp



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17636 Highland Dr., McKenzie, TN 3820
Phone: (731) 393-0066 • www.caseydrewry.com

Casey Drewry Realty has served the tri-counties for over 35 years. From serene lake homes to sprawling farms and commercial spaces, Casey Drewry Realty offers a diverse range of

properties. Visit caseydrewry.com to view listings from realtors Casey Drewry, Logan Drewry, Gretchen Boucher, Madeline Page, Isabelle Neumair Comer and Lauren Griffin.

325 Cherry Ave., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-4000
www.bethelu.edu

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28 Lee Ave., McKenzie, TN 38201
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165 Brooks Ave., McKenzie, TN 38201
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www.mckenzieschools.org

McKENZIE HIGH SCHOOL

23292 Highway 22, McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-2133
Principal: Kelly Spivey
www.mckenzieschools.org

McKENZIE MIDDLE SCHOOL

80 Woodrow Ave., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-2792
Principal: Josh Kee
www.mckenzieschools.org

McKENZIE SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

114 W. Bell Ave., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-2246
Director of Schools: Lynn Watkins
www.mckenzie-schools.org

TENNESSEE COLLEGE OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY HENRY/CARROLL

16940 Highland Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-5364
tcathenrycarroll.edu

STORAGE UNITS

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203 Main St. S., McKenzie, TN 38201
6810 Hinkledale Rd., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 415-2941

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1725 Cedar St., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (844) 804-7368
www.highpointstorage.com/mckenzie

SOUTH MAIN STORAGE

277 Main St. S., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 694-4096

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PIX & STIX TATTOO

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Phone: (731) 393-0441

SUMMERS INK

15078 Highland Dr, McKenzie, TN 38201
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PUFF PRO SMOKE SHOP

15770 Highland Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 207-1164

SMOKE SHACK

1932 Cedar St., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-9090

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CAMPBELL WATER WELL SERVICES, INC.

7894 Highway 124, McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 694-2075

RUSSELL'S WELL DRILLING & REPAIR

24110 Highway 22, McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 415-6550
www.russellswell.com

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9 Broadway St., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-2477
McKenzie Chamber of Commerce
& Industry located inside



TCAT HENRY/CARROLL

16940 Highland Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-5364 • tcathenrycarroll.edu

The Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) is the leader in technical education and industry training. TCAT Henry/Carroll has campuses in McKenzie and Paris, Tenn. The McKenzie location offers training in administrative office technology, automotive technology, HVAC, industrial maintenance/integrated automation technology, information technology systems management, machine tool technology and welding technology.

Construction of McKenzie's new 18,000

square-foot facility completed in winter of 2025. The brand-new facility houses TCAT Student Services, an administrative office technology classroom and lab, several administrative and business office spaces, a bookstore and a community event room. It is also the home of a new Allied Health Program, expanding TCAT Henry/Carroll's academic offerings.

Apply to TCAT Henry/Carroll at tcathenrycarroll.edu.



BETHEL UNIVERSITY

325 Cherry Ave., McKenzie, TN 38201
Phone: (731) 352-4000 • www.bethelu.edu

In 1842, Bethel College was founded in McMoresville, Tenn., as Bethel Seminary, operating under the fostering care of West Tennessee Synod of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Several years later in 1872, Bethel College's president moved the school to McKenzie, where it would remain for more than 100 years. In 2009, the school's board of trustees voted to re-

name Bethel College to Bethel University.

Bethel University's main campus is located just outside of downtown McKenzie. There, a dedicated group of faculty and staff are ready to help you "Be You" while preparing you for your future career.

For a full list of educational opportunities, visit bethelu.edu.

Changes? Do you see an addition or correction that needs to be made in this magazine? Let us know so we can fix it in the next edition. Thank you for helping us improve.

Email: editor@tricopub.com **Call:** 731.352.3323 **Mail:** McKenzie Banner, 3 Banner Row, McKenzie, TN 38201

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Phone: (731) 352-9095

MJ'S MERCANTILE

25 Henderson Dr, McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 207-1017

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325 Cherry Ave., McKenzie, TN 38201

bethel.bncollege.com

CEDAR STREET STUDIO BOUTIQUE

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Phone: (731) 514-8267

CHANDLER MUSIC CO.

18215 Highway 22, McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 352-2215

FACTORY CONNECTION

15687 Highland Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 352-2718

factory-connection.com

THE HAPPY BOOK STACK

55 Broadway St., McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 358-3641

thehappybookstack.com

JACK MARTIN JEWELRY

2368 Cedar St., McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 352-4577

MEDLIN'S

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Phone: (731) 352-7110

THE SILLY GOOSE CHILDREN SHOP

2384 Cedar St, McKenzie, TN 38201

Email: thesillygoosechildrenshop@gmail.com

www.thesillygoosechildrenshop.com

ZAPO

183 Main St S, McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 358-9727

www.zapofashion.com

MERCHANTS OUTLET MALL

MERCHANT'S OUTLET MALL & FLEA MARKET

15380 Highland Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 352-9095

Merchant Outlet Mall (MOM's) is full of treasures, new and old. Sold by local vendors, MOM's booths contain diverse

items from name-brand clothing to antique knick-knacks. Stop by the cafe for a bite to eat before or after you shop!

Bethel Bookstore

BETHEL UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE

325 Cherry Ave., McKenzie, TN 38201

bethel.bncollege.com

Get all your authentic Bethel merchandise and school supplies from the Bethel University Bookstore inside the Vera Low

Center for Student Enrichment — right across from Chick fil A. The bookstore is open from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on weekdays.

FLORIST

McKENZIE CITY FLORIST & MORE

2281 Cedar St., McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 352-5897

mckenziecityflorist.com

PETALS AZOLA

1907 Cedar St, McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 207-1041

www.petalsazola.net

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FARMERS HOME FURNITURE

87 Main St. S., McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 352-8215

farmershomefurniture.com

PREMIER FURNITURE

26 Broadway St., McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 352-7591

premierfurnitureuc.com

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DOLLAR GENERAL STORE

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Phone: (731) 207-0056

dollargeneral.com

DOLLAR GENERAL STORE

15671 Highland Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 393-1001

dollargeneral.com

DOLLAR TREE

15405 Highland Dr., McKenzie, TN 38201

Phone: (731) 393-7013

dollartree.com

E. W. JAMES & SONS SUPERMARKET

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Phone: (731) 352-2409

ewjamesandsons.com

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savealot.com

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A MESSAGE FROM

BethelUniversity

WELCOME



PERRY MOULDS, PH.D.
University President

On behalf of everyone at Bethel University, it is my pleasure to welcome you to McKenzie, Tennessee. Bethel has called McKenzie home since 1872 after relocating from McMoresville. Today, you will find the same wonderful attributes in McKenzie that drew the University here over 150 years ago.

Here you will find a vibrant community of people who care genuinely about our city, our institution, and each other. McKenzie is the home not only to Bethel University, but also TCAT Henry/Carroll, Carroll County Airport, a beautiful 18 hole golf course, and numerous recreational spaces. Our City is filled with local shops and excellent restaurants, and

regularly hosts events that bring us together and showcase the spirit of West Tennessee.

I invite you to visit Bethel University during your time in McKenzie. Whether you join us for a Wildcat athletic event, attend a student performance, or simply take a peaceful walk through our beautiful campus and enjoy a meal in the Vera Low Student Enrichment Center, I believe you'll discover what makes Bethel—and McKenzie—so special.

We're glad you're here, and we look forward to welcoming you back.

All the best,

Perry Moulds



Bethel University

325 Cherry Avenue
McKenzie, Tennessee 38201
(731) 352-4000

Campus Map

McKENZIE
CITY PARK →



1. **Campbell Hall**
President, Provost, Academic Dean, Registrar
Business Office, IT, Cole Chapel, Human Resources,
Chaplain, Classrooms, Staff and Faculty Offices
2. **Log Cabin**
3. **Burroughs Learning Center**
Library, Tutoring Center, Testing Center, Classrooms,
Faculty Offices, FEMA Storm Shelter
4. **Prosser Hall**
5. **Morris Hall**
6. **Marrs-Stockton Hall**
Division of Music Offices, Classrooms, Recording Studio,
Turner Recital Hall, Band Room, The Wildcat (Gill)
7. **West Hall**
8. **McDonald Hall**
9. **Roy and Linda Morris Science Complex**
Ayers Lecture Hall, Classrooms, Labs, Faculty Offices
10. **William L. Odom Hall**
Lecture Hall, Classrooms, Faculty Offices
11. **Office of University Relations**
12. **Dickey Fine Arts Building**
Waddle Recital Hall, Bouldin Auditorium, Humanities,
Division of Education, Classrooms, Faculty Offices
13. **College of Professional Studies**
14. **Autism Institute**
15. **Academic Theater Annex**
16. **Heritage Hall**
17. **Campus Security Scetellite**
18. **Roy N. Baker Fieldhouse**
Dishman Gymnasium, Classrooms, Faculty Offices
19. **Kohliden Complex**
Baseball and Softball Field
20. **University Hall**
21. **Worship Center (Under Construction)**
22. **Vera Low Center for Student Enrichment**
Chick-Fil-A, Bookstore, Admissions, Cafeteria, Campus Security,
ID Cards, Title IX, Student Activities, Greek Life, Residence Life,
Dean of Students, International Student Affairs, Accessibility Services
23. **Rosemary and Harry L. Crisp II Arena**
Crisp Arena, Board Room, Student Financial Services
Sports Information, Vice President of Athletics,
Training Room, Fitness Center
24. **Walter Butler Stadium**
Football and Soccer Field, Kermit Holland VIP Suite
25. **Hometown Health Clinic**
26. **Office of Access Control**
27. **Football Coaches Office**
28. **Maintenance and Grounds Department**
29. **Band Practice Field**
30. **Wildcat Soccer Complex**
31. **Dr. Deborah Thompson Tennis Complex**

Off Campus Locations:

Wildcat Cove (Student Housing) - 939 North Main Street, McKenzie, TN 38201
Department of Nursing - 647 North Stonewall Street, McKenzie, TN 38201

Physician Assistant Program - 302 B Tyson Avenue, Paris, TN 38242
Bethel Performing Arts Center - 647 North Stonewall Street, McKenzie, TN 38201
Reindance Offices - 28 Lee Avenue, McKenzie, TN 38201



PHONE: 731-393-0233
17636 HIGHLAND DRIVE, MCKENZIE, TN 38201
www.caseydrewryrealty.com



Spivey Eye Clinic

A MEMBER OF
45 HOSPITAL DRIVE, MCKENZIE, TENN. 38201 *VISION SOURCE*

731-352-2473 | 800-661-0560

spiveyeyeclinik@yahoo.com | www.spiveyeyeclinik.com

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At Bethel University, we believe your experiences, inside and outside the classroom, should help you understand your true calling and prepare you for a life of service and success.

