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McKENZIE WEATHER			
SEPT. 1-7 • NWS FORECAST			
TUE SEPT 1		97°/73° HOT	0%
WED SEPT 2		98°/74° HOT	0%
THU SEPT 3		98°/75° HOT	0%
FRI SEPT 4		97°/73° HOT	0%
SAT SEPT 5		96°/71° SUNNY	0%
SUN SEPT 6		93°/69° MOSTLY SUNNY	0%
MON SEPT 7		92°/69° SUNNY	0%

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 - Robert Monroe Orr, 80
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 - Samuel Rye, 58

QUOTE

"The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain."
— Dolly Parton

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Carroll County Sheriff Eric Sawyers takes the oath of office on Monday. General Sessions Judge Michael King administered the oath and Rachel Sawyers (not pictured) held the Bible for her husband. Photo by Brittany Washburn Martin/The Banner

CARROLL COUNTY

Officials Take Oath of Office

HUNTINGDON (August 31) — Carroll County's newly elected and re-elected officials took the oath of office as they prepared to begin new four-year terms on September 1. The officials were elected during the August 6 Carroll County General Election. The election brought several changes to county government, including a new sheriff, property assessor and several new members of the Carroll County Commission.

See OATH on Page 3

HUNTINGDON

New Tennis, Pickleball Complex Approved

After several years of planning, a new tennis and pickleball complex will become a reality after the Town of Huntingdon City Council approved the project at its monthly meeting on August 25. The Town of Huntingdon has identified the need in recent years. Additionally, the Huntingdon Special School District Board of Education has prioritized the complex as a goal as currently the Huntingdon High

See COMPLEX on Page 3

NOT ALL SUPER HEROES WEAR CAPES



Tim and Tiffany McPherson honored the team of medical providers who cared for them after they were severely burned in their TNT Tacos food truck on June 4.

McPhersons Return to Thank First Responders, Health Care Teams

HUNTINGDON (August 24) — Tim and Tiffany McPherson, who were injured when their TNT Tacos food truck exploded in Huntingdon earlier this summer, returned to Baptist Memorial Hospital – Carroll County on Monday to thank many of

the first responders and health care professionals who helped care for them following the accident. The McPhersons had an opportunity to reconnect with the representatives from several of the teams involved in their care and share their

gratitude for the response they received that day. Their visit coincided with a burn care in-service at the hospital presented by TriStar Skyline Medical

See THANKS on Page 3

Carroll County Electric Board Approves Grid Modernization, New Facility Design



Lori Nolen was honored for her eight years of service on the Carroll County Electric Board of Directors. Ryan Drewry, general manager, presented a plaque to her. Photo by Joel Washburn/The Banner

BY JOEL WASHBURN
washburn@mckenziebanner.com

HUNTINGDON (August 27) — The Carroll County Electric Department (CCED) Board of Directors took significant steps toward future-proofing the county's power infrastructure during their August 27 meeting, approving a major grid modernization partnership and moving forward with plans for a new headquarters. The board unanimously voted to enter into a public-private project development agreement with TEC. The initiative aims to expand fiber connectivity

across the county, providing CCED with an indefeasible right of use (IRU) for the network for an initial 20-year term at no cost to the electric department. CCED officials highlighted that the fiber network will provide critical redundancy for substations and enable real-time connectivity for essential devices such as capacitor banks, voltage regulators, and three-phase reclosers. This modernization is expected to improve system resilience, security, and fault response times.

See GRID on Page 3

McKENZIE PLANNING

Commission To Take on Data Center Discussion

BY JASON R. MARTIN
jmartin@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (August 26) — The McKenzie Planning Commission met Wednesday to begin preliminary discussions on possible zoning regulations for data centers. City Planner Donny Buntion presented an outline of a possible ordinance that, if the Commission deems it necessary, could serve as the basis for developing a more comprehensive plan.

See DATA on Page 3

Tater Town Special is This Week

GLEASON — Monday, August 31, begins with a block party in downtown Gleason, beginning at 6 p.m. It includes a costume contest at 7:30 p.m., children's chalk art, karaoke, food trucks, and music. September 1 is the annual Tater Town Special Car Show, beginning at 7 p.m. in downtown Gleason. It also includes a Power Wheel Fun Race, 6:30 p.m. at Snider Park. A Youth Glow Run is 7 p.m. at Snider Park.

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Armed Robbery at Cash Savers in Huntingdon

HUNTINGDON (August 26) — The Huntingdon Police Department responded to Cash Savers on East Main Street on the night of Wednesday, August 26 in response to an armed robbery.

The report indicates a masked male walked into Cash Savers with a gun and demanded cash.

The attached photo is an image from the store's surveillance camera.

This is an ongoing investigation.

Ricky Scott Recognized For His Years of Service

HUNTINGDON (August 27) — Carroll County Road Supervisor Ricky Scott was recently honored with a retirement luncheon celebrating his 38 years of service to Carroll County.

Scott was joined by family, friends, county officials and co-workers as they recognized his more than three decades of dedication to the county and its residents.

During his career with the Carroll County Highway Department, Scott worked to maintain and improve the county's road system and served as road supervisor.

The retirement celebration gave those who worked alongside Scott, as well as family and friends, an opportunity to congratulate him and thank him for his many years of service to Carroll County.



(L to R) Current Road Supervisor Ronnie Wade shakes hands with retired Road Supervisor Ricky Scott.

West Carroll Board of Education Meeting Agenda

September 3, 2026 — 6:30 p.m.

West Carroll Jr./Sr. High School Cafeteria

TENTATIVE AGENDA:

I. Call Meeting to Order
II. Invocation
III. Swearing In of New West Carroll Special School District Board Members
Mr. Chris Hayden — Old Atwood District
Mr. Jonathan Wilson — Old County District, appointed
Mrs. Linda Black — Old Trezevant District
Mrs. Kelly Weaver — Old Trezevant District
Mr. Paul Mueller — Old Trezevant District, unexpired term
IV. Election of 2026-2027 West Carroll Special School District Board Officers
Chairman
Vice Chairman
Secretary/Treasurer
TLS Representative
Director Caldwell
V. Approve Agenda
VI. Approve Board Minutes from August 13, 2026
VII. Discuss/Approve Field Trip Request — One Reading Required
West Carroll Jr./Sr. High School FFA trip to the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, October 20-23
Mr. Noah Rogers
VIII. Discuss/Approve West Carroll Special School District Policies — First of Two Readings Required
Director Caldwell
1.400 — School Board Meetings
1.403 — Agendas
1.404 — Appeals to and Appearances Before the Board
1.905 — Charter School Renewal
2.100 — Fiscal Management Goals
2.200 — Annual Operating Budget
4.213 — Family Life Education
4.215 — Instructional Use of Digital Devices
4.301 — Interscholastic Athletics
4.600 — Grading System
4.603 — Promotion and Retention
4.605 — Graduation Requirements
5.106 — Application and Employment
5.110 — Compensation Guides and Contracts
5.200 — Separation Practices for Tenured Teachers
5.201 — Separation Practices for Non-Tenured Teachers
5.302 — Sick Leave
5.303 — Personal and Professional Leave
5.600 — Staff Rights and Responsibilities
5.801 — Director of Schools Recruitment and Selection
6.200 — Attendance
6.202 — Home Schools
6.205 — Student Assignments
6.303 — Questioning Students and Searches
6.306 — Interference/Disruption of School Activities
6.318 — Admission of Suspended or Expelled Students
Emergency Allergy Response Plan
6.506 — Students from Military Families
IX. Public Comment
Prior approval required.
X. Principal Reports
XI. Director of Schools Report
XII. Adjourn
Approval for appearing before the West Carroll Board is outlined in West Carroll Policy 1.404.

Lifeline Blood Services September Blood Drives

Lifeline Blood Services has released its September blood drive calendar, reminding donors of its ongoing Eighth-Annual Car Giveaway.

Individuals 18 years and older who donate between May 26 and September 6 have a chance to win a 2024 Ford Maverick XLT in "Oxford White," sponsored by Joe Mahan Ford.

Lifeline Blood Services is in critical need of Type O blood and platelet donations, though all blood types are accepted. All individuals 16 years and older are eligible to donate.

See the blood drives coming in September:

First United Methodist Church — Paris — 9/03/2026 — 12-6 p.m.
Save-A-Lot — McKenzie — 9/04/2026 — 12-6 p.m.
Tate's Family Foods — Greenfield — 9/04/2026 — 12-5 p.m.
Walmart — Milan — 9/08/2026 — 12-5 p.m.
TN National Guard — Jackson — 9/11/2026 — 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Bradford High School — 9/11/2026 — 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
University of TN Martin — 9/15-17/2026 — 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
TN College of Applied Technology — McKenzie — 9/18/2026 — 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Southside Church of Christ — Dresden — 9/21/2026 — 1-6 p.m.
Martin City Hall — 9/21/2026 — 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Tate's Family Foods — Greenfield — 9/22/2026 — 12-5 p.m.
Jackson Madison Co. General Hospital — 9/23/2026 — 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m.; 12-5 p.m.
Union University — "Battle of the Colleges" — 9/24/2026 — 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Jackson State Community College — 9/29/2026 — 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

State Sheriffs' Association Recognizes Andy Dickson for Outstanding Leadership, Service

MURFREESBORO (August 31) — Carroll County retiring Sheriff Andy Dickson was awarded the Distinguished Service Award and Sheriff Emeritus by the Tennessee Sheriffs' Association (TSA) during the Association's 55th Annual Conference held in Murfreesboro in August in honor of his outstanding leadership and service to the Association and the citizens of Carroll County. Dickson was also awarded Lifetime Membership in the Association.



Retiring Carroll County Sheriff Andy Dickson (left) accepts the Distinguished Service Award and title of Sheriff Emeritus from the Tennessee Sheriffs' Association.

The Tennessee Sheriffs' Association recognized individuals whose leadership, service and commitment have made significant contributions to law enforcement and public safety in Tennessee.

Additional Recognition

The Association also recognized individuals for distinguished service and contributions to Tennessee law enforcement, including Lifetime Achievement honorees and Sheriff Emeritus designees:

- Lifetime Membership and Lifetime Achievement, Mike Wilson, retired Weak-

ley County Sheriff

- Lifetime Achievement and Sheriff Emeritus, Jeff Box, retiring Sheriff, Dyer County Sheriff's Office

TSA President Michael Van Dyke said recognizing exemplary service is an important part of the Association's mission.

"These awards represent more than individual achievement," Van Dyke said. "They recognize the

professionalism, sacrifice, leadership and commitment to service that exists throughout Tennessee law enforcement. We are proud to recognize these individuals and grateful for what they have done for their communities and for our state."

See the full list of honorees online at mckenziebanner.com

Unemployment Rate Decreases

NASHVILLE — Tennessee's unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage points in July, with Carroll and Henry counties also recording decreases. Weakley County was the only local county to see its unemployment rate increase during the month.

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development report-

ed the state's July unemployment rate at 3.4%, below the national rate of 4.1%. Of Tennessee's 95 counties, 89 reported unemployment rates of 5% or less, while six counties had rates above 5% but below 10%.

Carroll County's unemployment rate was 4.5% in July, down 0.3 percentage points from June and 0.7 percentage points from July

2025.

Henry County recorded a 4.4% unemployment rate, decreasing 0.2 percentage points from June and 0.1 percentage points from July 2025.

Weakley County's unemployment rate increased 0.4 percentage points from June to 5.3% in July. Despite the monthly increase, the county's rate was down 2.3 percentage points from July 2025.



Left, Joseph Butler, Mayor of Carroll County, was the featured speaker at the TCAT graduation. Right, Lacey Johnsonius receives her diploma from TCAT President Ridgeway in Practical Nursing.

TCAT Henry/Carroll Celebrates Summer Graduates with Call to Service, Problem-Solving

CARROLL COUNTY (August 27) — The Carroll County Civic Center was filled to capacity on Thursday afternoon as the Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) Henry/Carroll honored its latest class of graduates during the summer commencement ceremony. Sixty-four students crossed the stage, marking the culmination of months of rigorous technical training, personal sacrifice, and academic perseverance.



Carson Hill receives his Industrial Maintenance diploma from TCAT President Ridgeway.

The ceremony, which celebrated the transition from students to skilled professionals, featured remarks from college leadership and a keynote address from Carroll County Mayor Joseph Butler.