37

Academic Majors
Offered On-Campus

39

Countries Represented
in the Student Body

21

Athletic Teams
Intramural Options

11

Academic Majors
offered online

98%

Students Receiving
Financial Support

15+

Student Led
Organizations



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BethelUniversity

BUILD
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A MESSAGE FROM



WELCOME



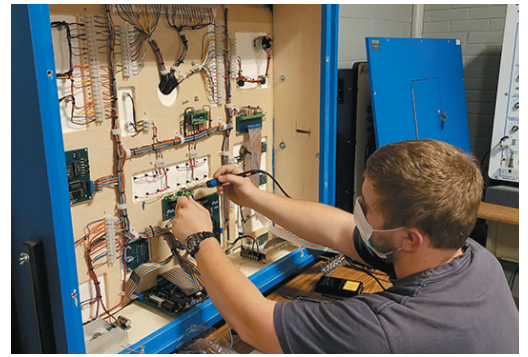
JOHN PENN RIDGWAY
TCAT Henry/Carroll
President

Ridgway was vice president of TCAT McKenzie from 2012 to 2020 and had been a staff member there since 2007. That campus has now been combined with the one in Paris to become the TCAT Henry/Carroll.

Ridgway has a master's degree in education from Bethel University and a bachelor's degree in public administration from UT Martin. He transitioned July 1, succeeding Willie Huffman, who retired as president after three years in that job and 36 years of service to the college.

"I am extremely grateful and humbled to serve the people of Northwest Tennessee," Ridgway said. "I consider it a privilege to lead a dedicated faculty and staff with the tremendous reputation of turning out a talented workforce. There is no doubt this describes TCAT Henry/Carroll and what the Board of Regents represents. What an honor it is to say I am coming home!"

*kindest Regards,
John Penn Ridgway*



The Tennessee College of Applied Technology is the leader in technical education and industry training. The McKenzie location offers training in Administrative Office Technology, Automotive Technology, HVAC/R, Industrial Maintenance Integrated Automation, Information Technology Systems Management, Machine Tool

Technology and Welding Technology. The Paris location offers training in Administrative Office Technology, Automotive Technology, Collision Repair Technology, Cosmetology, Criminal Justice: Correctional Officer, Health Information Management Technology, HVAC/R Training, Industrial Maintenance/Integration

Automation Technology, Information Technology Systems Management, Machine Tool Technology, Practical Nursing, Residential Building Maintenance, Telecommunications and Welding Technology. Apply to TCAT at <https://tcathenrycarroll.edu/future-students/admissions>.

TENNESSEE COLLEGE OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY

16940 Highland Dr,
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- Industrial Maintenance/Integrated Automation
- Information Technology Systems Management
- Machine Tool Technology
- Practical Nursing
- Residential Building Maintenance
- Welding Technology



tcathenrycarroll.edu



Paris: 731-644-7365
McKenzie: 731-352-5364



Paris: 312 S. Wilson St.
McKenzie: 16940 Highland Dr.



Left, Victor Vela, owner of Maria's Mexican Restaurant. Right, the CMT, a popular dish at Maria's Mexican Restaurant. Below Left, Victor Burger. Below Right, Maria's Dip.

Maria's

Mexican Restaurant

AUTHENTIC FOOD, GENUINE PEOPLE

New Content. Published on August 14, 2026 on mckenziebanner.com.

Maria's Mexican Restaurant at 1944 Cedar Street in McKenzie serves authentic Mexican flavors in a small-town atmosphere. If you spend any amount of time in the eatery, there's a good chance you'll be greeted by the restaurant's warm and friendly, but passionate, owner, Victor Vela.

Victor has decades of restaurant and hospitality experience, beginning in his native Mexico, where he took a leap of faith at a young age to follow his dream.

The son of a doctor and a nurse, at around age 16 Victor left his inland hometown of

Leon for the coast.

Victor told The Banner, "Leon was not my place. I didn't belong to Leon. I loved the beach. I wanted a challenge. I wanted to do my own stuff. I believed school was not for me. So it was a way for me to figure it out. Let me find a life, let me work, let me see what I can do, challenge myself."

He got a job at a hotel while living on the street (and sleeping on the beach). He worked as much as possible, at first primarily to get the free meal that came with each shift.

His family tracked him down several months later and wanted him to come home and go to college, but Victor had already turned the corner and would not be denied his chosen path.

"If I left this place, I'm a failure, and I don't want to fail," he said. "For me, it was no option to come back. I believe when you say something, you try to do it. So you're taking time, because you believe in that and you're working hard to make it happen, whatever dream you want to follow."

Victor worked his way up the ladder, eventually breaking into the food and beverage side of hospitality.

During the remainder of his time in Mexico, he worked in places like Puerto Vallarta and Cancun for industry giants such as Ritz Carlton and Marriott.

"I met a lot of people from different countries," he said. "That helped me a lot to understand: Where do they come from? What is the food, what is the language? The food is



the connection. I believe that food is the only thing that unites people.

"Before I left home, I got to see what my family does. Cooking all the time, doing things together everyday. Food always gets people close.

"And I like the customer service. It's a pleasure to serve food to other people. I think it's important. Politics, sports, everything else divides. Food is about getting close."

Victor came to the United States in 2007. He ran restaurants in West Memphis, Ark.; Jackson, Miss.; and Paris, Tenn., before finally achieving a big pillar of his lifelong dream: opening his own restaurant.

Victor was cooking at a Chamber of Commerce food show in Paris when he met The McKenzie Banner's Joel Washburn, Jennifer Sims and the late Charles Felts. The trio were impressed by Victor and his cooking and asked for his phone number to pass along to McKenzie entrepreneur Ed Perkins, who had been seeking someone to open a restaurant at one of his properties.

Perkins reached out and would soon give Victor the keys and say, "Do what you have to do. We want you in McKenzie." That's how it started.

Maria's Mexican Restaurant opened January 22, 2014 in McKenzie. Victor named the business for his mother. "She was an influence on me. She's a great cook. When I left home I was very young, and I always missed that part. I believe that's why I wanted to have restaurants that united people."

Victor expressed his appreciation for Perkins' introduction to the town: "He showed me the town, Bethel, the people. He sold me the whole package."

The new business owner made another fast friend who has made a lasting impact: "It was a challenge, because I didn't know too many people. I met Billy Wood [a now-retired city employee and all-around handyman], who has encouraged me, supported me and helped me. He believed in the project, he believed in Maria's. Whatever we need, he's there for us. He's family for me."

Victor also had high praise for one employee who has been with him since the beginning, Kitchen Manager Javier Lopez. Javier started as a dishwasher. "He's my right-hand man," Victor said. "He's grown into a partner, and he's become family as well."

Victor spoke about another hurdle to his vision that he has turned into a boon. "When I opened, I tried to make more authentic food, more close to Mexico, but that's hard because people aren't used to it, the spices, the flavors. We have more Tex-Mex here in this area. So the challenge was to understand the taste of the people. We started changing little things the way I like personally. Little by little, I put things on the menu. Specials. People try it, they like it. We started getting



Top, Maria's Mexican Restaurant is located at 1444 Cedar Street in McKenzie. Left, Tacos. Right, Chimichanga.

a mix between more authentic and less, with things like ceviche, chile, mole, birria, pozole. Things that are more authentic and, at the beginning, were not well accepted. People would say, 'What is that? We don't know. We like chicken, cheese and rice. We like burritos.' People like to try more things now. I believe we opened that window with people."

Despite the challenges, Victor had an affinity for the small-town life. "I liked that McKenzie was a quiet place. Close people. You get accepted, people like you, take care of you, take you as their own, so for me it was a good place with my kids. The country, the quiet, no craziness, less crime, that's why I like it. Everything is convenient, close."

Victor has two adult children, Ramses and Carolina, who live in Mexico, and a teenage son, Triztan, who was raised in McKenzie.

He said of exposing his kids to restaurant life, "For me, the important thing was teaching that hard work gives results, the value of money, to be responsible, to have a work ethic."

But his own children aren't the only ones he's proud to have watched grow up. He beamed, "Restaurants are a beautiful thing. You see kids grow. I see guys that used to work for me. Now you see they're police officers, they're in New York, some are singers. You see people grow and you feel part of their lives. People live in different countries, different states, and they always come to the place they have memories. My dream was to

sell not just food, but memories."

Maria's has been a consistent supporter of children in the community, primarily through sponsorships of local sports teams. "I believe kids are the future of the country," Victor said. "It's a privilege to help."

Victor and Maria's are also charter members of the McKenzie Chamber of Commerce, and Victor served for several years as an advisor on the Carroll Bank & Trust board. He was part of a CB&T initiative that teaches young people about finances. He expects to serve in those roles again in the future.

He said, "It's a big responsibility to have a business. It's not just spending money, it's helping the community. It's an opportunity for people. You create jobs. You're helping the community to get better."

Victor also has a big project in the works right next door to Maria's: a bar that is shaping up to be elegant and refined, but with the same inviting charm as the restaurant next door.

Victor offered this advice to anyone hesitant to chase their dream: "Follow the dream, but you have to work hard. You don't live like everyone else. You have to work hard 24/7 building your dream, thinking, working, making a difference. This is a country where, if you work hard and you do the right thing, sooner or later the result is there."