Dr. Jan Latimer, Vice-President of TCAT-Henry/Carroll, opened the proceedings by welcoming the families, friends, and special guests in attendance. Addressing the graduates, Latimer highlighted the transformation she witnessed from their first day on campus to their final walk across the stage.

"You have gained not only the technical skills but also the confidence in who you are and what you are capable of," Latimer said. "The diploma you will receive represents more than just technical knowledge; it represents confidence gained, obstacles overcome, and opportunities earned."

Latimer also paid tribute to the late Dolly Parton, invoking her advice to "find out who you are and do that with purpose," a sentiment she encouraged the graduates to carry into their new

careers.

TCAT-Henry/Carroll President John Penn Ridgeway took the podium to emphasize the collective effort behind the graduates' success. "They would not have gotten to the finish line without everybody in this room," Ridgeway said, urging the graduates to acknowledge the support systems that sustained them throughout their studies.

Ridgeway introduced Carroll County Mayor Joseph Butler, who has served as mayor for eight years and was recently re-elected to a new term. Ridgeway praised Butler as a "servant leader" who has consistently invested in the community and the TCAT institution.

In his keynote address, Mayor Butler challenged the graduates to look beyond their technical credentials and focus on three pillars: building a reputation, building a life, and building their community.

"TCAT graduates are different," Butler noted. "You have not been simply trained to identify problems; you've been trained to

solve them. When a system fails, a building needs work, or technology stops operating, they're not looking for another opinion. They're looking for someone like you."

Butler urged the new graduates to prioritize character alongside their technical expertise. "A talented person will get noticed, but a dependable person keeps getting trusted," he said. He also reminded them to balance their professional ambitions with their personal lives, emphasizing the importance of being present for family and community.

Following the keynote, Craig Lunn, Student Services Coordinator, announced each candidate's name. As the graduates crossed the stage, President Ridgeway presented them with their diplomas.

The ceremony concluded with a final charge to the graduates to remain humble, continue learning, and use their skills to make a meaningful contribution to their workplaces and the communities they call home.

Thanks

...From Front Page

Center’s Burn Center and coordinated with Hospital Wing.

The gathering brought together first responders and health care professionals from across the area.

“It was a really meaningful morning and a great reminder of the teamwork that takes place across our community when someone needs emergency care,” said Sarah Pitcher, marketing manager at Baptist Memorial Hospital – Carroll County.

Follow their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/TNTTACO78 for updates.



Tim and Tiffany McPherson were severely burned in their TNT Taco food truck. They returned to Baptist Hospital-Carroll County to thank the first responders and hospital staff who provided their care.

Data

...From Front Page

The Commission agreed there may be a need for a zoning ordinance but wanted more time to educate itself on data centers and further review the proposed ordinance outline. The discussion was tabled until the Commission’s Wednesday, September 23, meeting at 3:30 p.m. Representatives from the McKenzie Industrial Board, Carroll County Electric and McKenzie Water Department will be asked to attend and provide input on the matter.

The proposed ordinance addresses several key areas, including the definition of data centers, where they could be located, lot coverage, buffers, decibel levels and a requirement that a utility impact analysis be submitted with the site plan.

Under the proposed definition, a data center is a facility or group of facilities used primarily for the processing, storage, hosting, transmission, management or distribution of digital data through servers, networking equipment, telecommunications equipment and associated mechanical and electrical infrastructure.

The definition would not include routine server rooms located on the same property and incidental to

a business, school, hospital or government office. Those would be considered accessory uses.

Under the proposal, data centers would only be allowed in M-2 (Heavy Industrial) districts.

A data center could include server rooms and server buildings, co-location facilities, enterprise data centers, cryptocurrency mining facilities, cloud computing facilities, supporting offices, cooling systems, backup power systems and telecommunications infrastructure.

The proposed ordinance also establishes a separate definition for a hyperscale data center. A hyperscale data center would be one designed and constructed for large-scale cloud computing, artificial intelligence computing, high-performance computing or internet services that meets one or more of the following criteria: more than 100,000 square feet of gross floor area, more than 50 megawatts of electrical demand or more than 20 acres of land.

The minimum lot area for a regular data center would be five acres, while a hyperscale data center would require at least 20 acres.

The proposed buffer and separation standards state that data center buildings must be located at least 500 feet from any existing residential dwelling. Hy-

perscale data center buildings would be required to be at least 1,000 feet from an existing residential dwelling.

Buffers of 100 feet for data centers and 200 feet for hyperscale data centers would also be required between any structure on the subject property and the nearest property line. The buffers would have to be designed to achieve a minimum opacity of 80 percent within five years.

Noise generated by data centers and hyperscale data centers could not exceed 50 dBA during daytime hours and 40 dBA during nighttime hours when measured at any residential property line. For comparison, a standard gas-powered lawn mower produces approximately 88 to 96 dBA.

A required noise study would include an acoustical analysis prepared by a qualified engineer documenting that the required noise standards would be met. The study would evaluate cooling systems, chillers, transformers, backup generators and other mechanical equipment.

The proposed ordinance would also require a utility impact analysis addressing electrical demand, water demand, wastewater impact, confirmation of utility provider capacity and an infrastructure improvement plan, if required.



Above, County Officials (L to R): Register of Deeds Natalie McCullough Porter, Carroll County Mayor Joseph Butler, County Road Supervisor Ronnie Wade, Assessor of Property John Austin, County Trustee Paula Bolen, Sheriff Eric Sawyers, Circuit Court Clerk Sarah Bradberry and County Clerk Darlene Kirk. Below, County Commissioners (L to R) Front Row: Curt Taylor, Lori Dillahunty, Randy Long, Brandy Boyd, Spiros Roditis, Madison Endres, Walter Smothers, Barry Mac Murphy and Jimmy Halford. Second Row: Lana Suite, Will McMackin, Jimmy Crossett, Jerry Burcham, Daniel Willman, Ricky Price, Willie Huffman, Jason R. Martin and Darrell Ridgley. Not Pictured: Morris Rogers, Philip Moore and Jay Phipps. Photos by Brittany Washburn Martin/The Banner



Oath

...From Front Page

Eric W. Sawyers was sworn in as Carroll County Sheriff, succeeding retiring Sheriff Andy Dickson. Ronnie Wade was sworn in as Road Supervisor. Beginning with the new term, Carroll County operates with one road supervisor instead of the previous two positions.

Other countywide officials taking the oath were

Joseph G. Butler, County Mayor; Sarah Bradberry, Circuit Court Clerk; John Austin, Property Assessor; Darlene Kirk, County Clerk; Paula Bolen, Trustee; and Natalie McCullough Porter, Register of Deeds.

Members of the Carroll County Commission taking the oath included:

District 1: Darrell Ridgely, Jimmy Halford Jr. and Randy Long.

District 2: Daniel L. Willman and Lana Y. Suite.

District 3: Brandy Boyd and Will McMackin.

District 4: Morris Rogers and Jerry W. Burcham.

District 5: Barry Mac Murphy, Jimmy Crossett and Curt Taylor.

District 6: Madison Endres and Philip E. Moore.

District 7: Lori Dillahunty and Walter Smothers.

District 8: Jay Phipps and Willie Huffman.

District 9: Jason R. Martin, Spiridon L. Roditis and Ricky Price.

The officials begin their new terms September 1 and will serve through 2030.

Grid

...From Front Page

Ryan Drewry, general manager of CCED, said the expansion of fiber optics involves an agreement with the electric distributor and TEC. It’s up to TEC what other customers they add to the fiber network.

In a move to address aging infrastructure, the board also approved an agreement with TLM Associates to begin the design process for a new office and warehouse facility. The current building, which has served the department for nearly 80 years, will be replaced as part of a long-term strategy to modernize operations. Jerry Hartsfield of TLM Associates presented a plan to oversee the architectural and engineering services, with the project moving into preliminary design phases immediately for a new facility at the intersection of Paris Avenue and Veterans Drive on land the CCED already owns.

In other business, the board approved an engineering plan to upgrade circuits in the Hunting-

don district. By replacing existing copper lines with new 336 ACSR wire and utilizing steel poles for double-circuit segments, the department aims to free up six megawatts of capacity to support growth in the South Huntingdon Industrial Park. CCED leadership noted that the project will include the use of in-house labor, which is expected to result in significant cost savings compared to contractor-led alternatives.

The board also addressed recent wholesale rate structure updates from the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) effective October 1. While the TVA has implemented new dedicated rates for large data centers and capacity commitment charges to protect existing ratepayers, CCED confirmed that these changes currently have no direct impact on local customers, as no data centers are currently operating or in development within the CCED service area.

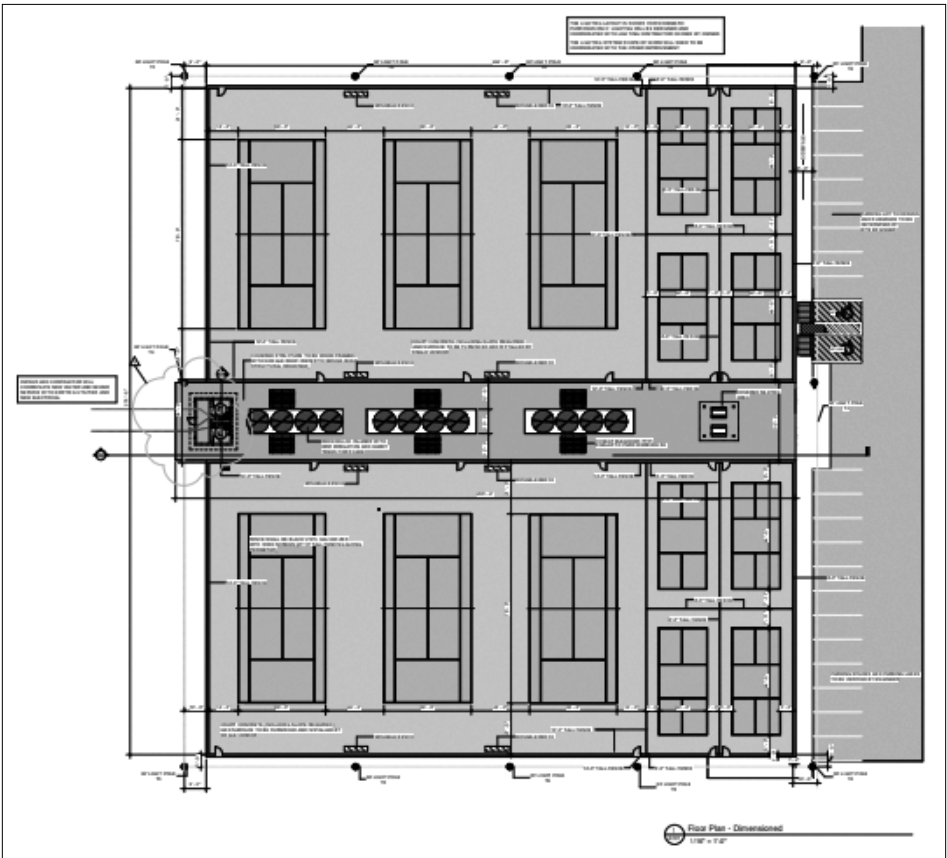
During the meeting, the board recognized the service of outgoing board members, including Board Chair Lori Nolen, who was honored for eight years

of dedicated service. A plaques was presented to Lori. Fellow outgoing board member John Austin, who was absent, will be honored later. The board also announced that Dr. Walter Butler and Mr. Willie Huffman will join the board next month. Mrs. Nolen thanked everyone for the opportunity to learn and serve with CCED.

The meeting opened with a public comment period, during which a resident raised concerns regarding property easements and utility line placement. The board noted the comments for the record.

Additionally, the board approved a \$500 donation to the Carroll County Rescue Squad in appreciation of their assistance with traffic control during recent emergency line repairs on Highway 70.

The board reminded attendees of the upcoming Silicon Ranch “Flip the Switch” event, scheduled for September 10 at 255 Hurt Street, Trezevant. The event is invitation-only, and attendees are required to RSVP and complete safety waivers.



Rendering of new tennis, pickleball complex.

Complex

...From Front Page

School (HHS) tennis team uses the courts at Bethel University for practice and competition.

According to Mayor Chad Edwards, “Anytime we can come together with our school system to complete a project of this size and improve our public parks, it is a win for Huntingdon.”

After receiving bids and procuring the project to potential vendors, the guaranteed maximum price of the project is \$1,893,949. With the support of State Senator John Stevens and Representative Brock Martin, the Town of Huntingdon received a direct appropriation from the state of Tennessee for \$1.5 million that must specifically go to fund the project. Additionally, the Wright Charitable Trust Fund at Carroll Bank and Trust will contribute \$300,000 toward the com-

pletion of the project. The Huntingdon Special School District Board of Education has agreed to provide the land of approximately three acres for the site and will provide the remaining funding if needed to cover the final costs of the project.

The project has attracted much interest over the years as citizens have advocated for tennis and pickleball courts that are adequate for public recreation and competition. Together, the Town of Huntingdon and the Huntingdon Special School District explored a variety of options to fulfill their need for such a complex. The Huntingdon Tennis and Pickleball Complex will include eight pickleball courts, six tennis hard courts, public restrooms, lighting, pavilion, and an adjacent parking lot for visitors. The complex is an adjunction to the existing Kelley Sports Complex and will be located on the campus of Huntingdon High School.

The complex will serve as a venue for public recreation to school-sponsored events. The complex will be accessible to anyone in the community interested in playing tennis or pickleball.

Both activities are considered life-long sports that can be enjoyed by people of all ages.

Pickleball is considered to be the fastest growing sport in the United States today. Due to having six tennis courts, Huntingdon will be able to attract visitors from other communities due to the potential to host future high school and community tournaments. According to Director of Schools, Dr. Jonathan Kee, “this is a reminder that when you work together for the greater good, our community reaps the benefits, it is what makes Huntingdon special.” Construction is tentatively planned to break ground in 30-60 days. Weather permitting, completion of the project is anticipated by March 2027.

Tater

...From Front Page

Youth Bingo is Wednesday, September 2 at the Gazelle Grounds, beginning at 6 p.m.

Adult Bingo and Cake Walk are Thursday, September 3 at the Gazelle Grounds, beginning at 6 p.m.

Friday, September 3,

is the Community BBQ Cook-Off at 5 p.m., \$10 per plate. The Flashback Band will provide live music.

The Tater Town Special Parade and Vendor Fair closes out Tater Week on Saturday, September 5.

JC Carey Memorial 5K Run is 7 a.m. with registration at 6:30 in front of the school. Registration fee is \$10 for students and \$20 for adults.

Jr. Parade begins at 9 a.m. followed by the Grand

Parade.

An alumni co-ed softball tournament is scheduled at Snider Park at 2 p.m.

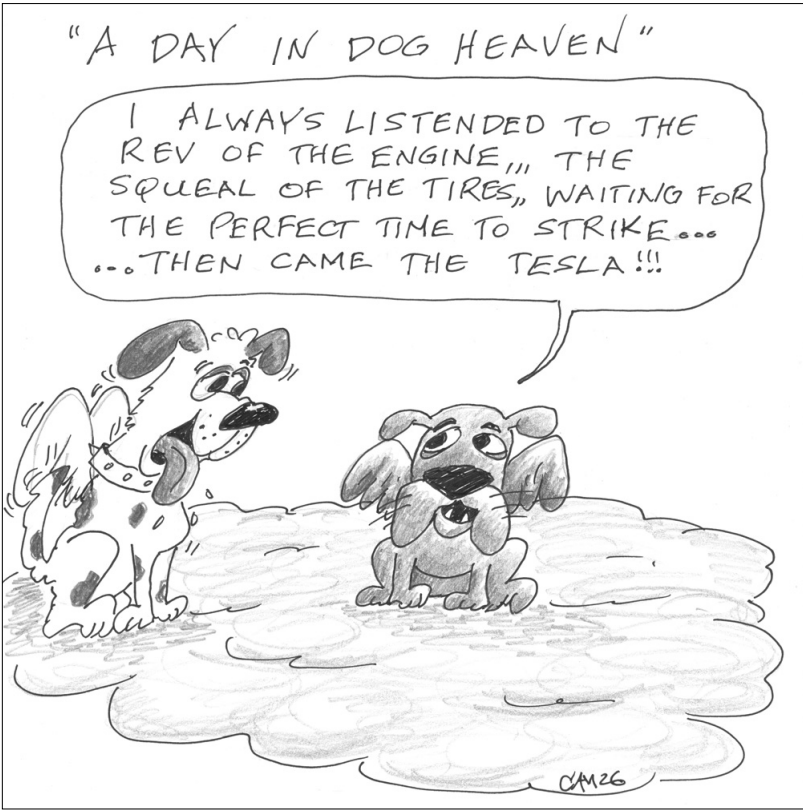
The finale event is at the Gazelle Grounds from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The host organization is Gleason Gazelles.

The annual event honors Mrs. Debbie Robbins as the Tater Town Treasure.

The grand marshal of the annual grand parade is the Gleason Rotary Club.

Things In My Head with Charles Manfredi



Living at Lakeside August 2026

BY SHEILA WILLIS

McKENZIE — August served as a gentle reminder to slow down and enjoy the warm days of summer, and that is exactly what we did at Lakeside Senior Living.

We kicked off the month with a watermelon social on National Watermelon Day. We also switched things up with a nighttime BINGO session followed by a small fire and home-made s'mores. On one especially hot afternoon, we built a lemonade stand and served fresh lemonade with a splash of Sprite and orange juice. Each glass tasted like tropical sunshine.

We celebrated National Rock, Paper, Scissors Day with a few friendly games. Since it was also Lottery Day, we created homemade lottery cards featuring "WINNER!" and "Sorry Charlie!" for a random drawing, with winners receiving special treats. On National Picnic Day, we filled a basket and enjoyed lunch outdoors in our own backyard overlooking beautiful Carroll Lake.

Other outings this month included the Monday morning Hometown Clinic Breakfast Club. Residents enjoy spending time with other seniors in the area over a cup of coffee, breakfast and a fun activity. If you have ever considered attending this free weekly event, we encourage you to give it a try.

We ventured to McKenzie City Park for Nights on Broadway. We encourage everyone to come out and enjoy the entertainment, visit one of the local eateries around the square and reconnect with old friends. If you do not see a familiar face, you are always welcome to sit with us. The group 24-7 is scheduled to perform September 17. We were also out and about during our regular errand day, visiting many local stores.

We had two major events this month, and both fell on the same weekend, keeping everyone busy with preparations.

For the third year, the ladies of Lakeside fed the McKenzie Rebels on opening day. The meal included garlic herb grilled tenderloin, thanks to James Ozment, loaded mashed potatoes, country green beans and rolls. We also prepared boxed snacks with homemade Uncrustables, pimento and cheese sliders, turkey and cheese sliders, chips and chocolate chip cookies.

Our annual Family Fun Day brought plenty of excitement as we transformed Lakeside into the Wild West. This event has become what we con-

sider a family reunion for our Lakeside residents and their loved ones.

Wranglers Richard Ozment and Todd Walker helped with the heavy lifting as a western town came to life throughout the facility. Visitors entered through a scene featuring a stagecoach and old suitcases, offering families the opportunity to step back in time and take photos together.

The Watering Hole, staffed by Angela Fitzgerald with Baptist Hospice, served "Pond Water" tea, "Cactus Juice" green lemonade and bottled water. Barbecue, chips and slaw were prepared by our "Cookie," Rita Trevathan, and her "Pot Slingers" crew. A ladies' small group from Overflow Church operated an old-fashioned ice cream parlor with toppings and Blue Bell Vanilla Bean ice cream.

The halls were transformed into an old western town, complete with a local jail and wanted posters featuring some familiar faces. Restrooms were converted into faux outhouses marked for cowgirls and cowboys, while staff members dressed in western wear, cowboy hats and bandannas.

Guests traveled from station to station, collecting goodies and playing western-themed games. Activities included mason jar guessing games, fishing for Goldfish, a saloon toss, digging for gold, cattle roundup, Western Bank Lotto, a popcorn "grain bin," cotton candy spinning, horseshoe toss, a tattoo station, a garden game, apple barrel knocking and more.

Country and gospel music filled the "town," provided by Steve Price and his son Elijah and sponsored by Paul Evans of Evans Clinic. The afternoon concluded in the "Gambling Hall" with raffle prizes and Cowboy and Cowgirl Item BINGO.

A special thank you goes to Charlene Doyle for helping from start to finish and to every vendor and organization that donated gifts, baskets, time and services. An event of this magnitude does not happen without the support of the Lakeside staff, local vendors, volunteers and organizations that care deeply about our residents.

Visit our Facebook page, Lakeside Senior Living, to see the smiles on our residents' faces as they welcomed their families into their Lakeside home.

We celebrated one birthday this month: Mrs. Nellie Wright. We welcomed new residents Carolyn and Royce Wright, Shelby Grant and Deanna Mason. We also bid farewell to our friend Peggy Cole. May she rest in peace.

Until next time...

HUNKER DOWN WITH KES

‘Hello Again’ Was All She Said...

But she would say it each week with the most genuine smile I have ever witnessed. I couldn't think of anything to say. She was a rising country music star. I was just hanging around backstage because Mr. Bud Wendell, the manager of the world-famous Grand Ole Opry, had taken a liking to me. I could not match that brilliant smile, but she got the best down-home, friendly, Tennessee country folks' nod I had in return. Every time she spoke.

We were leaning against opposite sides of the doorframe at the very back, center of the stage. I had picked that spot the first week I came to the Opry. It was like a fairy tale for me. I could look over the shoulders of Jim and Jesse, Marty Robbins, Loretta Lynn, Lester Flatt and Earl Scruggs and study the audience so intently tuned in to each song.

They were gathered in church pews, and the stained-glass windows in the back gave a sparkling radiance to the old Ryman Auditorium. It is not called the Mother Church of Country Music without good cause. I kept thinking, "Is this Heaven!"

It was the summer of 1968. I had taken a job in Nashville working for the National Life and Accident Insurance Company, who happened to own WSM radio...which owned the Grand Ole Opry. I connected the dots the very first day I was there.

And begged for "anything I could do over at the Opry." They let me greet people on Saturday mornings and give talks on the history of the Ryman, and the Opry, to the tour groups.

When the first show started, my job was finished. Sometimes I would sit with the crowd. But mostly I enjoyed hanging around the folks who were making the show possible.

And thus, I was standing right beside Dolly Rebecca Parton when Porter Wagoner would introduce her to an already applauding audience. She would, almost shyly, give me one last smile as she moved toward center stage.

I have jokingly told people over the years that I knew Dolly Parton before she became Dolly Parton.

The real truth is I didn't know her at all. We simply spent a few minutes standing in a doorway side by side in that long-ago summer. But you might be amazed by the lingering memories I have of those precious moments.

She wore the same plain green dress every Saturday night for the entire summer. It was long from top to bottom and very modest. Her hair was not rip-roaring blond. And the little makeup she was wearing couldn't hide her beauty. She was actually very quiet.

Until she got onstage. Then she sang her heart out every night for that Opry crowd. She understood the business and she was good at it...as far back as 1968. We all know the glitz and glitter, movies, loud outfits, big wigs, and sold-out coliseums that came later.

As did the accolades. My goodness, she won every country music award you could win, except male vocalist of the year...multiple times. She angered some in Nashville when she moved on to a broader spectrum of entertainment. But in every interview, she would quickly get to her East Tennessee family and her impoverished, but happy, childhood.

Folks, you can dye your hair, put on fancy clothes, perform on the world's most highfalutin' stages. But that doesn't necessarily define who you are. Good gracious, just look at the list of songs she wrote.

Her talent had talent! And yet, Dolly never got

"too big" for us. Check out the things she did for her family, her hometown, and all of Sevier County (Dollywood created jobs for most everybody). Look into the reading program she instituted there in 1995. It has now grown into a global literacy program.

In some sense, you might say she never left home at all.

You will hear tributes in the days and weeks ahead for Dolly Parton from important people all around the world. And deservedly so. My little words will pale in comparison.

But when I heard that she had passed away, my heart completely stopped. She made every Tennessean on earth proud!

I thought about all the good she accomplished with the talent and means that God had given her. She lived a full and successful life. And her touch and reach will surely continue on.

And, for some reason, my mind went back to the first record I heard her sing on in 1966. She provided harmony vocals for a little-known country artist named Bill Phillips, singing "Put It Off Until Tomorrow" (a song Dolly co-wrote as a teenager with her uncle, Bill Owens). She was not credited on the record. But you ought to hear that beautiful, young, crystal-clear voice in the background. She was something else...from the very beginning!

I will never forget the "five minutes" I had with her during that summer of Saturday nights. I will not forget the plain dress, the nice girl I met, the award-winning smile, or the quietness we shared...right before the uproar as she moved toward the microphone.

Maybe I knew her better than I thought....