Maria's Mexican Restaurant opens seven days a week at 11 a.m., closing at 10 p.m. daily (9 p.m. on Sunday).



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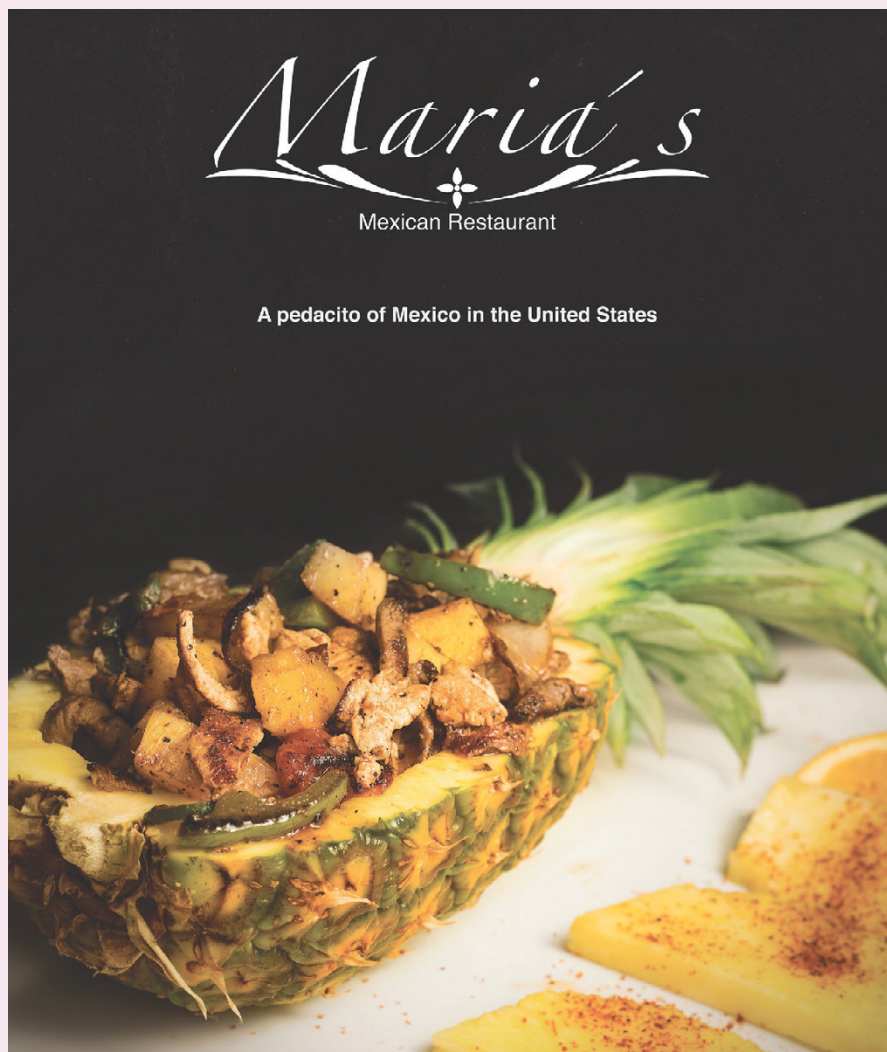
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Maria's Mexican Restaurant

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Maria's Mexican Restaurant is a family-owned restaurant whose Mexican food is freshly crafted every time to

bring guests the best experience. Maria's offers service, flavor and a nice atmosphere for the entire family.

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Left, Congetta's brick-and-mortar restaurant at 41 Broadway in downtown McKenzie. Photo by Brittany Martin/The Banner Right, Congetta's Chi-talian staff (L to R) Front Row: Owner Diana Haynes and partner Blu Cutno. Back Row: Manager Shawna Sweet, hostess Trinity Sigler and sandwich maker Braxton Sweet. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

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Congetta's Chi-talian

BRINGS DOWNTOWN MCKENZIE A TASTE OF THE WINDY CITY

A familiar name to those who frequent festivals and other outdoor events has taken root in downtown McKenzie.

Congetta's Chi-talian opened as a brick-and-mortar restaurant on November 19, 2024, evolving from a pushcart to a food truck before settling into the Broadway location.

Owner Diana Haynes is a full-blooded Italian, born and raised in Chicago before moving to McKenzie with her family in 1991.

Haynes was a hairdresser for 20-plus years until salons were shuttered during the pandemic in 2020.

That's when she began selling Italian ice from a pushcart, setting up in various locations and at outdoor events throughout the area.

The operation first expanded in 2022, when she and partner Bluford "Blu" Cutno acquired a food truck and began offering Italian beef, Italian sausage and meatball sandwiches in addition to Italian ice and cannoli.

Congetta's was a mainstay at events in downtown Jackson, but made regular trips to McKenzie, especially for Nights on Broadway, the Sweet Tea Festival and the Fourth of July.

Haynes told The Banner the pushcart and the food truck "always did well coming to McKenzie, we've always been supported here."

The budding enterprise also began to offer

catering services.

Haynes spoke about the addition of the popular Italian beef. "I was really afraid of it, because it's one thing when you're using your mom's recipe and nobody really knows what your mom's food tasted like, so they have nothing to compare it to. But the Italian beef is an iconic sandwich, so if you get it wrong, you have messed up the whole city."

The opening of the storefront allowed for further expansion of the menu. Pasta specials such as lasagna are offered daily, with bread and salads on the side.

But Haynes didn't stop there. After receiving requests for more side options, rather than offering something standard that wouldn't really fit the shop's theme, she created her Chicago Dog Potato Salad as a Chi-italian take on a traditional side item.

Haynes and Cutno told The Banner the next step is expanding to a full kitchen. They hope to add a cannoli bar, bake fresh breads each day, make homemade fresh pasta and offer jarred sauces.

Settling into a building with a foundation is symbolic of Haynes' intention to become immersed in the McKenzie community.

Thanksgiving fell during Congetta's second week open, and the restaurant prepared and served a traditional Thanksgiving meal to anyone that wanted to come.

Haynes said of the generous undertaking, "Holidays are hard. Even if you have the means to make a holiday, sometimes they're

just taxing on people. What sometimes is a season of joy for a lot of people is a season of sadness for others. I wanted to create a space for people going through any kind of hardship, whether loss of loved ones or sickness or financial restrictions. I wanted to have a meal and be a part of the community, welcome everybody. It was truly a beautiful experience."

Congetta's served over 50 people that day, including some unhoused individuals as well as many Bethel University international students. Cutno noted that for many, it was their first Thanksgiving experience.

Haynes explained that Congetta (Connie in English) was her grandmother's name. She emigrated through Ellis Island in 1919 and soon settled in Chicago.

Haynes recalled cooking with her grandmother since around age five, when she would use a stepstool to help stir the pots.

Cutno is a New Orleans native who relocated to West Tennessee after Hurricane Katrina, and he brings touches of Louisiana to the menu. The pair note that there's a ton of intersectionality between Chicago Italian and Louisiana cuisine.

From January up until Mardi Gras in March, Congetta's will offer specialty items such as king cakes and po' boys.

Besides Haynes and Cutno, the shop employs manager Shawna Sweet, hostess Trinity Sigler and sandwich maker Braxton Sweet.

Congetta's is open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., offering dine-in, takeout, call-ins (731-393-0063) and delivery (in town, with a small fee). Catering and take-and-bake services are also available.

Haynes told The Banner, "It is such a privilege and honor to be able to serve my family's traditions and share my culture with the community and to be received so warmly. I'm so grateful."



The staff of BR Supply of McKenzie (L to R): Ed Long, VP; Jason Mitchell, sales associate and Keven Rogers, manager. Not pictured is sales associate Eric MacDougall. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

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BR Supply

FAITH-DRIVEN SERVICE FOR 25 YEARS

There's a regional chain giving the "big box" stores a run for their money, offering a high level of quality and service while maintaining faith-based values in everything they do.

With 12 locations across West Tennessee, BR Supply specializes in plumbing, electrical, heating, cooling and janitorial.

BR Supply was founded in August of 1999 following the bankruptcy of KT Distributors of Union City. Barry Reed, a KT employee, acquired five of the company's properties and established BR Supply. Those became the first five BR Supply locations in McKenzie, Trenton, Humboldt, Adamsville and Jackson. Expansions have since opened in Union City, Paris, Milan, Brownsville, Savannah, Covington and Ripley.

Ed Long of McKenzie is the vice president of BR Supply. He began his journey with the company in its early days, 24 years ago, working the counter in the McKenzie store. He became manager in Union City in 2002 and then in McKenzie in 2004. He would serve as a regional manager over Paris, McKenzie and Union City before being named VP in 2014.

Originally from Syracuse, New York, his work for Regal Cinemas brought him to Nashville, where he met his wife, Jennifer, a Gleason native. The couple settled in McKenzie and have two daughters, Josephine and Grace.

Soon after making their home here, Long felt a higher calling and was ordained in January 2005. He is currently the pastor at Rocky Springs Primitive Baptist Church in Jackson.

Long brings his faith proudly to his "day job." He told The Banner, "The whole basis of our company is the principle of Jesus Christ, that's part of why I've stayed here as long as I have. I look at our jobs here as a ministry. We're ministering to the community." He mentioned that he has married customers, some at BR Supply. "I married a couple in this very office. They went and got their certificate, I got my Bible out, read some scripture, prayed and performed a marriage ceremony."

He has also officiated funerals for customers across West Tennessee.

"Across the board, our company, we realize it's all through the glory of Jesus Christ that we have anything. From the head of our company, our CEO Barry Reed, all the way down to the last person hired... I do my best to make sure [new hires] realize they're coming into a Christian environment and we're going to glorify God. We do our best to help anybody that needs assistance in our company or community."

Long was humble when speaking about the company's charitable endeavors. "We don't do it for the attention. We give back, but we don't want our left hand to know

what our right hand is doing. But we are here to help."

He continued, "We're so blessed. The culture in our company is such that the people here are so much more than employees. We're brothers and sisters in Christ here at our workplace."

While the customer base is mostly contractors and businesses, BR is geared to cater to the general public. Besides the sizable inventory on hand, they're able to order just about anything.

Long says that BR can provide anything the "big box" stores can, including competitive prices, and offers something those places can't. "The knowledge of our staff is the difference. We're happy to help anybody with any project. From the smallest plumbing project to the biggest project, like changing an AC unit." The staff consults on products to help get you the right thing and will recommend service providers such as plumbers, electricians and HVAC technicians.

The staff includes manager Keven Rogers and sales associates Jason Mitchell and Eric MacDougall.

The McKenzie store also houses some deep history. Going backward prior to BR Supply, 14965 South Highland was the home of KB Supply, Apex Supply, Tennessee Pipe and Supply, Williams Furniture and Highland Bowling Lanes bowling alley and skating rink.

BR Supply is open Monday-Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 12 noon.

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Dr. Jay Phipps in front of the new Phipps Pharmacy location on Highland Drive in McKenzie in July 2025. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner
Originally Published on July 7, 2025 in The McKenzie Banner.

Phipps Pharmacy Marks 25 Years of Innovative Service

Phipps Pharmacy marked 25 years of service in 2025 and the growing company celebrated with the opening of a new storefront.

Owner and pharmacist Dr. Jay Phipps spoke with The Banner about this exciting time for the company, its staff and, most importantly, its patients.

Phipps hails from the hills of Appalachia in Rogersville, Tennessee, 60 miles east of Knoxville. He recalls his drive to work hard, beginning with his first job on a farm at 12 and then in construction at 14. A first-generation college graduate, he worked the graveyard shift at a factory during his undergraduate program at Walter State Community College. Phipps earned a bachelor's at Carson-Newman University and worked in the pharmacy at Baptist Hospital in Knoxville.

With his sights fixed on pharmacy school, a dean told him he would never get in because he lacked leadership experience. The future pharmacist and business owner took those words to heart and became more involved in organizations and associations.

During his time at the UT Health Science Center College of Pharmacy in Memphis, he rose to national president of the American Pharmacists Association Academy of Students of

Pharmacy and developed relationships that would change the course of his career and life.

During Phipps' residency, Dr. Tim Tucker of Huntingdon sought his services in a new pharmacy. That discussion led to a partnership between the two and Tim's brother, Dr. Tony Tucker, to open City Drug on the McKenzie Medical Center campus on June 5, 2000.

After a year and a half of what Phipps calls "a good partnership," he bought out the Tuckers to become the sole owner and, around 2004, changed the name to Phipps Pharmacy.

2004 was also when Phipps first expanded with the purchase of Hopper Drug in Bruce-ton, which is no longer part of the Phipps company.

In 2008, the company expanded again with the purchase of a pharmacy in Jackson. Phipps also purchased a second building in Jackson near Union University and was mere weeks from opening when a tornado destroyed it. The second Jackson location was rebuilt and opened but was eventually closed and absorbed into the first Jackson store.

Phipps faced a crossroads in the mid-2010s when a health issue threatened to change his life. He developed weakness in his dominant right arm due to a bone growth issue and would need a series of surgeries to prevent paralysis. "It really

changed my trajectory. What I realized is, you have to be relentless to be successful. You either have to decide you want to take on life or you want life to beat you up. I decided I was going to take on life."

With a renewed sense of ambition, Phipps looked to expand further, first in Huntingdon in 2020 and again in 2021 in Waverly.

Phipps recently bought a building in Martin for a new pharmacy he hopes will open in late 2026. His son, Sawyer, a pre-pharmacy student and football player at UT Martin, will spend the summer doing demolition at the site.

In the past five years, Phipps' staff has grown to over 45 people across all locations.

Until last year, the company's footprint reached into Mississippi, but Phipps cites challenging state laws as a reason he sold that location.

As a past president of the Tennessee Pharmacists Association, Phipps is active in making sure that pharmacists can practice at the top of their license and do what they were trained to do. He cites the help of people like State Representatives Brock Martin and Tandy Darby and State Senator John Stevens in ensuring there aren't as many barriers in this state.

"Since 2021, 2,700 pharmacies have closed in the nation. You've gotta find the right niche to be successful. It makes you be a

better businessperson because of the challenges in the market."

Phipps spoke about the support he's felt over his 25 years in business here. "As somebody that moved here and didn't know anyone, the community really took me in and treated me like I was born and raised here. Hopefully, it's partly because I treat people the way I want to be treated and try to really take care of people. I've been involved here over the years, coaching youth sports and working with Scouts. Being involved has helped me get to know people outside of the pharmacy.

"McKenzie's been great. We work really hard on being engaged in the community, sponsoring little league teams and being at events, whether it's here or at other locations."

He noted that the Waverly location opened a month before the region's historic, devastating flooding. "We went door-to-door trying to help people. We try to fill the needs of the community." Jay's partner, Daisy, organized over 15 donation sites around the region, and the family, including their son, Eli, spent weeks distributing food and clothing to the Waverly community."

He said, "Huntingdon has been great, really took us in. While we were remodeling [the former Regions building], people would stop and express excitement. They have made us feel welcome,



Above Left, Dr. Jay Phipps at the original Phipps Pharmacy location on the Hometown Health Clinic campus in McKenzie. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner Right, The staff of Phipps Pharmacy's four locations at a recent gathering. Photo courtesy of Jay Phipps



patients and practitioners.

"Being in a small town is really our perfect business model. Even Jackson is a bigger town divided into smaller towns. They still want the same level of care you do in McKenzie. So there, we're still going to know people's names and about their pets and where they went on vacation."

Phipps summed it up, "It's about being relentless and building relationships. If you take really good care of them, they'll let you. If you don't, if you're just there to throw pills at them, they'll go somewhere else. I think that's where we've stood out over the years. I really think that's why we're 'the cure for the common drug store' [the company's slogan]. We treat people differently than everybody else."

The new pharmacy at 15385 Highland Drive, the former McKenzie Auto Parts, represents a massive upgrade for the experience of Phipps patients and employees alike.

The former location was 740 square feet, while the new building covers 5,500 square feet.

There are two full-size exam rooms for testing (flu, strep, covid, etc.) and two rooms for consultations and immunizations.

A drive-thru window was the most common inquiry from patients curious about the new store, according to Phipps.

The store will eventually utilize robotics behind the counter, but patients won't miss out on the personal touches the staff offers, such as proactive calls prior to refills.

The extra space will allow for health-related classes to be offered, possibly after business hours.

Phipps offers weight loss and ED services at the new store, something already available in Huntingdon.

The new space means employees will now have a dedicated restroom and breakroom and, for the first time, the owner himself will have an office.

Dr. Phipps owns and operates Health Insurance Solutions, an agency focused on seniors and Medicare, which will have a dedicated office at the Highland store.

With the added lobby space, Phipps can stock more retail items and meet more customer demands.

Phipps hopes to keep a presence at Hometown Health Clinic (formerly McKenzie Medical Center) and is working with the clinic on how to do so. "Hometown Health has been essential for our success, and we want to continue to keep those relationships."

He said, "I think we have a very unique culture. We're solution-focused, we innovate, we change things often. I want to provide the best care. My first 25 years was trying to figure out how to run a business, the next is moving the profession forward."

Phipps beamed as he noted that his pharmacy was the first in the state to be credentialed by TennCare's providers for medical services (flu, strep, covid) and was the first in state to do tuberculosis skin testing. They're also the only pharmacy in west Tennessee to have a community pharmacy residency.

Aside from his duties as a pharmacist and business own-

er, Phipps is a Carroll County Commissioner in his first full term, reelected after being appointed to a vacant seat.

"It's been rewarding to get to talk to people you wouldn't, hopefully help solve problems, be on the proactive side."

Phipps also does keynote speaking and makes online content on facing and overcoming fear.

He earned his MBA at age 50 from Indiana University's top-rated online program. "I learned a ton. There's more that I don't know about business than I do. You've got to be curious."

Ultimately, he attributes the business's success to the entire team. "Our amazing team is paramount to Phipps Pharmacy's success. I could not ask for a better crew of pharmacy doctors, pharmacy technicians, patient success specialists, delivery drivers, facility management and administrative team members."

He added, "I also credit the unwavering support of Daisy, my sons, Sawyer and Eli, and my parents, Jerry and Barb Phipps."



Above Left, The original McKenzie Banking Company building at 15 Broadway, which now houses the McKenzie Memorial Library. Above Right, The McKenzie Banking Company main office at 676 North Main Street, following recent renovations. Below Left, The McKenzie Banking Company staff in front of the newly-renovated main office downtown. Below Right, The newly-renovated lobby of the Main Street McKenzie Banking Company building. Teller row was removed for an open, personal feel. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner

McKenzie Banking Company

‘YOUR HOMETOWN BANK SINCE 1934’

Originally Published on February 11, 2025 in The McKenzie Banner.

For over nine decades, a cornerstone of downtown McKenzie has been McKenzie Banking Company. Though the financial institution has grown into a regional presence as Foundation Bank, with six locations across northwest Tennessee, it remains, as the sign says, “your hometown bank since 1934.”

A charter was filed with the State of Tennessee on February 21, 1934, and the first meeting of the board of directors was February 23, 1934, where B.T. Everett was elected president.

The bank first opened its doors on March 3 at 15 Broadway Street, now the McKenzie Memorial Library.

Everett served as president until November 4, 1961, succeeded by J.E. (Doc) Bell.

Bell relocated the bank to its present loca-

tion at 676 North Main Street in 1964.

The branch at 15345 Highland Drive opened in 1967.

Bell retired on January 17, 1978, handing over the reins to Ruth Morris. Morris oversaw a major renovation in 1984, including the relocation of the bookkeeping department to the basement.

On October 25, 1985, McKenzie Banking Company stockholders sold their shares to McKenzie Holding Company, renamed to Progressive Financial Services, Inc.

Charles P. Wilson became president on December 31, 1985, followed by Keith Priestley in 2007.