Respectfully,
Kes
kesley45@aol.com

THE WIT AND WISDOM OF DAVID JOHNSON

The Ultimate Gamechanger

Before the world was breathed into existence, Holy Spirit, Christ, and Father contemplated the plan for mankind. At the forefront of their discussion was the means of redemption.

Knowing the prideful nature that lurks with every human, the Trinity knew people would be quick to believe they could make their own path of redemption and boast about it. So it was important for mankind to understand they did not have the power within themselves to achieve redemption.

As a means of proving to the world the futility of trusting in themselves for salvation, a family, that became a nation, was chosen. The father of this family was named Abraham. The nation that evolved was called Israel.

These people would essentially be a demonstration plot. Careful documentation would be made that could be referred to over and over by those interested in understanding The Plan.

To show that following a human being will not save you, the Godhead gave this nation earthly kings. Some of the kings were dedicated to following God and others had no regard for God or His ways. As the kings went, so went the people who they ruled.

Some of the kings strayed so far from God that those who followed them were carried away into captivity and never heard from again. Their lineage to the original family was permanently severed.

Having an earthly king was not the path to redemption.

This nation was also given a law to follow; a strict set of detailed guidelines and prohibitions attached to severe punishments for infractions.

Initially the people believed this law was a good thing. It seemed simple enough. Follow the rules to the letter and redemption could be claimed.

However, the only reason it seemed good to men was because of their pride. They were eager to boast, "Look what I've done! Look how good I am!"

Armed with their checklist of laws obeyed they would lord it over those who didn't measure up to them.

Over time, those "law keepers" became more important than the law itself, at least in their own small minds.

The biggest problem with the law was that no one could keep the law perfectly. It was impossible. A sense of hopelessness settled in on those trying to keep the law and on those watching the disappointment and guilt that followed those "law keepers."

After 4,000+ years of trying, mankind fell to its collective knees from the futility of trying to making it on their own. Following earthly leaders and following a strict law to the letter only led to disappointment.

All this was part of The Plan of The Holy Trinity.

Perfect Divinity required perfection to justify granting redemption to fallen mankind. Yet the means to perfection was kept secret by the Godhead.

And so it was that when mankind felt hopeless and helpless, it was the perfect

time for revealing the means to perfection: Perfection came to earth.

The Godhead agreed to send part of itself to earth. Christ Jesus agreed to be Immanuel (which means "God with us"). He is the only man to walk this earth who can claim that he was God. Many others have declared they were God, but Christ alone can rightfully claim the title, for that is who he was and is.

However, it was the end of Christ's earthly walk that was most significant. His willingness to be sacrificed on a cross, the Father and Holy Spirit's willingness to bear the sadness of seeing a part of them being wounded so, and then the triumphal resurrection from the grave—these are the elements that create the opportunity for redemption.

All this was made possible by the game changer: Grace. The offer of Christ was made without constraint. It was given freely, and it was given to all mankind. Such is the nature of grace.

It was not given because of who we are but because of who God is. It's because grace is the very nature of Trinity that a plan for redemption was implemented.

This is beautifully summed up in the words, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."

If we embrace the gift by living a life of joyous devotion to God, redemption will be ours.

**Taken from The Wit and Wisdom of David Johnson, Volume III: A Harrowing Halloween Tale*



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Obituaries

ROBERT ORR 1945 – 2026

McKENZIE — Funeral services for Mr. Robert Monroe Orr were Tuesday, September 1, 2026, at 11 a.m. at Tumbling Creek Baptist Church in Gleason. Interment was at Hopewell Cemetery in Gleason.

Mr. Orr, 80, was born October 5, 1945, in McKenzie, to the late Eck Orr and Geneva Bratton Orr.

Mr. Orr married Beverly Dunn Orr, and together they shared 29 years of marriage.

Mr. Orr is survived by his wife, Beverly Orr; two sons, Justin Melton and Jantzen Melton, both of Gleason; and three grandchildren, Taylore (Kyle) Crawford, Tanner Melton, and Brantzen Melton, all of Gleason.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Bobbie Cooper; and his brother-in-law, Wayne Cooper.

Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home.

THOMAS DONALD PRUITT 1933 – 2026

OLIVE BRANCH, Miss. — Funeral services for Thomas Donald Pruitt were on Saturday, August 29, 2026. Interment was at Shiloh Cemetery, McKenzie.

Mr. Pruitt, 92, was born on December 30, 1933, in Trezevant to the late Johnny Calvin Pruitt and Ora Cathlene Sales Pruitt. He

graduated from Trezevant High School.

He is survived by his children Wesley Thomas Pruitt (Carrie) of Olive Branch, Miss., Tommy K. Pruitt of Millington, Tenn., and Tess Ann Sharp (Keith) of Suwanee, Ga.; two brothers, Charles Wayne Pruitt of Greers Ferry, Ark., and Samuel Ray Pruitt of Olive Branch, Miss.; nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents; sister, Virginia Staton; and brother, Johnny Calvin Pruitt.

Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home.

SAMUEL RYE 1968 – 2026

TREZEVANT — Mr. Samuel Rye, 58, of Trezevant, died Monday, August 17, 2026, at his home.

Funeral services are at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 2, 2026, at the Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery at Parkers Crossroads in Wildersville, Tenn.

No services will be conducted at the funeral home. Visitors are asked to meet directly at the cemetery.

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

JUNE KENNEDY 1937 – 2026

McLEMORESVILLE — Mrs. June Kennedy, 89, of McMoresville, died Sunday, August 23, 2026, at her home.

Funeral services were Friday, August 28, 2026, in the Chapel of Dilday-Carter Fu-

neral Home. Interment was in Obion Chapel Cemetery.

Mrs. Kennedy was born May 20, 1937. She was preceded in death by her husband, James Clifton Kennedy; and brother, Charles Sutton.

She is survived by three daughters, Gena (Michael) Lavery of Northlake, Ill., Karen (Dennis Hayslip) Schultz of Princeton, Texas, and Pam (John) Reynolds of Buda, Texas; and five grandchildren and one great-grandson.

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

BRENDA EVANS 1952 – 2026

HOLLOW ROCK — Mrs. Brenda Evans, 74, of Hollow Rock, died Friday, August 28, 2026, at Lifecare Center in Bruceton.

Funeral services were in the Chapel of Chase Funeral Home on Sunday, August 30, 2026. Interment was in Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

Mrs. Evans was born May 12, 1952, in Tiptonville, Tenn., to the late Robert Reynolds and Ethel May Reynolds. She was preceded in death by five brothers and one sister.

She is survived by her daughter, Pam Barker (Joe), of Huntingdon; two sons, Dennis Jones of McKenzie, and Steven Wilbanks of Princeton, Ky.; and a sister, Patricia Hamilton, of Hollow Rock. She also leaves five grandchildren: Felicia Brown (Spencer), Hunter Barker, Destiny Jones, Carter Wilbanks and Caiden Wilbanks.



Dolly Rebecca Parton

JANUARY 19, 1946 – AUGUST 25, 2026

Global icon and humanitarian, Dolly Parton, known to the world as a beloved singer, songwriter, philanthropist, actress, playwright, and author died peacefully today in Nashville, Tennessee. She was 80.

Dolly is preceded in death by her beloved husband of 59 years Carl Thomas Dean (1942 – 2025), her mother Avie Lee Caroline Owens (1923 – 2003), and father, Robert Lee Parton, Sr. (1921 – 2000).

A rhinestone life that shone bright enough for the world to see, Dolly will forever stand as an inspiration not only through her timeless music and prolific songwriting, but also her wit, warmth, and kindness that made us all feel like family. Dolly Parton's legacy is one of love, kindness, and resilience. With a seven-decade career, she inspired multiple generations of artists and fans with her music and an unwavering commitment to making the world a better place. Her songs will continue to resonate with people of all ages, and her philanthropic work will have a lasting impact.

At Dolly's request, a small, private service will be held for immediate family. Dolly's fans and friends from around the world are encouraged to pay tribute to Dolly on social media tagging @dollyparton.

In lieu of flowers the family asks for donations to be made to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library at www.imaginationlibrary.com.



Bethel Renaissance Choir Leads Worship Service at C.P. Church

McKENZIE (August 30) — McKenzie First Cumberland Presbyterian Church welcomed Bethel University's Renaissance Choir to lead the worship service on Sunday morning, August 30. The vocalists and instrumentalist provided uplifting gospel music in praise to Jesus.

The choir then relocated to Gleason First Baptist Church for the evening worship service. The worship event was the first of the annual Tater Town Special, that includes, cookoffs, music, a 5K run, barbecue, and a parade.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF

Dolly Parton

COMMUNITY REGISTER BOOK

Sign in Remembrance

BRUMMITT-McKENZIE

Funeral Home

Brummitt-McKenzie to Send Register to Dolly Parton's Family

McKENZIE (August 27) — Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home located at 1740 East Cedar Ave in McKenzie, has a special register for Dolly Parton that the community can sign to show their sympathy and support. The register will be mailed to the Parton family. The register is available to be signed through September 4.

Beloved country music artist Dolly Parton died after a short fight with cancer on August 25 at the Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center in Nashville.



Pecan-Mushroom Rice

1 cup whole pecans
1 1/2 cups instant rice
2 cups chicken broth
2 tablespoons butter
2 (8 oz.) cans whole mushrooms, drained
2 teaspoons minced garlic
3 cups baby spinach leaves without stems
1/2 cup grated parmesan cheese

Cook and stir pecans in large saucepan over medium heat for 5 minutes. Remove from pan and cool slightly. Cook rice in chicken broth and butter according to package directions. Gen-

tly stir in mushrooms, garlic, spinach, parmesan cheese and pecans. Serves 8.

Green Chile Rice

1 cup instant rice, cooked
1 (12 oz.) package shredded Monterey Jack cheese
1 (7 oz.) can diced green chilies
2 (8 oz.) cartons sour cream
1/2 teaspoon garlic powder

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Combine all ingredients in large bowl and add a little salt, if you desire. Spoon into sprayed 9x13 baking dish and bake for 30 minutes. Serves 8.

Cheesy Beefy Gnocchi

1 pound lean ground beef
1 (10 oz.) can cheddar cheese soup
1 (10 oz.) can tomato

bisque soup
2 cups uncooked gnocchi or shell pasta

In skillet, cook beef until no longer pink and drain. Add soups, 1 1/2 cups water and pasta. Bring mixture to boil and mix well. Cover and cook over medium heat for 10 to 12 minutes or until pasta is done; stir often. Serves 4.

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Gov. Lee Announces Partnership To Name Nashville International Airport in Honor of Dolly Parton

NASHVILLE — Today, Tennessee Governor Bill Lee and Nashville International Airport*, also known as BNA*, announced their intent to name BNA in honor of Dolly Parton, creating a lasting tribute to her indelible legacy and the generations of people she inspired across Tennessee and around the world.

Gov. Lee spoke with Dolly's team about the proposal this week. Her team expressed their appreciation for the extraordinary outpouring of support to honor Dolly and said they are touched by the idea and open to continuing the conversation. In keeping with the way Dolly lived her life, her team believes she still has a special way of bringing people together for good, and they hope this tribute can be another example of that enduring legacy.

"Dolly Parton's extraordinary life is forever woven into the fabric of our state," said Gov. Lee. "From her rural mountain home in East Tennessee to global stages, Dolly carried the Volunteer

Spirit with her. At a place where Tennessee welcomes the world, it is fitting that Nashville International Airport would bear the name of our state's favorite daughter and greet travelers with the enduring legacy of Dolly's music, generosity, faith, and kindness."

Born in Sevier County, Dolly Parton became a global icon whose music, creativity, and unmistakable voice reflected the heart and spirit of Tennessee. Widely regarded as one of the most influential and beloved artists in American music history, Dolly's impact extends far beyond the stage through her lifelong commitment to service and philanthropy. Through the Dollywood Foundation and Imagination Library, she has provided hundreds of millions of free books to children worldwide, promoting literacy and empowering children to reach their full potential.

"BNA" is the front door to Music City, and with that comes a responsibility to reflect the very best of who we are as a community,"

said Doug Kreulen, president and CEO, Metropolitan Nashville Airport Authority. "Dolly's remarkable legacy reminds us that what makes Nashville special is our ability to welcome people from every walk of life. She understood that dignity, kindness and opportunity should never be defined by where you come from or your socioeconomic status. At BNA, we share that commitment. Whether you are boarding a private aircraft or taking your first flight, you deserve to be welcomed, respected and served with the same level of care. That spirit is what defines BNA and it is a fitting reflection of the values Dolly shared with Tennessee and the world."