In 2008, McKenzie Banking Company and other branches consolidated under the name Foundation Bank.

Charles’ son, Chad P. Wilson, has been president since 2010.

Yet another renovation was recently completed, beautifying and modernizing the

Main Street office inside and out.

Shawna Fowler is the McKenzie Branch Manager and also serves as the deposit services supervisor.

For the majority of her 17 years with the bank, she was a new accounts representative. She was named assistant branch manager seven years ago until the retirement of Emily Young.

A graduate of Sharon High School and the University of Tennessee at Martin, she moved to McKenzie when she married, and sold insurance at Jim Alexander (also downtown) before a job opening drew her to MBC.

Fowler told The Banner she enjoys working with people and talking to people. “MBC wants to be involved in the community, in what’s happening.”

She spoke about the balance of a growing company that wants to keep its roots deep in downtown McKenzie. “We talk about that a lot because we’ve been here so long, a lot

of our clients and customers are older and we don't want to just fade away. We want to keep growing and that's the reason we've tried to spread to other locations.

"That's another reason we did this refresh, to try to change with the time, be more personable for the new, younger generation, to have a new look. We're trying to get new customers and keep our old customers all at the same time. Being here and being the hometown bank, we're trying to be that but still grow and change."

One part of that is keeping up with changing trends and technology, particularly the rise of online banking options. Fowler said, "You have to listen to what your customers want, especially younger customers, because they want internet banking, the mobile app, all the technology, so you have to keep up with that, which we try to do. Then, the older customers want to see your face. So, it's push and pull. You just have to do all of it and try to do all of it well."

"Some banks have drive-thrus where you don't even see a person. You talk into a computer, and it might be a person on the other end, but you're not seeing their face. We had talked about trying that, but I don't think our customers want that."

She also acknowledged it's not just the online banks MBC is competing with. "Anything we want to do we want to be competitive against other banks in town, so we want to have competitive rates. We have one of the best checking accounts that we know of around here that pays a good interest rate. You get benefits from that checking account that we don't think anybody else has. So that's what we try to do. We try to do everything that somebody else does, but we try to do it better. So that's really what we're always focused on. Our name in town is good. We have a good reputation."

Part of that reputation comes from community outreach and involvement.

The bank is a member of the McKenzie Chamber, and Fowler served on the board.

MBC actively supports McKenzie schools, including being a sponsor of the new football scoreboard. "We try to work with the school a lot, if they need something, we're always there to help them. We just fed the teachers breakfast before they went back for the second half. We sponsor everything that goes on at the school, as well as summer sports leagues. We try to be involved in everything, so we're seen, and not just seen, but they know that we're here if they need something."

MBC has been an excellent neighbor to another cornerstone of downtown, the Park Theatre. Major contributions to the restoration initiative earned MBC a namesake in the historic theater, the stage.

In past years, and beginning again soon,



Above, The original design of the current main office location at 676 North Main Street. Below Left, The lobby of the original McKenzie Banking Company at 15 Broadway. Below Right, The original lobby of the current main office at 676 North Main. File photos



MBC has sponsored weekly discounted movie screenings for bank customers.

Fowler said, "It's just sad to me the way downtown has gone down, there's so many empty buildings, we wanted that [the theater restoration] to happen if it was possible, so we just did what we could to make it happen. Our donation and whatever we needed to do to get it to come to fruition, we did. And I'm glad, I'm glad it's being used, even if it didn't have our name across the stage, I'm glad it's open for the community. I wish everything downtown was full, but we were excited that we could do that."

Fowler said of her own building's renovation, "We wanted to make it open, more personal." Demolition began last summer. Teller row was removed from the lobby, making way for desks for each teller. "It's beneficial to customers to be able to sit and talk to them, and to the tellers to have more room for their job duties."

The project leaned on local labor and talent. "We tried to use a lot of local people." Granite Warehouse of McKenzie and JC Educational and Office Supply of Paris were major suppliers. Allyson Barden of McKen-

zie repainted furniture that MBC wanted to keep through the renovation, and Ava Warman, also of McKenzie, drew sketches of the Bethel Wildcat and Rebel man that hang framed in the new lobby.

"I knew that I wanted to do that, I wanted to use local people for our remodel. And I think it turned out great. We've only had good feedback. People like being able to sit down and talk during their transactions."

The exterior was revamped with updated landscaping and a new sign and logo. Fowler insisted, however, that one thing remained unchanged. "They wanted to take off 'your hometown bank since 1934' and I said, 'No, we're leaving that, that describes what we are.'"

Fowler said, "I think we have such a good team here, we have good tellers, front line people, our behind the scenes staff, our loan staff is good, our new accounts people are good. Even the people you don't see. We have such a good team here that I'm proud of."

The Foundation Bank umbrella now includes locations in McKenzie, Paris, Paris Landing, Alamo, Obion and Jackson.



HOMETOWN
HEALTH CLINIC

MORE THAN A CLINIC

For more than four decades, Hometown Health Clinic has grown alongside McKenzie—expanding from traditional family medicine into pediatrics, behavioral health, diagnostic imaging, specialty care and seven-day walk-in services, while remaining a familiar presence at community events throughout the year.

In McKenzie, Hometown Health Clinic serves as both a medical home and a community gathering place. Its Hospital Drive campus brings a broad range of services under one roof, while its Cedar Street Convenient Care location gives families an after-hours and weekend option for minor illnesses and injuries. The organization's guiding message—"Our family taking care of yours"—reflects a model built around local relationships as much as medical treatment.

Hometown Health Clinic has served the area for more than 40 years. Formerly known as McKenzie Medical Center, the organization is owned and medically directed by physicians Dr. Bryan Merrick and Dr. Terry Colotta.

What began as a local medical practice has developed into a regional rural-health network serving communities across northwest Tennessee, while McKenzie remains its principal hub.

The clinic's history can also be traced through longtime employees such as Chief Operating Officer Tammy Etheridge. Etheridge began working for McKenzie Medical Center in 1988 after earlier jobs at the former McKenzie Regional Hospital. She spent nearly three decades managing operations in Gleason and other satellite offices before moving into management at the main McKenzie location in 2016.

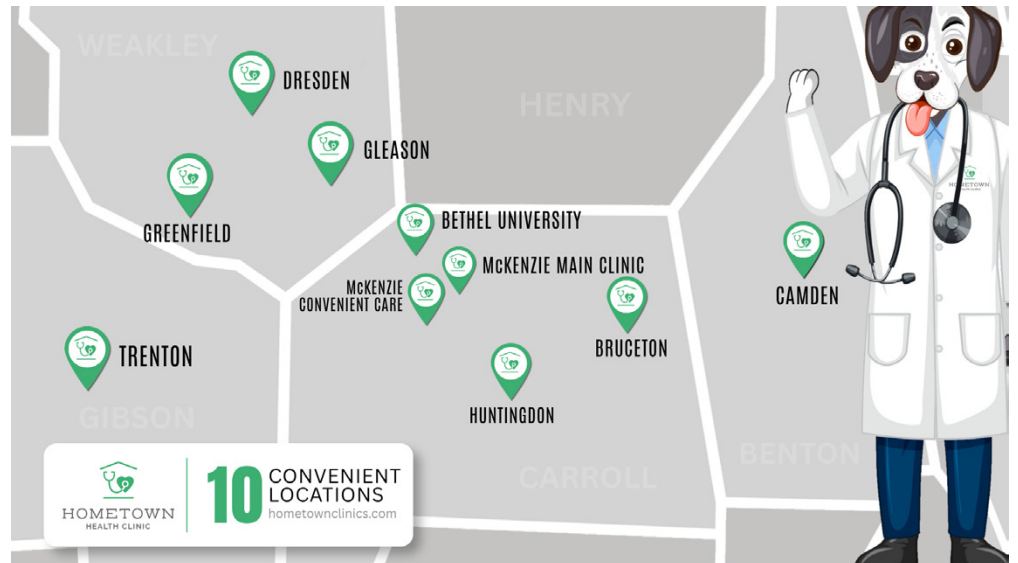
Her career reflects the growth of a practice that has expanded without losing its connection to the people and towns it serves.



Above, Hometown Health main clinic located at 205 Hospital Drive in McKenzie. Below, Hometown Health Clinic Convenient Care located at 1894 Cedar Street in McKenzie. Bottom, a map indicating Hometown Health Clinic's 10 locations.



New Content. Published on August 14, 2026 on mckenziebanner.com.



CARE FOR THE WHOLE PERSON

At the McKenzie Main Clinic, patients can receive primary and family care, pediatric care, women's and men's health services, senior care, immunizations, allergy testing and injections, pulmonary function testing, sleep-disorder evaluations, work-related and pre-employment physicals, telemedicine visits and behavioral-health services. The clinic also offers treatment for substance-use disorders, including medication-assisted treatment for opioid and kratom dependence.

This range of services is part of Hometown Health's integrated-care approach: treating physical and mental health needs together rather than asking patients to navigate disconnected systems. Its counseling program serves individuals, couples, fami-

lies, adolescents and children and addresses concerns including anxiety, depression, trauma, grief, attention disorders, family conflict, addiction and other behavioral-health conditions. Services can include counseling, psychiatric evaluation, medication management, telemedicine and substance-use assessment and treatment.

In 2024, Hometown Health Clinic cut the ribbon on a dedicated Behavioral and Mental Health Department at its main campus, underscoring the clinic's investment in mental-health access in a rural area where specialized care can be difficult to find.

A CLINIC DESIGNED FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Hometown Health's renovated pediatric center serves children from birth through



Above Left, (L to R) Children Miles Workman, Brennan Alcott, Heidi Workman and Kaylee Alcott pose in front of Hometown Health Clinic's special Back-to-School backdrop at Hometown Health Clinic's 2025 Back-to-School Blitz. File Photo/The Banner Above Right, Hometown Health's Ellen Pruitt (far right) served Chelsea Nash and Addy and Liam Wilson some popcorn and sno-cones during the 2026 Hawaiian-themed Back to School Blitz. Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner Right, (L to R) Hometown Health Clinic is owned and medically directed by physicians Dr. Bryan Merrick and Dr. Terry Colotta.



adolescence. Board-certified physician assistants Holly Arnold and Shelby Priddy Chapman provide pediatric services that include well-child visits, sick visits, routine immunizations and school and sports physicals. The pediatric center's farm-themed exam rooms and family-oriented environment were introduced to the community during its 2023 grand reopening.

The McKenzie pediatrics entrance is also identified by Hometown Health as a Secret Safe Place where a newborn may be surrendered confidentially. Other family-support services include telemedicine, a patient portal for records and refill requests, translation assistance and the Call First program, which gives patients access to a licensed nurse or Hometown provider by telephone at any time of day or night.

SPECIALTY CARE WITHOUT LEAVING TOWN

The Hospital Drive location also makes several specialty and diagnostic services available in McKenzie. The clinic's website lists cardiology through Heart and Vascular Center of West Tennessee, along with gastroenterology, neurosurgery and women's-health services through West Tennessee Medical Group.

Baptist Radiology operates inside the McKenzie location, providing services that include MRI, CT scans, ultrasound, echocardiograms and X-rays. For area residents, the availability of these services can reduce the need to travel to a larger city for

every specialist consultation or diagnostic procedure.

CARE AFTER WORK AND ON WEEKENDS

At 1894 Cedar Street, across from Sonic, McKenzie Convenient Care extends the organization's reach beyond ordinary office hours. It is open seven days a week and treats non-emergency conditions such as colds, flu symptoms, ear infections, fever, migraines, sore throats, urinary tract infections, minor cuts and burns, sprains, rashes, pink eye, acid reflux, and insect bites and stings. Testing is available for flu, strep and COVID-19.

The Convenient Care office is electronically connected to the wider Hometown Health network. Providers can access a patient's records, reports and medical history even when that patient has previously been treated at another Hometown location. Patients may walk in or call ahead, and the office accepts most insurance plans as well as several direct-payment methods.

Hometown Health also operates a Bethel University clinic in McKenzie for students and faculty. Located behind Walter Butler Stadium, the campus clinic offers primary care, immunizations, treatment for common minor illnesses, sports physicals and access to behavioral-health and counseling services.

A PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

In 2024, the McKenzie Chamber of Commerce named Hometown Health Clinic its

Business of the Year. The clinic has also supported the Chamber as a major sponsor, participated in local forums and spoken to civic organizations such as the McKenzie Rotary Club.

A major investment in the clinic's future came in December 2025, when the Tennessee Department of Health presented Hometown Health with a \$1,527,592 Healthcare Resiliency Program grant. The clinic was one of two Rural Health Clinics in Tennessee selected for the funding. Planned initiatives include expanding team-based primary care, improving technology and data use, redesigning care processes and strengthening community outreach.

For Hometown Health, community outreach is not limited to medical appointments. The clinic's calendar includes social gatherings, children's events, seasonal celebrations and health-awareness campaigns. At the 2025 Homer's Halloween Hootenanny, Marketing and Human Resources Director Ellen Pruitt summarized the clinic's approach: "We're a family, and we love our community."

That combination of broad healthcare access and visible community involvement is what gives Hometown Health Clinic its distinctive place in McKenzie. It is large enough to bring specialty services, modern imaging and integrated mental-health care closer to home, yet local enough to host children for sno-cones, Halloween games, Christmas activities and Monday-morning coffee.

Dynamix Physical Therapy

QUALITY HEALTHCARE

Dynamix Physical Therapy of McKenzie opened in 2017. Will Record is the clinical director of the McKenzie facility, located on 103 Main Street, South, in the old Fred's store. Record is a native of Dyer and now resides in Jackson with his wife, Mallory and daughter, Mary Lee.

Business hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday.

The team of therapists, PTAs and technicians are passionate about serving the community of McKenzie with the elite physical therapy services, including manual, hands-on therapy, advanced dry needling and sports medicine. Dry-needling is similar to acupuncture, said Mr. Record.

Dynamix offers free consultations and works with area doctors and surgeons to provide follow-up care.

Mr. Record said the local staff works to provide post-surgical needs for patients to regain mobility and relieve pain. Back and neck pain, sports medicine, and women's health are some of the most-provided practices.



Dynamix Physical Therapy of McKenzie Staff (L to R) — Front Row: Kendra Smith, PT; Maria Murdaugh, PCA; and Haley Courcelle, PCA. Back Row: Hart McKenzie, PTA; Amanda Keymon, CCC; Mack Yancey, PCA; Will Record, PT, clinic director; and Jessica Keeling, PTA.

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The center has two physical therapists, Mr. Record and Kendra Gilmore, and an assistant, Jessica Williams.

The McKenzie location is one of 17, including one in Huntingdon. The main service area is McKenzie, Gleason, Dresden, Atwood, Trezevant, and Henry.

Dynamix in McKenzie provides sports medicine services for all sporting events at McKenzie and Gleason Schools.

Mr. Record said the mission at Dynamix is to be one of the bright spots of the patient's day.

The team is also actively involved within

the community of McKenzie and participate in the following local events and organizations: Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, McKenzie Chamber of Commerce, McKenzie Rotary Club, volunteers with local schools (including providing some volunteer services to McKenzie Schools, Gleason High School and West Carroll), guest presenters at the local senior center for "Lunch and Learn", and participates in the McKenzie Christmas parade and Fall Festival. For more information, phone 731-393-8000 or visit the website at <https://www.dynamix.life/mckenzie>.



Left, Flashback Band performs on Banner Row. Right, Nights on Broadway attendees show off their line dancing skills on Banner Row. Photos by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner



Flashback Band Kicks Off Nights on Broadway

McKENZIE (June 4, 2026) — Nights on Broadway, the City of McKenzie's summer concert series, kicked off Thursday on Banner Row with music from Flashback Band.

Flashback Band includes local performers Steve and Kim Price, Peggy Kee, Don Page, Matt Deck and Randy Delaney. The band performed throwback hits from the 1970s and 80s, giving many attendees the

chance to show off their line dancing skills.

The Nights on Broadway season continues June 18 with Back Road Truckers, July 16 with Johnny Mac and more dates and performers will be announced at a later date.

Top Nails & Spa

FROM VIETNAM TO McKENZIE:
FAMILY NAIL SALON FINDS A HOME

Ken and his family have been operating their business, Top Nails & Spa, in McKenzie for one year, but their journey started much farther away.

"We come from Vietnam, then from Georgia," Ken said. "Tifton, Georgia."

Ken immigrated to the United States in 2017 and lived in southern Georgia before relocating to West Tennessee. The move to McKenzie wasn't pre-planned—it happened while passing through. "I drive all around and I saw that here, I don't see any nail salon. Like a real nail salon," he said. "Some hair salons have nails, but not like dedicated to nails, or like one we have right here."

That gap in the market led to the opening of a dedicated salon—now operating at its current location for a full year.

The business is family-run, and Ken says the goal is simple: make sure customers leave satisfied. "We try our best to make all the customers happy when they come here," he said. "If they're not happy about their service, we fix it."

Cleanliness is a top priority. "We all follow the state [guidelines] for sanitizing, step by step — so they don't have to worry," he added.

Open seven days a week, the shop provides services ranging from basic manicures to complex nail art. Hours run from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday, with adjusted hours on Sunday.

Prices range from \$15 to \$100 depending on the service. "The customer's gonna pay what they want," he said. "If they request any special design, we're going to tell you how much [it is] before we start."

Though many of Ken's relatives still live



The husband and wife duo, Ken and Amy, work together.

Originally Published on April 1, 2025 in The McKenzie Banner.

in Georgia, he and his wife Amy have made McKenzie their home. "My father, my mom and my uncle still [live] in Tifton," he said. "But only myself and my wife [are here]."

He said the adjustment has been positive. "I like McKenzie better," he said. "The people here [are] so nice. The school here is very good for my kids. So, I really love McKenzie."

While Ken is open to future growth,

his focus is steady. "If any nail technician [wants to] come work, yes," he said. "But right now, I'm happy."

As for what he hopes customers take away from their visit, the answer is direct. "When they come in, they're gonna leave happy," he said. "When they go out, they feel beautiful."

Top Nails & Spa is located at 15850 N Highland Drive, McKenzie.

McKenzie Rotary Club

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

The McKenzie Rotary Club brings local leaders, professionals and volunteers together to strengthen the McKenzie community through service, fellowship and civic involvement. Members gather for regular Tuesday lunch meetings at the Vera Low Center on Bethel University's campus. Weekly programs feature educators, nonprofit representatives, coaches and other community leaders.

The club's service extends throughout the community. The Rotary motto is, "Service Above Self."

Rotary
Club of McKenzie



Rotarians volunteer countless hours and thousands of dollars in financial support annually to local initiatives aimed at improving the quality of life for residents in McKenzie and the surrounding area.

Currently, one of McKenzie Rotary's top

initiatives is eliminating hunger in McKenzie. The club is also a champion of education, assisting with back-to-school events, hosting school honors programs, presenting scholarships to area students and supporting outreach programs at Bethel University.

Fundraising traditions such as the McKenzie Rotary Charity Auction help make these projects possible. Through its combination of volunteer service, student support and community partnerships, the McKenzie Rotary Club continues to make a positive difference throughout the area.

McKenzie's Annual Freedom Festival

The City of McKenzie hosts its annual Freedom Festival every July 4 at the City Park with food and fun to celebrate Independence Day.

A variety of food vendors provide a plethora of summer favorites throughout the evening.

Local talent performs the National Anthem as a giant American flag is suspended from ladder trucks.

Music plays and the fun continues until dusk when the beautiful fireworks show begins.

The city's train shuttles park-goers to and from their vehicles, and McKenzie police officers and firefighters maintain a strong presence to ensure safety.