The Metro Nashville Airport Authority's (MNA) current Naming Policy and Gov. Lee's proposal to rename the airport will be addressed at MNA's meeting on Thursday, September 17. More details will be announced in the coming weeks.

Buchanan Man Arrested for Sending Threatening Emails to Henry County Officials

HENRY COUNTY — An investigation by special agents with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation has led to the arrest of a Buchanan man accused of sending threatening emails to multiple Henry County officials.

On August 26, at the request of 24th Judicial District Attorney General Neil Thompson, TBI special agents began investigating allegations involving Nicholas Guarnieri (DOB

9/23/90). During the course of the investigation, agents determined that in July, Guarnieri began sending daily harassing emails to the Henry County Register of Deeds Office and other county officials. The emails began after the Henry County Sheriff's Office assisted Guarnieri's mortgage company with an eviction.

On August 26, Guarnieri was arrested and charged with seven counts of Harassment and two counts

of Retaliation for Participation in Judicial Process. He was booked into the Henry County Jail on a \$100,000 bond.

The charges and allegations referenced in this release are merely accusations of criminal conduct, not evidence. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt and convicted through due process of law.

McKenzie Police Reports

Especially Aggravated Burglary — Two men were arrested for Especially Aggravated Burglary on August 30.

Officer Michael Cunningham responded to an open 911 call and went to a McKenzie residence, where the officer found two Hispanic males attempting to leave. Both had entered the home and assaulted a male, who was accused of being with the former girlfriend of one of the assailants.

Ezequiel Zuniga Villanueva, May Street, McKenzie, was arrested for Especially Aggravated Burglary and Aggravated Assault. Mauricio Lopez, Hidden Acre Road, no city listed, was arrested for Especially Aggravated Burglary.

The report indicates Ezequiel entered the home and assaulted the male, breaking his nose. The victim was transported to Baptist Hospital for treatment.

Both Ezequiel and Mauricio were transported to Carroll County Jail. Both were issued notices of ban from the residence. Neither arrestee had a U.S.-issued I.D.

Driving on a Suspended License - Fourth Offense — Joshua Manley, Patte Road, Arlington, was arrested on the charge of Driving on a Suspended License-Fourth Offense on August 29.

Officer Jayden Rembert stopped a vehicle for no working taillights and learned that the driver's license was suspended. Manley was arrested on the suspended charge and cited into court on a separate light law violation.

Public Intoxication — Timothy Johnson, Everett Street, McKenzie, was arrested for Public Intoxication after a customer at a business complained Johnson was outside the store begging for money and

cursing. Officers Cunningham and Rembert spoke with Johnson and arrested him.

Criminal Traffic Violation/Criminal Impersonation — Mekayla D. Johnson, Nashville, was charged with Criminal Traffic Violation following a traffic stop on August 27.

Officer Timothy Dillon stopped Johnson's vehicle for speeding. Mekayla presented the officer with a license, but it was not hers. According to Metro Nashville Police, it was stolen from her twin sister because Mekayla's was suspended. Warrants were issued for Mekayla for Criminal Impersonation.

Unlawful Photographing in Violation of Privacy — A local man was arrested for videoing consensual sex between him and a young adult lady. When police confronted the man, he erased the video. Police issued a warrant to take the phone as evidence.

Carroll County General Sessions Court Report

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

Timothy Terrell Baker, Park Street, McKenzie, guilty, DUI-First Offense, \$350 fine, not to drive for one year, ignition interlock device and DUI school required, 11/29 jail; guilty, Probation Violation; dismissed, Implied Consent; dismissed, Driving While Suspended.

Mark Carey, Fry Drive, Huntingdon, bound over on Possession of Drug Paraphernalia; bound over on charge of Meth-Manufacture, Deliver, Sell or Possess with Intent; bound over on Simple Possession Casual Exchange; guilty, Probation Violation, 11/29 jail with option of day-for-day credit for successful completion of inpatient treatment.

Brett Curtis, 950 TH Road, Tonica, Ill., dismissed, Public Intoxication.

Phillip Eaton, Welton Street, Milan, guilty, Meth-Possession or Casual Exchange, \$750 fine, supervised probation, cognitive behavioral training course and alcohol/drug evaluation; dismissed, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.

Alyvia Foster, Hawkins Creek Road, Huntingdon, dismissed, Shoplifting.

Chetney Lashay Johnson, Oaklawn Street, McKenzie, guilty, Theft of Merchandise, pre-trial diversion, \$30.11 restitution to Walmart, no contact with Walmart, probation, cognitive behavior training course, 90 days jail.

Amy Alene McCaskill, Highland Drive, McKenzie, guilty, Domestic Assault, probation, must complete alcohol and drug assessment and follow recommendations.

Wesley McCaskill, Highland Drive, McKenzie, guilty, Domestic Assault, supervised probation, must complete alcohol and drug

assessment and follow recommendations.

Ariel Ziamora McCurdy, Park Circle, McKenzie, pre-trial diversion, shoplifting, \$30.11 restitution to Walmart, no contact with Walmart, probation, cognitive behavior training course. 90 days jail.

Justin Melton, Bark Road, Sharon, guilty, Probation Violation, 11/29 jail.

Gavin Rosson, Highway 230, Only, Tenn., guilty, Probation Violation, four months jail, probation extended.

Rusty Lee Shepherd, Big Buck Road, Trezevant, guilty, Probation Violation.

Antoinette White, Cut Road, no city listed, guilty, Possession Without Prescription-Unlawful, 30 days jail, probation.

Robert Williams, Old Pisgah Road, Bruceton, pre-trial diversion, Assault-Bodily Injury, probation.

Carroll County Sheriff's Reports

Domestic Assault / Aggravated Assault / Child Abuse — On August 19, Deputy Steven Scott responded to a domestic assault call in Huntingdon and made contact with Willie Fairley, 59, of Huntingdon.

Deputies learned an argument escalated into a physical altercation during which Fairley allegedly punched the victim, choked the victim to the point of nearly losing consciousness, and then fired a round from a Colt .357 as the victim fled from the residence. Fairley told deputies he fired the weapon into the air and not toward the victim. Deputies recovered the handgun, which contained one spent casing and five live rounds. Deputies also observed injuries consistent with strangulation.

Fairley was arrested and charged with domestic assault, aggravated assault, and child abuse and endangerment.

This incident occurred in Carroll County.

Motor Vehicle Theft — On August 19, Deputy Michael Smith responded to a report of a stolen vehicle from a property in Westport.

The owner reported his 1985 Ford F-150 had been stored inside a shop for approximately two years and had not been checked in several months. Deputies determined someone forced entry into the shop by damaging the entry door before driving the truck from the building. The truck was valued at approximately \$25,000.

The investigation remains active.

This incident occurred in Carroll County.

Aggravated Burglary / Theft / Vandalism — On August 19, Deputy Terry Milholen responded to a reported break-in at a residence in Buena Vista.

The homeowner reported arriving home to find drawers throughout the residence opened and an interior door damaged. Home security footage showed a white male wearing a maroon hoodie entering the residence through the carport door and remaining inside for approximately two minutes before leaving. The same individual also entered a storage shed on the property.

Deputies determined a chainsaw, circular saw, Magnum X5 electric airless sprayer and other property had been stolen. Damage was also reported to doors at the residence.

The investigation remains ongoing.

This incident occurred in Carroll County.

Possession of Schedule II Methamphetamine — On August 19, Deputy Dustin McClure was conducting criminal interdiction on Highway 220 near Highway 104 when he observed a 2008 Dodge Dakota with no functioning registration light. As Deputy McClure attempted to get behind the vehicle, the driver crossed into the opposite lane and stopped before backing toward the patrol vehicle.

The driver was identified as Matthew Harrison, 37, of Gleason. Deputy McClure observed Harrison displaying extreme nervousness while handing over documents. Deputies also discovered the license plate displayed on the truck was registered to a different vehicle.

After Sgt. Bongiovanni observed Harrison making movements toward his pocket, deputies conducted a pat-down and recovered approximately 1.9 grams of suspected methamphetamine. A K-9 later alerted on the vehicle, leading to a search that uncovered an additional 1.3 grams of suspected methamphetamine inside Harrison's wallet, approximately 9.5 grams of marijuana in a container, and a glass pipe containing residue commonly associated with methamphetamine

use.

Harrison was arrested and charged with possession of Schedule II methamphetamine, possession of Schedule VI marijuana, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

This incident occurred in Carroll County.

Driving Under the Influence — On August 18, Deputy Alex Sherwood conducted a traffic stop after observing a vehicle fail to signal a turn, travel unusually slow, pull into a business and park across two parking spaces, remain running for several minutes, and drift within its lane before pulling into another business in Trezevant.

The driver, Mia Rhyne, 33, of Trezevant, displayed slurred speech, an odor of alcohol and difficulty exiting the vehicle. Deputies observed an empty liquor bottle in plain view inside the center console.

During field sobriety testing, Rhyne showed all six

clues on the horizontal gaze nystagmus test. She also began the walk-and-turn test too soon, had difficulty maintaining the starting position, missed heel-to-toe, took the wrong number of steps and made an improper turn. During the one-leg stand, she repeatedly put her foot down, had difficulty maintaining her balance, failed to count aloud as instructed and counted to 30 in approximately 25 seconds.

Rhyne refused to provide a blood sample after being advised of Tennessee's implied consent law. An inventory of the vehicle before towing located a cold, partially consumed alcoholic beverage on the passenger-side floorboard and an empty 99 Bananas liquor bottle inside the center console.

Rhyne was arrested and charged with driving under the influence.

This incident occurred in Carroll County.

NORTHWEST TENNESSEE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

The Board of Directors of Northwest Tennessee Economic Development Council will hold a Board meeting on **Friday, September 18, 2026, beginning at 10 a.m.** The meeting will be physically held at the Northwest TN Head Start/Early Head Start Central Office located at 938C Walnut Avenue W., McKenzie, TN in person only.

A4070/35-1

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A non-mandatory walk thru will be at the location on September 10 at 1 p.m. Bid packages and requirements will be able to be picked up at Barger Construction, 23134 Hwy 22N, Yuma, TN 38390 or by email at lisat@bargerconstructionco.com by September 4.

Any questions contact Lisa at 731-535-3374 ext 4.

Bid dates and requirements will be included in the Bid Packages.

A5605/35-2

McKenzie Police Department

NOTICE

Notice of sell of abandoned vehicles from the McKenzie Police Department impound. The following vehicles will be sold at public auction beginning 09/14/2026 if they are not claimed by the owners and any applicable fees paid and documentation provided.

2006 Kawasaki Vulcan	Vin# JKAVN2B126A007652
2004 Pontiac Grand Prix	Vin# 2G2WR524541103118
2007 Ford Focus	Vin# 1FAFP34NX7W327144

These vehicles will be on www.ridgelyauctionco.com. This website is open to the public; however, you must register on the website prior to bidding on any items. Items will not be available for viewing prior to auction.

A777/34-2

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Carroll County Sheriff's Office is seeking applicants for the position of a full-time Public Safety 911 Telecommunicator. Applications can be picked up at the Carroll County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Center at 210 Norandal Dr., Huntingdon, TN 38344

Minimum requirements are as follows:

- At least 18 years of age.
- High school diploma or G.E.D. equivalent.
- Must be a citizen of the United States.
- Must be willing to submit to and pass a criminal background investigation.
- Must pass drug test.
- Clear verbal and written communication skills.
- Strong listening, typing, multitasking, and decision-making abilities.
- Must be willing to work variable shifts, including days, evenings, nights, weekends, and holidays.
- Previous dispatch, call-center, emergency-services, or customer-service experience is preferred but not required.

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- Quickly determine the nature, location, and urgency of each incident.
- Dispatch police, fire, and emergency medical personnel.
- Provide approved pre-arrival instructions to callers.
- Monitor radio communications and maintain accurate incident records.
- Remain calm and make sound decisions in fast-paced, high-stress situations.
- Protect confidential and sensitive information.

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- Vacation, Sick, and holiday pay.
- Competitive pay.
- Bi-weekly pay by direct deposit.
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- A meaningful career serving the community and helping save lives.