Above Left, Reed and Phoebe Barnett cool off from the day's heat with bowls of shaved ice from the Rollin' Snow food truck. Above Right, Fireworks illuminated the night sky during the City of McKenzie's Freedom Festival Saturday night. Left, Sandra and Howard Spires enjoy cooking food at the Burke Family Food Booth. Below Left, Children play on a bouncy castle provided by the City of McKenzie. Photos by Joel Washburn/The Banner Below, The city's train shuttles park-goers to and from their vehicles. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner





ESTIMATED 4,000 ATTEND Boo Bash

The Boo Bash in downtown McKenzie is always a big hit, according to event sponsors, the City of McKenzie and Bethel University. An estimated 4,000 people on average attend the annual event, bringing out many costumed children and adults to celebrate.

This annual event draws many participants from Bethel's Greek, social, academic and sports communities as well as many local businesses who love participating

in the trunk-or-treating event.

Thousands of pieces of candy are distributed into the bags of excited children. Mix it with the inflatable jumpers and scary train rides provided by the City of McKenzie and you have a recipe for a hauntingly good time.

The city of McKenzie's Public Works Department and Bethel University sell refreshments. McKenzie Police Department and McKenzie Fire Department are also there to greet the children and provide safety.

Above Left, The Sanderson Sisters portrayed by Bethel University Dining. Above, Bethel Delta Nu. Below, Inflatable jumpers were enjoyed by the children.





Left, A group of Bethel students prepare for battle in one of the two laser tag arenas. Right, McKenzie FunZone Action Arena owner Mark Bolin.

Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner

Originally Published on April 1, 2025 in The McKenzie Banner.

McKenzie FunZone Action Arena

ENDLESS FAMILY FUN, RIGHT HERE AT HOME

Mckenzie FunZone Action Arena, located at 12915 US-79, just south of McKenzie, offers endless, affordable fun in a safe, friendly environment.

Owner Mark Bowlin acquired the business last year.

The previous owner operated on a limited basis, mainly on Saturdays. Bowlin wanted to expand on that when he reopened in June. He told *The Banner*, “My goal is to have something for everybody, for the people of McKenzie and Carroll County to have something fun to do without having to go all the way to Jackson.”

When Bowlin took over, there was only laser tag and ax throwing, but he has quickly added many new offerings and plans to add more still.

The first addition was the rage room, where customers can smash and break things. Eventually the room will be sound-proofed. “You’ll be able to scream as loud as you want.”

Another addition is jelly ball, which is less messy than paintball and less expensive than airsoft. Tiny pellets are soaked in water to expand into Orbeez, which are fired from a battery-powered gun.

Jelly ball can be played in either of the laser tag arenas, as can Nerf wars. Bowlin said, “Who wants to have to clean up Nerf darts in their yard of home? We will handle that part here.”

McKenzie FunZone will start water wars for the summer time, with high-pressure water guns. There’s a large lot in the back where inflatable obstacles can be used.

Customers also have the option of jelly ball and water wars coming to their home or other venue.

Bowlin soon hopes to add a splatter room where patrons will be provided a canvas.

“They can come in and splatter paint. They get messy, the whole room gets messy, and hopefully they get an art piece out of it.”

McKenzie FunZone offers an after-school program for Kindergarten through sixth grade until 5:30 p.m. Kids are provided with snacks and homework help as well as an art or science activity, then enjoy another fun activity such as laser tag, hide-and-seek or playing outside.

McKenzie FunZone offers special seasonal activities such as haunted laser tag for Halloween and “Stop the Grinch” laser tag for Christmas.

Bowlin hopes to add food such as pizza, burgers and hotdogs.

Friday, March 28, 2025, was National Laser Tag Day, and early Saturday, McKenzie FunZone welcomed a special guest. Internet personality Lori Britton travels the country playing laser tag and promotes the benefits of the activity while supporting various causes. She was joined at McKenzie FunZone by a Bethel fraternity for a few hours of fun. Her podcast and blog can be found at tviachickloveslasertag.com.

McKenzie FunZone offers a loyalty program for customers. After five individual activities, customers will earn something free, such as 30 minutes of laser tag or ax throwing or a visit to the rage room. After ten activities, they earn something bigger, such as an hour or two rage room visits.

McKenzie FunZone’s regular business hours are Friday 5:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. and Saturday 4-9 p.m. and Sunday 4-8 p.m.

Parties may be scheduled during or outside of regular hours and can be private or alongside walk-in customers.

Bowlin is a lifelong McKenzie resident. He graduated from McKenzie High School in 2006.

He served in the National Guard from 2005-2011 and was deployed to Iraq from 2009-2010.

During that time he earned an associate and a bachelor’s degree online. He later earned a Masters in Education from Bethel University.

Besides his military service, he has worked in retail and at prisons before becoming a business owner.

He spoke about his experience so far. “It started out very slow, but since the start of the new year we’ve matched the previous half-year, so I’m taking that as a plus. I still feel like there’s people that don’t know we’re here. There are still days we have no traffic.”

“Ax throwing has been the biggest for walk-in traffic. And people love our laser tag. They love our Call of Duty-style guns, different from the futuristic style other laser tag places have.”

He recalled a group that came from a senior living facility in Paris and the joy of watching people in their 70s playing laser tag and even a woman in her 90s throwing axes.

He also noted, “We’ve got guns that little hands can hold. I take pride in being able to say we have something for everybody.”

He is also mindful of prices. “I researched and compared areas similar to us. I try to keep it as cheap as possible, where the business makes a profit and the families that come in get to have fun and it not break the bank.”

Besides himself, McKenzie FunZone employs his mother, Christie Maloney; Alana Morrison, a Bethel Archery student; and Sydney Donald, an education assistant at Huntingdon Primary School.

Bowlin said, “I’d love for this to be a place where people can come together and have a little bit of fun and keep kids off the streets. But it’s something for everybody; it’s not just for kids. Growing up here in McKenzie, I would have loved to have this.”

Ultimately, he said, “The goal is not to be rich, but to have enough to pay the bills and give back and hopefully help McKenzie grow. Let’s support businesses in McKenzie. I care about McKenzie, and I know a lot of other people do too. We’ve just got to get together.”

Bethel University Stadium Named In Honor of Dr. Walter Butler

The Walter Butler Stadium was officially dedicated to the retired president of the local, private four-year university. Walter Butler retired on December 31, 2023 after years of service at Bethel University and in local and state government. He started his career at Bethel College as a recruiter.

Bethel students, faculty and administrators gathered in front of the entrance of Walter Butler Stadium for the dedication ceremony. Board of Trustees Chairman Nancy Bean, Bethel President Dr. Perry Moulds, and Butler each spoke during the brief ceremony.

Nancy Bean, Chairperson of the Bethel University Board of Trustees, stated "So why did the Board of Trustees decide to honor Dr. Butler with the name of the stadium. First of all, his history at Bethel; he has two degrees from Bethel in addition to the doctorate that he was awarded. He has family members who have degrees from Bethel.

"He left Bethel for 25 years to be a public servant. But when he came back to Bethel for roughly the next 25 years. He used that public service information and experience to do remarkable things at Bethel. He served as the director of business affairs, then vice president of criminal justice, executive vice president, and the College of Arts and Sciences along with being named interim president and then president.

"Dr. Butler had his hand in everything you see. But you can't even see all the campus from here. You can hardly find a building that Bethel owns anywhere in this town that Dr. Butler didn't have a role in procuring, building, or improving. Not only was he closely involved in the physical aspects of the building, he was instrumental in bringing Bethel into the world of adult education and online programming."

Current Bethel President, Dr. Perry Moulds stated, "This is a celebration not only, of Dr. Butler



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Above, The Butler family stands in front of the newly dedicated Walter Butler Stadium on the campus of Bethel University. Left, Bethel President Dr. Perry Moulds, Chairman of the Board of Trustees Nancy Bean, Chaplain Anne Hames, and former Bethel President Walter Butler and wife, Jennifer.

and his incredible accomplishments but also the wonderful accomplishments of the people who have made this university what it is today and that includes, as much as anybody, all of you as students...

"And I will tell you that nobody embodies what it means to be a Bethel person more than Dr. Walter Butler. When you come into a job like mine, you have a lot to learn, and if you're really lucky, you can find people who want to help guide you along the way. I can tell you that Dr. Butler has not only meant so much to this university professionally, but I have also personally experienced how much he means as an individual and a person.

He embodies the quality of character that it means to be a person of Bethel that we can all try to emulate."

Dr. Walter Butler concluded the event by saying, "There's no way I can ever thank the Bethel University for this honor. Listen,

never in my wildest dreams did I think I have a football stadium to put my name on it, but there's nobody any prouder than me for having that. And I promise you. And I will be at your games as long as I'm ever able.

"I wanna thank a few groups and I'll get out of your way. First, I've been very fortunate over my lifetime at Bethel to work with some of the best board of trustee members you can ever hope to work with. They challenged me. I hope I challenged them... Secondly, I want to thank our faculty and staff. Folks, you have no idea how good of a faculty and staff this university has. Three sons, two of them are here that graduated from Bethel, would not be as successful and have such a good life if it wasn't for the faculty and staff.

"Third group, I have been very fortunate in my life at Bethel University to work with two great presidents. Bill Odom, who was here when I first came to Beth-

el years ago, became a lifelong friend after those three years with Bethel. Secondly, Bob Prosser, who I worked with one on one for about 10 or 11 years. Great individual, great dreamer.

"Number four, I want to thank you the students. I have the best part of being president is to get around and work with students, to walk across campus and see you during the day, see you at night at events or ball games or music events it has been great.

"Finally I want to thank two other groups. My wife and family. I've got a lot of family here today. They have let me go about and do this. I cannot thank them enough. And finally, I would be remiss if I didn't thank our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, our father in heaven, the Holy Spirit for their guidance. Thank you so much."

Chaplain Anne Hames concluded the ceremony with a prayer.



Above, Seven siblings, all MHS alumni, gathered at the tailgate. Photo by Joel Washburn/The Banner Below Left, MHSAA planning committee members (L to R): Brad Camp, Lauren Hickman, Cheryl Oglesby-Townes, Lesa Hutcherson Roberson and Brian Winston. Not pictured are Drew Beeler and Tracy Brown Teague. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner Below Right, Bill Rogers, Joe Anderson, Jimmy and Sandra Collins, Victor Clark and Billy Taylor. Photo by Joel Washburn/The Banner



McKenzie Alumni Association

FIRST MASS REUNION WAS A SUCCESS

Originally Published on October 8, 2024 in The McKenzie Banner.