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A13/PO#101-43304/35-2

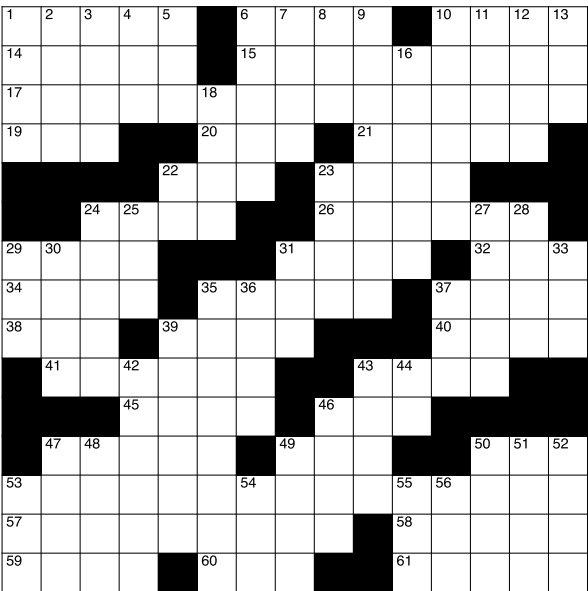
Color A Masterpiece



Weekly Crossword

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Manila hemp plant
- 6. Turkish river
- 10. Something to read
- 14. In a way, initiated
- 15. Popular Apple TV series
- 17. King Charles is part of it
- 19. Earlier
- 20. Foot (Latin)
- 21. Zodiac sign
- 22. A browning of the skin
- 23. Remain as is
- 24. Turfs
- 26. It's used to slaughter animals
- 29. Volcanic crater
- 31. The mother of Jesus
- 32. One's life story
- 34. One-time Liverpool coach
- Slot
- 35. Counterparts
- 37. Jacob __, American journalist
- 38. Digital audiotape
- 39. River in South Africa
- 40. Kimono sashes
- 41. Rooting somewhere
- 43. American spy Aldrich
- 45. A way to call for
- 46. Taxi
- 47. Pancakes made of buckwheat flour
- 49. Swiss river
- 50. Popular type of video game (abbr.)
- 53. Have surgery
- 57. Formal withdrawal from a union
- 58. Performs spoken improv
- 59. Greek war god
- 60. 2,000 lbs.
- 61. Helps to evade capture



CLUES DOWN

- 1. Swedish rock group
- 2. "Friday Night Lights" director Peter
- 3. Currency exchange fee
- 4. Feline
- 5. Folk singer DiFranco
- 6. Ghostly pale from distress
- 7. Rapid eye movements
- 8. Monetary unit of Macao
- 9. Lawmakers
- 10. Colorless mineral
- 11. At some prior time
- 12. American protest singer
- 13. Opener
- 16. Seldom
- 18. Relaxing places
- 22. Touchdown
- 23. From end to end
- 24. Kids love him
- 25. Metal-bearing solid
- 27. Skin care product manufacturer
- 28. Thirteen
- 29. Angry
- 30. Member of a Semitic people
- 31. One-thousandth of an inch
- 33. Former CIA
- 35. Most lemony
- 36. Engage in
- 37. Mass of fish eggs
- 39. Food supplies
- 42. Backbones
- 43. American real estate investment firm
- 44. Megabyte
- 46. "Three Coins in the Fountain" songwriter
- 47. Dutch colonist
- 48. Full-grown pike fish
- 49. Emergency prep expert Edwards
- 50. Flute
- 51. Dismissive sound
- 52. Slang term for marijuana
- 53. Young women's association
- 54. Cosmopolitan city
- 55. Narrow isthmus in Thailand
- 56. Pointed end of a pen

Week 35

See solution in next week's edition.

Fall Evenings Word Search



THIS DAY IN HISTORY



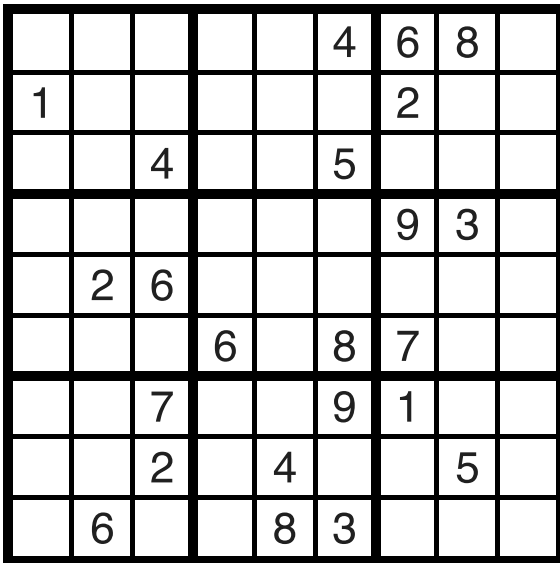
1836: Sam Houston is elected as the first president of the Republic of Texas.

1882: The first United States Labor Day parade is held in New York City.

1980: The Gotthard Road Tunnel opens in Switzerland as the world's longest highway tunnel.

SUDOKU

WEEK 35



Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

See solution in next week's edition.



Solve the code to discover words related to fall. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 5 = E)

A. 18 5 6 15 5 7

Clue: Tree foliage

B. 13 6 17 5

Clue: Gathers leaves

C. 22 26 20 22 17 1 23

Clue: Orange gourd

D. 11 24 13 23

Clue: Starchy crop

Answers: A. leaves B. rake C. pumpkin D. corn

LETTER MIX-UP

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

HARVEST

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

Riddle Me This

Why did Humpty Dumpty have a great fall?

Answer: To make up for a lousy summer.

WORD SCRAMBLE

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

PSCIR

Answer: crisp

GUESS WHO ?

I am an actress and singer born in California on September 1, 1996. I began my career as a fashion model. I also performed a cover of a Katy Perry song for Kidz Bop. I'm known for my role on a Disney show and also for playing a love interest opposite Tom Holland's Spiderman.

Answer: Zendaya

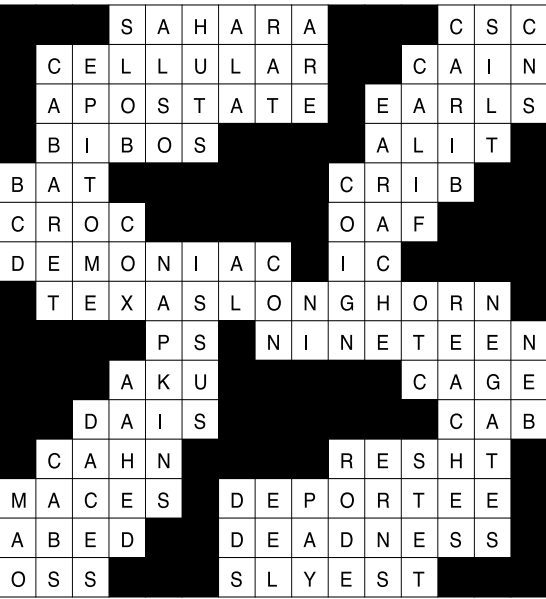
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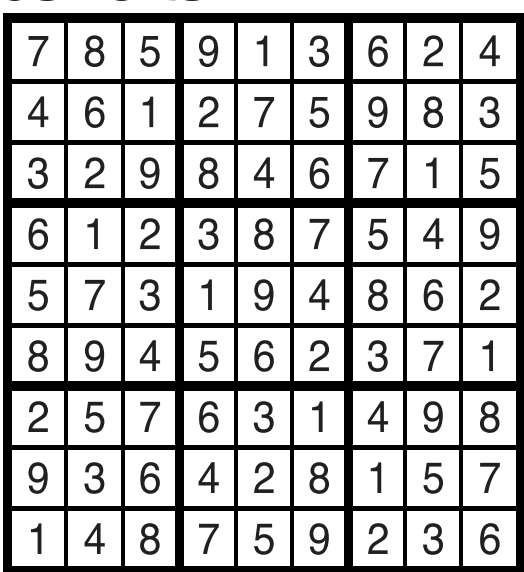
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PUZZLE SOLUTION

Week 34 Crossword Puzzle Solution



SUDOKU SOLUTION WEEK 34



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Lynn Compton is pictured with Carroll County Electric Department employees from the past and present. Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner

Lynn Compton Provides a Glimpse at Carroll County’s Century-Long History of Electricity

BY LYNDSLEY SUMMERS
lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

HUNTINGDON (August 19) — Lynn Compton spoke to the Huntingdon Historical Society Wednesday about the history of electricity in Carroll County.

Compton served as the second general manager of the Carroll County Electric Department, following in the footsteps of mentor Charlie Francisco. He joined the electric department at 19 and “climbed poles” for 13 years before moving up in rank. He served as the general manager for 26 years before retiring.

The town of Huntingdon got its first taste of electricity in 1901. At the time, electricity was very limited. The town’s electric department worked with the water department, and they each shared two steam generators with 100 horsepower each.

The town could only burn lights from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at first. Gradually, that time frame expanded to 6 p.m. to 12 a.m. and, eventually, up to 24 hours a day.

Electricity wasn’t metered; the electric company would go into each house and manually count the number of light bulbs in use. The amount of wattage each light bulb required would determine what a person was billed.

Compton said an electric bill at that time would range from about 65 cents to \$4.

The first commercial building in Huntingdon to have electricity was the Bank of Huntingdon, Compton said, though he added that there were about seven saloons who were also supplied electricity.

In 1925, the Town of Huntingdon sold its electric system to the Kentucky-Tennessee Power Company, which was located in McKenzie.

In April of 1933, Gov. Gordon Browning visited Muscle Shoals, Ala., with delegates from Alabama and Mississippi. They met with President Franklin Roosevelt to talk about the potential use of the Wilson Dam.

The Wilson Dam was built in 1918 to supply powder to make gun powder and nitrate for bombs during World War I. Following the war, the dam sat dormant and underutilized.

Gov. Browning’s conversation with President Roosevelt led to the creation of the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). Roosevelt introduced the TVA as something that would convert the nitrate plant at the Wilson Dam to a place for fertilizer research and production.

“They were trying to cover up a little bit of the electric [side of the deal] I think,” Compton said.

When Congress found out that part of Tennessee would receive electricity from the dam and the government wouldn’t receive any profit, several legislators tried taking the issue to court to abolish the TVA.

In 1939, all court issues



Lynn Compton (left) answers a question from Huntingdon Historical Society co-founder Johnny McClure. Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner

relating to the TVA were dismissed, and the dam began providing electricity to all areas under the TVA.

Gov. Browning wanted the state of Tennessee to be under one electric system at the time, but the Tennessee Electric Company and the TVA would not approve of it.

Instead, Browning worked to establish a countywide electric system in Carroll County. Thus, the Carroll County Electric Department was created and chartered in 1938.

Carroll County Electric bought out Kentucky-Tennessee Power, gaining control of electricity in McKenzie and Huntingdon. The electric department stayed in McKenzie for 10 more years before moving to its present building in Huntingdon.

Charlie Francisco became the first general manager of Carroll County Electric, taking over at midnight December 28, 1938.

“Mr. Charlie had his work cut out for him,” Compton said. He worked with the Rural Electric Administration, went to Washington, D.C., to ensure people in rural areas of the county received electricity.

But December 7, 1941 — the bombing at Pearl Harbor — stopped everything. All the materials needed to build power lines — all the copper, poles, transformers, insulators — were needed for the war effort. Everything became put on hold until World War II ended in 1945.

Following the war, the electric department resumed building power lines throughout the county. By 1951, almost everyone in Carroll County who wanted lights had lights.

“They finally decided that electricity wasn’t the work of the devil,” Compton said. “They started buying stoves, hot water heaters, electric cook stoves, washing machines, refrigerators, deep freezers.”

The county began offering classes on how to transition to electric appliances once they gained popularity.

The power lines initially built throughout the county were suddenly a little too small for the electricity demanded by the community. The lines became overloaded, especially in the rural areas, and had to be rebuilt to keep up with demand.

Many of the rebuilt lines from this time are still standing and providing power to the county.

Compton joined the Carroll County Electric Department after failing a physical to work with International Telephone and Telegraph.

“That was probably the best thing that ever happened to me,” Compton said.

Compton talked about how much the work has changed over the years. When he joined, linemen climbed poles using leather straps, and holes for power poles were dug by hand using post hole diggers.

He spoke about the 1971 tornado in Huntingdon and the 1974 ice storm that hit the county. Compton said the electric department started using bucket trucks after the 1974 ice storm.

Then Compton spoke about the 1994 ice storm, during which he served as general manager.

“The ‘94 ice storm was the big killer,” Compton said. “It got the entire county. I got to the office that morning at about five o’clock, and all 16,000 customers were without power.”

Safety became an issue for the electric department as repairs began. Police officers had to be stationed around the office, and many linemen had to be armed while repairing power lines. Crews from out of town refused to work in Carroll County unless they could carry pistols.

Compton said that people’s increasing reliance on electricity changed the way the electric department received complaints — largely due to the fact that people in the early days of electricity still had wood stoves and other appliances that they could use even without power. Now, most people do not have other modes to fall back on.

Today, the Carroll County Electric Department is one of only five county-operated electric departments across the country; three are in Tennessee, and two are in Nebraska. It supplies electricity to approximately 16,000 customers in Carroll County and parts of northern Henderson County.

The Huntingdon Historical Society’s next meeting is Wednesday, September 16. Attendees will learn about the history of the Portis House.

Ashley Horn Joins UT Martin MMSC Faculty



MARTIN — Ashley Horn has joined the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Mass Media and Strategic Communication Department and will teach courses at both the Martin campus and the UT Martin Parsons Center.

Horn will teach Public Speaking, Introduction to Strategic and Visual Communication and Introduction to Strategic Campaigns.

Horn is a graduate of the department, earning her bachelor’s degree in public relations in 2016 and a Master of Arts in strategic communication in 2018. She is currently pursuing a Doctor of Strategic Communication degree at Regent University.

Horn said she is most excited about interacting with students as they learn new concepts and apply them throughout the semester.

West Carroll Primary Students Explore the World of Careers

McLEMORESVILLE — What do you want to be when you grow up? It is a question that students at WCP are beginning to explore in guidance classes through a K-2 Career Education curriculum titled, What’s Next?

Guided by Rocky, a fun and engaging character in the curriculum, students are learning about careers and the many different jobs people may have throughout their lives. With so many career choices in the world, students are beginning to discover how their own interests and strengths can help them find a career that may be right for them.

The week began with an exciting and interactive video titled “Who Am I?” Students had fun using clues to guess different careers while learning about the important roles people play in the workplace and



Ross Kopiar



Karlyn Keyman

their communities.

This week, students focused on two careers that may be especially appealing to those who enjoy working with numbers and solving problems. Through engaging lessons and activities, students are learning that math skills can

open the door to a variety of future opportunities.

Career exploration gives students an early opportunity to learn more about themselves and the world of work as they begin thinking about the exciting question: What’s next? (tn.gov).

McLemore Outlines Vision for Dixie Carter Performing Arts Center

McKENZIE — Kimberly McLemore, Executive Director of the Dixie Carter Performing Arts Center, addressed members of the Rotary Club of McKenzie on Tuesday, August 26, on the campus of Bethel University. McLemore, who also serves as the General Manager of the Nashville Symphony and the Schermerhorn Symphony Center, shared her vision for the upcoming 2026–2027 season and emphasized the venue’s role as a community hub.

McLemore, who splits her time between Nashville and a farm in Lavinia, Carroll County, highlighted the importance of balancing local favorites with programming designed to draw audiences from across the region. “We need to give Carroll County what it loves,” McLemore said, noting that the venue’s reach extends well beyond Huntingdon, with patrons traveling from as far as Chicago, St. Louis, Memphis, and Nashville.

The upcoming season features approximately eighteen main stage performances, ranging from country music and gospel to classic rock tributes, comedy, and magic. Highlights include performances by Terri Clark, Suzy Bogguss, Mickey Dolenz of The Monkees, and a Johnny Cash tribute by his grandson, Thomas Gabriel. Additionally, the venue is branching out with family-friendly comedy and a unique magic performance by John Midgley.

McLemore also underscored the importance of the center’s educational



Rotary President Armand Hebert welcomes featured speaker Kimberly McLemore, Executive Director of the Dixie Carter Performing Arts Center.

mission. Last year, the Dixie welcomed over 4,500 students to daytime performances, a figure she hopes to build upon. The center is also continuing its partnership with Bethel’s Renaissance Program, which will present “SpongeBob the Musical” in the spring.

Addressing the audience, McLemore introduced a revamped season ticket model. Patrons can now build their own packages by selecting five or more concerts, offering greater flexibility than previous fixed-price bundles. Season tickets are currently on sale and will remain available until the official season opener on October 1, which will feature bluegrass artist Sam Bush.

Beyond the main stage, McLemore invited community input on future programming and encouraged local busi-

nesses to explore customized sponsorship opportunities.

“I really love to build sponsorships that work well for you and your business,” she said.

The Dixie Carter Performing Arts Center has two special events scheduled prior to the official season start: a concert by John Langston on August 29 and a performance by The Traveling McCourys on September 11. Further programming announcements, including the addition of other performances are expected in October.

The Dixie Carter Performing Arts Center is located on the Court Square in Huntingdon. For more information, visit dixiepac.net.

McKenzie Rotary Club meets each Tuesday noon in the Vera Low Center on the campus of Bethel University.

Rebels Volleyball Falls to Martin Westview, JV Wins

MCKENZIE — The McKenzie Lady Rebels volleyball team fell to Martin Westview in three sets at home Thursday, August 27, while the McKenzie junior varsity team earned a two-set victory.

Westview defeated the varsity Rebels 25-9, 25-14 and 25-15, dropping McKenzie to 4-2 overall. The Rebels remain 3-0 in district play.

Addison Milam led McKenzie offensively with five kills while adding two aces, one assist and one block. Jaycee Stafford recorded a team-high seven digs and added two kills and one ace.

Braylin Auvenshine finished with three kills and two blocks, while Kynadie Brown recorded six assists. Natalia Taylor and Maggie Hall each added five digs.

The JV Rebels defeated Westview 25-20 and 25-21 to improve to 4-2.

Serenity Bobo and Kynlee Barden led the JV squad with four aces each. Bobo also recorded three digs and two kills, while Barden added six digs. Abby Carroll contributed six assists and five digs.

McKenzie returns to the court Monday, August 31, at 5 p.m. at home against Waverly.

McKenzie Volleyball Falls to McEwen

MCKENZIE (August 24) — The McKenzie High School varsity volleyball team faced a challenging outing on the court August 24, ultimately falling to McEwen in a 1-3 match decision. Despite the loss, the team remains competitive with a season record of 3-1. The match was a back-and-forth battle, particularly in the second set, when the Rebels surged to a 26-24 victory. However, McEwen proved resilient, clinching the opening set 25-17, and dominating the third and fourth sets with scores of 25-18 and 25-7, respectively.

In its second year of competition, McKenzie faced McEwen, which has a deep bench and years of competition as a school.

Individual standout performances highlighted the Rebels' efforts throughout the match. Jaycee Stafford led the statistical charge, contributing 3 aces, 8 digs, and 6 kills. The team's defensive efforts were anchored by Charlie Cassidy, who recorded 10 digs, and Maggie Hall, who added 8 digs to the tally. At the net, Kynadie Brown facilitated play with 5 assists and 5 sets, while Braylin Auvenshine and Brown both contributed 3 blocks each.

In the junior varsity match, McKenzie fell to McEwen in two straight sets (0-2).

Stats Summary (Varsity):
Jaycee Stafford: 3 aces, 8 digs, 6 kills;
Charlie Cassidy: 10 digs, 1 kill, 1 block;
Maggie Hall: 8 digs; Kynadie Brown: 1 ace, 7 digs, 5 assists/sets, 2 kills, 1 block;
Braylin Auvenshine: 5 kills, 3 blocks; Addison Milam: 1 ace, 1 dig, 3 kills, 1 block; Madilyn Milam: 3 digs, 3 kills



Kynadie Brown serves the ball for the Lady Rebels against McEwen.

McKenzie Volleyball Edges Riverside in Five Sets

RIVERSIDE — The McKenzie High School varsity volleyball team secured a hard-fought 3-2 victory over Riverside on Monday, August 25, improving their season record to 4-1.

The match proved to be a back-and-forth battle. After dropping the opening set 13-25, McKenzie rallied to take the second set 25-22. Despite a third-set loss (15-25), the Lady Rebels showed resilience by narrowly winning the fourth set 26-24 and clinching the match with a decisive 15-9 performance in the fifth set.

Key contributors in the varsity win included Jaycee Stafford, who led the team with 11 aces and 12 kills. Addison Milam also made a significant impact at the net with 14 kills and five blocks, while Kynadie Brown orchestrated the offense with 14 assists, 1 kill, and 1 ace; Maggie Hall had 1 dig, and Braylin Auvenshine had 2 aces, 3 assists, 10 kills, and 1 block.

The McKenzie JV squad also enjoyed success on the road, sweeping Riverside 2-0 and moving to 3-2 on the season. Standout performances included Serenity Bobo, who tallied 4 aces and 3 kills, Abby Carroll had 3 aces, 5 assists and 1 kill, Madilyn Milam had 3 aces and 2 kills, and Charlie Cassidy, who added 4 aces and 2 kills.

Fort Campbell Selected For Nuclear Microreactor

FORT CAMPBELL — The U.S. Army announced that Fort Campbell has been selected to host one of the first next-generation microreactors under the Janus Program, according to the U.S. Army.

Following a competitive national evaluation, Fort Campbell has been aligned with BWX Technologies, Inc. (BWXT) to deploy their safe, compact, and resilient advanced reactor technology to power our critical mission-essential facilities on post.

This system (sitting on less than 5 acres) will operate independently from the commercial grid, ensuring the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) remains ready to deploy and protect our nation—even during commercial power outages or natural disasters.

Safety First: The reactor uses meltdown-resistant TRISO fuel and is designed with passive, automatic safety systems. It will be operated by certified civilian specialists under the regulatory oversight of the Army Reactor Regulatory Office.

We are committed to absolute transparency with our local Kentucky and Tennessee communities as we begin planning and environmental assessments.

Carroll County Leadership Class Members Announced

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce announces the 15 members selected for its adult leadership class.

The Leadership Carroll County Class of 2026 are:

Rebecca Davis, Hwy 70 Construction; Logan Drewry, Casey Drewry Realty; Trevor Foster, EMA Director for Carroll County Government; Lyle Holmes, Baptist Memorial Hospital-Huntingdon; Derek Horne, Bethel University's Vice President of Athletics; Anna Kilburn, Baptist Memorial Hospital-Huntingdon; Noah McEwen, Centennial Bank; Kaci McMillin, Life Care Center Social Services Director; Alyse Minn, Carl Perkins Center County Director; Krystina Parish, Carey Counseling Center; Michelle Robinson, West Carroll Special School District; Earnest Umstead, Superintendent of McKenzie Water Commission; Sabrina Walton, Harmony Hill Director; Tori Williams, Hollow Rock-Bruceton Special School District; Katie Woolf, Apex Bank Vice President.

The Chamber offers two programs:

- An adult leadership program
- A leadership program for high school students

"The program has 11 sessions and provides class members the opportunity to learn about Carroll County including issues, challenges, and opportunities that face our county and communities in the coming years," said Brad Hurley President of the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce. "The relationships built and knowledge acquired during this experience will continue to benefit class members and help strengthen our community."

For more than 35 years, the Chamber has cultivated leadership skills and supported the growth of leaders throughout the community. More than 1,100 people have graduated from its leadership programs, reflecting the Chamber's enduring commitment to developing Carroll County's next generation of leaders.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce is organized for the purpose of advancing the commercial, industrial, civic, and general interest of the county of Carroll, and its trade area.

Area Football for September 4

McKenzie vs Christian County, Ky.	Henry County vs Beech
Huntingdon vs Milan	West Carroll at Dresden
Gleason vs Obion County	HR-Bruceton at Greenfield



Left, Central's Korbin Brown takes a handoff from Easton Bullington. Right, Gleason's Joey Gargus earns a Gleason touchdown as Central defenders pursue. Photos by Joel Washburn/The Banner

Central Tigers Defeat Gleason Bulldogs

BY MICHAEL ODOM
Mirror-Exchange

One thing inexperienced teams have to figure out is how not to give up the big play.

That was a struggle for the Gleason football team on Friday as Bruceton made big plays throughout the game to pull away for a 34-12 win to beat the Bulldogs in Week 2 action.

Gleason (0-2) hosts Obion County on Friday night in non-region action of Week 3.

The Bulldogs worked to contain Bruceton, but then a big play came. The Tigers scored on a 69-yard touchdown pass, an 87-yard touchdown run, and a 68-yard touchdown run in the first half for the 21-0 lead.

Bruceton got one more touchdown with 9:14 to play in the game on a 35-yard pass to take a 34-6 lead.