Months of planning, hard work and cooperation paid off Friday, October 4, 2024, as the McKenzie High School Alumni Association hosted its first Decades Reunion.

Centered around and overlapping with Homecoming festivities, the monumental project included participation in the parade, a tailgate prior to the football game, a golf tournament, a

memorabilia display at City Florist and a downtown block party following the game.

Several classes held individual reunions the following day.

Brian Winston, MHS Class of 2003 and MHSAA president, said, "I think the phrase I heard the most was 'I haven't seen that person in years.' It was definitely a great night of reconnecting with former teachers, classmates and friends. A big thank you to the MHS Alumni Association officers

and members for the countless hours of work and preparation that made the event such a success."

Lauren Hickman, MHS Class of 2007 and MHSAA treasurer, commented, "It was an honor to work with alumni to bring this event to life. The enthusiasm from so many generations made this reunion truly special. It was heartwarming to hear the stories of classmates reconnecting, some who hadn't seen each other

in over 30 years, sharing memories and rekindling old friendships. The joy and the sense of community that filled the evening was a testament to the lasting impact MHS has on all of us."

Brad Camp, MHS Class of 1983 and MHSAA board member, remarked, "Approximately 175 alumni of McKenzie High School attended milestone reunions at various locations around McKenzie on Saturday. We had visitors from all parts of the U.S.



Top, The tailgate at Rebel Stadium drew hundreds of MHS alumni from across decades and from across the country. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner
Above Left, Mike and Joe Flanagan with Martha Sue Peters. Above Center, Peggy Perritt Coleman, Johnny Atkins and George L. Abernathy. Above Right, Former MHS Principal and Coach Jerry Escue and Larry Watkins. Below Left, Peggy Kee, Johnny Burlison, Steve Brown and Byran Rich. Below Center, Jimmy Stambaugh and Carl and Melissa Powell. Below Right, Luke, Kaitlin and Ridley Robertson. Photos by Joel Washburn/The Banner



who came home to reconnect with friends and past faculty members.” He added, “The MHSAA would like to thank the almost 50 event sponsors for their support of the golf tournament and Decades Reunion events, as well as the City of McKenzie for their help with the tailgate party and for hosting the Friday night Block Party downtown.”

Brice Priestley, MHS Class of 2006 and a member of the 2006 McKenzie Rebel State Championship baseball team, traveled to the event from Dallas. He said, “It was really special to see

not only fellow classmates, but also MHS alums who are a few years older and younger than you. I hope Alumni Weekend becomes an annual tradition. I look forward to attending next year.”

Cara Priestley Kelly, class president, MHS Class of 1995, said, “The alumni weekend festivities were so enjoyable for all ages. Alumni from various decades were seen mingling, catching up and reminiscing about their time at MHS. My class will celebrate 30 years at next year’s annual alumni weekend. I’m looking forward

to seeing everyone there.”

Terry Howell, MHS Class of 1969 and retired MHS Principal, commented, “What a wonderful weekend for alumni of McKenzie High School. The Decades Reunion provided a perfect opportunity to reconnect with classmates and rekindle past friendships. For the McKenzie High Class of 1969, we enjoyed that memorable Friday celebration and then had our own gathering the next day for our 55th Class Reunion. I loved that old three-story school on Woodrow Avenue, but I love even more the

connection to all the people who have graduated from McKenzie High School. Thanks to all who worked so hard to make the Decades Reunion a success.”

The planning committee for the event included Brian Winston, Lauren Hickman, Brad Camp, Tracy Brown Teague, Drew Beeler, Lesa Hutcherson Roberson, Cheryl Oglesby-Townes, Terry Howell and Byran Rich.

Editor's Note: Thank you to the classes that submitted their reunion photos.



Above, Mary Luter Jordan cuts the ribbon (courtesy of the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce) to commemorate the historic placement. Below Left, The plaque denoting the historic placement is unveiled. Photo by Joel Washburn/The Banner Below Right, Webb graduate and former teacher Charles Scates was a late arrival to the event, traveling from Memphis. Pictured are (L to R) Ike Gilbert, Kimberly Bell Webb, Scates and Neal Williamson. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner



WEBB ALUMNI CELEBRATE SCHOOL'S National Historic Placement

Originally Published on July 23, 2024 in The McKenzie Banner.

The Webb Alumni Association hosted a ribbon-cutting Saturday, July 20, 2024, to celebrate Webb Public School's placement on the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service of the United States Department of the Interior.

Many former students, teachers, family members thereof and other supporters came from near and far to witness the unveiling of a plaque and acknowledge the decades of tireless work by multiple generations that made the achievement possible.

Alumni Chaplain and Huntingdon Chapter President JD Williams opened the event

with a blessing, and Alumni National President Neal Williamson welcomed all. He called the historic placement "an honor for Webb, for McKenzie, for Carroll County and for the state of Tennessee."

Webb Museum educator Ike Gilbert gave a brief history of Webb School and the Alumni Association, and Alumni mem-

ber Bertha Taylor recognized special guests McKenzie Mayor Ryan Griffin, former Mayor Jill Holland, Carroll County Chamber President Brad Hurley and Dr. Hugh and LaRenda Scarborough.

Mayor Griffin said it was "an honor" to be there and thanked "those who have traveled here to the greatest city in Tennessee."



Above, Several Webb alumni were presented plaques for their contributions. Family members accepted the plaques of John Nolen and the late Clarence Norman. (L to R) Front Row: Velma Caster Nolen, Lina McClerkin Nolen, Tammie Parsley Nolen, Gloria Nolen, Gina (Norman) Atkins and Ruby Norman. Back Row: Daisy Dudley, Harriet Nolen Bonds, George Nolen Jr., Ike Gilbert, Neal Williamson, Mary Luter Jordan and Kimberly Bell Webb (holding Jessica Baker's plaque). Below Left, Alumni Marketing Director Kimberly Bell Webb presents Webb graduate and former teacher Daisy Dudley with a plaque. Below Right, Webb graduate and former teacher Charles Scates couldn't resist the opportunity to play the Alma Mater on the piano on display in the Webb Historical Museum. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner



To the alumni, he said, “We celebrate with you, and we’re so thankful... Congratulations.”

The plaque denoting the school’s historic placement was unveiled and the ribbon was cut.

Several individual Webb alumni were recognized and presented with plaques: Historic Preservation Planner Jessica Baker, the late Clarence Norman, Ike Gilbert, Neal Williamson, museum curator John Archie Nolen, museum Director Mary Luter Jordan, Daisy Dudley and Charles

Scates. (Baker and Nolen were unable to attend; Norman and Nolen’s plaques were accepted by family members.)

Dudley and Scates were teachers at Webb and will be the first featured on a new Alumni project, the Teacher’s Wall.

Guests enjoyed refreshments, fellowship and exploring the vast collection of artifacts on display in the school and museum.

According to the nomination form, written by Jessica Baker, the description of Webb School

states, “The Webb School building sits on 15.1 acres and was constructed in 1958 in the Modern Movement style...The Webb School was moved to this property in 1937 after the other school building in town burned in 1936. The 1937 building was later torn down due to deterioration and the current building was constructed in 1958. The current school gained historical significance from 1958-1966, when it served as a school for local African American students, grades

one through twelve. This school was also the only high school for African American students in Carroll County. The school was later desegregated in 1966, however the building continues to be maintained in its current historic state and is used for a variety of community needs.”

Webb School currently houses Northwest Tennessee Head Start, the Webb Historical Museum and the after-school and summer program “Two Sisters and a Book.”



Current owners, Jason R. and Brittany (Washburn) Martin, along with guests posed for a photo on the front steps of the newspaper office commemorating the celebration. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner



Above, (L to R) Our staff — Front Row: Billy Fuzzell, Joel and Teresa Washburn, and Brittany (Washburn) Martin. Back Row: Brad Sam, Veteran/Former Staff Carol Lemonds, Veteran/Former Staff Linda Bolton, Jason R. Martin, Debbie Fuzzell, Janna Pratt, and Harley Foust. Photo by Mayor Joseph Butler Below, Janna Hellums, Northwest Tennessee Regional Director of TNECD, (center) presents a certificate to Joel and Teresa Washburn (left) and Jason and Brittany Martin (right) recognizing The McKenzie Banner as a Centennial Business. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner



Originally Published on October 1, 2024 in The McKenzie Banner.

The Banner Honored As Centennial Business

The Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development (TNECD) recognized The McKenzie Banner as a Centennial Business on September 18, 2024. Tennessee is recognizing companies that have been in operation for 100 years or more in the Volunteer State.

Since 1870, The Banner has called McKenzie home. While the name may have changed a few times over the years, the newspaper has played an integral part in recording not only the history of McKenzie but of the tri-county area of Carroll, Weakley and Henry counties.

Current owners, Brittany and Jason R. Martin welcomed guests for a morning coffee and provided tours of The Banner facility and adjoining print shop. Guests learned of the company's history and how the Washburn family has either worked or owned The Banner since 1948.

At the time of recognition, The Banner was the only company in Carroll County recognized as a Centennial Business. The City of McKenzie was chartered in 1869 and the newspaper was established the following year under the tutelage of Camillus Hawkins, brother of Tennessee Governor Alvin Hawkins.

Governor Bill Lee stated, "From banks and dining establishments to major manufacturers, these companies represent the state's thriving industries and have provided countless opportunities to Tennesseans in communities across the state."

TNECD Commissioner Stuart C. McWhorter said of the Centennial Businesses, "These legacy companies have seen great success, overcome obstacles, survived the pandemic and remain pillars in their communities. I am honored to recognize each of them for contributing to our state's history and spurring economic growth in Tennessee."



Publisher Emeritus Joel Washburn and Publisher Brittany Martin. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner



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