But with 3.4 seconds remaining, Sawyer Lampkins connected with Cooper Sawyers for a 59-yard touchdown pass for Gleason's second score.

Gleason bounced back in the second half with 152 yards off offense for a total of 209 yards in the game.

Bruceton had 345 yards of offense with 178 rushing and 167 passing.

Kaylor Pineda had 55 yards rushing on 20 carries, while Sawyers had 53 yards rushing on 14 carries. Sawyers also had the 59-yard catch.

James Flaurr had three catches for 27 yards.



Left, Rebel Makhyn Gilbert outruns a Tiger defender. Right, Rebel defenders tackle a Henderson North ball carrier. Photos by Davarion Gilbert/The Banner

Middle School Rebels Fall to the Tigers

BY DAVARION GILBERT
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McKenzie (August 27) — The McKenzie Middle School Rebels hosted Henderson North on Thursday night. The visiting Tigers maintained their lead throughout the game, resulting in a 34-7 final score.

The Rebels won the toss and elected to receive the opening kick, beginning their first drive on their own 42-yard line. After a solid start by Navadius Owens, who gained ten yards on two carries to secure a first down, the Rebels threw an interception, giving the ball to the Tigers at the 2-yard line. Despite a strong effort by the Rebels to stop the run twice, the Tigers punched in a five-yard touchdown. A successful two-point conversion put Henderson North ahead 8-0.

The Rebels started their second drive on the 31-yard line. Following gains by Owens and Kendon Coleman, Coleman completed an eight-yard pass to Owens for a first down. However, the Tiger defense tightened, forcing a punt, and took over on the 18-yard line. The Tigers capitalized quickly, scoring on an 82-yard



Rebel Navadius Owens pushes through a field of Tiger defenders. Photo by Davarion Gilbert/The Banner

outside run. The failed two-point conversion left the score at 14-0.

Henderson North kicks it off to the rebels and starts their drive on the 50 yard line. The Rebels turnover on downs followed by Henderson North taking it down to the three yard line. They ran to the outside for the three yard touchdown with the two-point conversion making it Henderson North 22, McKenzie 0.

McKenzie responded on their next possession starting from the 50-yard line. Coleman connected with Owens for a 36-yard touchdown. The extra point was successful, cutting the deficit to 22-7. Unfortunately, the momentum was short-lived, as the Tigers returned the ensuing kickoff 80 yards for a touchdown, bringing the halftime score to 28-7.

In the third quarter, the Tigers marched to the 4-yard line and scored on an outside run to extend their lead to 34-7. The remainder of the game saw both sides trade defensive stops, including a late interception by a Rebel defender. Ultimately, the Tigers leaned on their run game to control the clock and seal the victory.

REBEL FOOTBALL



Above Left, Lelan Gordon rumbles forward for Rebel yardage. Above Right, #24 Matteo Tabada rounds the counter looking for positive yards. Below Left, #3 Cole Brown looks run off the edge following offensive blocks from #50 Fisher Allen and #63 Bryson Hames for the Rebels. Below Right, #13 Avery Brown receives a punt. Photos by Jeff Washburn/Weakley County Times



McKenzie Moves to 1-1 on Season

BY JASON R. MARTIN
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DRESDEN (August 28) — After last week’s close 28-21 loss to Huntingdon, McKenzie bounced back with a dominating 49-13 win over the Dresden Lions. The Rebels dominated on both sides of the ball, holding the Lions scoreless until the second half, when Dresden scored following a turnover.

The following statistics are questionable due to technical difficulties and conflicting stat sheets. The Rebels ran 40 plays for 397 total yards, with 240 through the air and 157 on the ground. Quarterback Cole Brown was 11-of-13 passing, while Avery Brown had 98 receiving yards. On the ground, C. Brown led with 53 yards, followed by Aiden Carrington with 46. Defensively, Maddox Shiell led with four solo tackles and one assist.

The Lions began the game on offense at their 35-yard line but were forced to punt after a three-and-out. The Rebels started their first offensive drive at midfield. On second down, a pass from C. Brown to A. Brown picked up 11 yards and a fresh set of downs. From the Dresden 41-yard line, C. Brown kept the ball and broke through for the first touchdown of the night at the 9:08 mark of the first quarter. Jony Hernandez tacked on the extra point, putting the Rebels up 7-0.

McKenzie was quickly on the board a second time following another three-and-out by Dresden. Two key passes from C. Brown led to the next touchdown — a diving 42-yard reception by Jacobi Melton and an 8-yard reception by A. Brown for the score. Hernandez added the PAT as the Rebels increased their lead to 14-0 with 7:03 to play in the first quarter.

A facemask penalty on Dresden’s next offensive



The Rebel defense swarms Dresden’s Athan Spaulding. Photo by Jeff Washburn/Weakley County Times

drive led to the Lions’ first first down of the night. Despite the penalty, the Lions were unable to capitalize due to timely tackles by Carrington and Lelan Gordon.

McKenzie wasted no time scoring again as C. Brown teamed with A. Brown a second time for a 69-yard touchdown. Hernandez added the extra point as the Rebels went up 21-0 with 3:10 to play in the opening quarter. The first quarter was drawing to a close when Dawson Reeder recovered a Dresden fumble. Passes to Carrington and Matteo Tabada put the Rebels in scoring position to close the quarter.

On first-and-goal, Tabada picked up five yards for a touchdown. Hernandez’s kick was good as McKenzie took a 28-0 lead.

At the 7:52 mark of the second quarter, Carrington scored from one yard out. Hernandez added the extra point as the Rebels continued to roll, 35-0. The TSSAA mercy rule, triggered by a halftime lead of 30 or more points, would go into effect to start the second half.

Dresden was unable to respond as Athan Spaulding’s pass was intercepted by A. Brown at the 27-yard line. In 10 plays, McKenzie was back in the end zone with a 12-yard shovel pass from C. Brown to Carrington. The PAT put the Rebels up 42-0

at halftime.

To open the second half, it looked like McKenzie would maintain its momentum, but on the opening drive, a pass to Gordon was stripped and returned 53 yards for a Dresden touchdown.

The running clock kept the game moving at a steady pace. At the eight-minute mark of the third quarter, McKenzie scored its final touchdown on a 78-yard kickoff return by A. Brown. The PAT put the Rebels up 49-7.

The third quarter drew to a close with the Lions able to do very little against the Rebels’ first-string defense. To open the fourth quarter, McKenzie began making substitutions. Parker Ross came in at quarterback, picking up two first downs before the drive stalled at the Lions’ 20-yard line.

In the final minutes of the game, Dresden looked to score a second time. With no time remaining, the Lions scored on a 15-yard pass from Spaulding to Ayden Flora, making the final score McKenzie 49, Dresden 13.

Next Friday, September 4, the Rebels (1-1) are home for the first time this season and will host Christian County (0-2) of Hopkinsville, Kentucky. Dresden (0-2) hosts West Carroll (0-2). Both kickoffs are at 7 p.m.



Left, Zayden Connelly jumps to escape a Camden defender. Right, Kenton Smith leaps over a Camden defender. Photos by Russell Bush/The Banner

Mustangs Explode with Win Over Camden

BY RUSSELL BUSH
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HUNTINGDON (August 28) — The Huntingdon Mustangs won for the 67th time in 80 meetings with the Camden Lions Friday at Paul Ward Stadium, scoring 37 unanswered points after holding a 26-18 lead in the second quarter.

The Mustangs rushed for a season-high 404 yards on 40 attempts and passed for 40 yards. Camden rushed for 130 yards and passed for 130.

Kenton Smith led the Mustangs with 140 yards on 14 carries and two touchdowns. He also completed both of his pass attempts for 40 yards and two touchdowns. K’Shun Carter had 64 yards rushing and two touchdowns, while Hayes Eubanks ran four times for 82 yards and a touchdown. Colt Wood ran once for 39 yards and caught two touchdown passes. Noah Webb added 66 yards rushing.

The Lions struck first when Jake Reynoldson, running the read option, called his own number and raced 80 yards untouched for a touchdown. The two-point conversion failed, giving Camden a 6-0 lead.

It took just one play for the Mustangs to answer. After the kickoff was returned to the Huntingdon 45, Eubanks took the handoff, found his way through traffic and raced 55 yards for the touchdown with only 34 seconds off the first-quarter clock. Greyson Anderson’s PAT gave the Mustangs a 7-6 lead.

The Mustangs struck again after a Camden punt with 7:35 left in the first quarter. Huntingdon started at its 48, and two

plays later, Carter outran the Lions’ defense for a 46-yard touchdown. Anderson added the extra point for a 14-6 lead.

An Eubanks sack of Reynoldson forced the Lions to punt again, and the punt was partially blocked, giving Huntingdon the ball at the Camden 22. On the first play, Kenton Smith connected with Wood for a 22-yard touchdown with 5:53 left in the first quarter, giving the Mustangs three touchdowns on their first four offensive plays. Anderson’s PAT was blocked, leaving the score at 20-6.

The Lions responded with a nine-play, 80-yard drive led by the legs and arm of Reynoldson. He ran five times for 46 yards and completed three passes for 30 yards before scoring on a 14-yard run. The conversion failed, cutting Huntingdon’s lead to 20-12.

The Mustangs answered with a five-play, 80-yard drive highlighted by Wood’s 39-yard run. Kenton Smith capped the drive with a six-yard touchdown run with 10:57 left in the half. Huntingdon’s two-point conversion attempt failed, making the score 26-12.

The Lions roared right back with a seven-play, 67-yard drive, scoring on a seven-yard pass from Reynoldson to Kade Johnson with 6:34 remaining in the half. The conversion again failed, leaving Camden trailing 26-18.

From there, the Mustangs scored 37 unanswered points.

Carter scored his second touchdown of the night to cap a seven-play, 63-yard drive. His 18-yard touchdown run came with 3:07 left in the

second quarter. Anderson kicked the PAT to extend Huntingdon’s lead to 33-18.

The Mustangs got the ball back at the Camden 19 following a short punt, and Kenton Smith and Wood connected again, this time for an 18-yard touchdown with 37.5 seconds left in the half. Anderson added the PAT for a 40-18 advantage.

Huntingdon then took advantage of a Camden turnover when Eubanks recovered a Lions fumble at the Camden 17 with 25 seconds remaining. After the Mustangs lost 11 yards on a sack, Kenton Smith ran seven yards to the 21. Anderson then connected on a 38-yard field goal to give Huntingdon a 43-18 halftime lead.

The Mustangs scored on their opening possession of the second half, driving 62 yards in seven plays. Kenton Smith capped the drive with an eight-yard touchdown run, and Anderson’s extra point extended the lead to 50-18.

Camden took over at its 20, and on second down, Reynoldson attempted a pass into the flat. Zayden Connelly stepped in front of the pass and raced untouched into the end zone for a 30-yard pick-six. Ethan Raffield kicked the PAT, giving the Mustangs a 57-18 lead.

Huntingdon’s final score came on a 14-play, 73-yard drive by the Mustang JV offense. Kingston Smith capped the drive with a one-yard touchdown run. The PAT was blocked, but the Mustangs finished with a 63-18 victory.

The Mustangs host Milan this week in a region matchup at Paul Ward Stadium. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.

Wildcats Ground Dragons in Season Opener

COURTESY BETHEL SID

McKENZIE — The Bethel Wildcats opened the 2026 season with a strong defensive performance, defeating the Lane College Dragons 16-3 Saturday night at Walter Butler Stadium. The victory was in front of one of the largest crowds in Wildcat history.

Bethel controlled the contest statistically, out-gaining Lane 351-162 and limiting the Dragons to just 80 rushing yards and 82 yards through the air. The Wildcats recorded 26 first downs while holding Lane to 12.

The Wildcats struck first when Silas Teat connected with Micah Jones for a nine-yard touchdown with 10:34 remaining in the opening quarter. The extra-point attempt failed, giving Bethel a 6-0 advantage.

Bethel extended the lead less than three minutes later when Ryan Kirk scored on a two-yard run. Zachary Clutch added the extra point to make it 13-0.

Lane’s only points came on a 20-yard field goal by Noah Hernandez with 2:03 remaining in the first quarter.

Clutch completed the scoring with a 25-yard field goal at the 12:15 mark of the second quarter, giving Bethel a 16-3 halftime advantage. Neither team scored during the second half.



#25 Diezal Ward fighting off a would-be tackler. Photo Courtesy of Gary Owens

Kirk carried the offensive load for the Wildcats, rushing 29 times for 121 yards and a touchdown. He also caught five passes for 39 yards.

Teat completed 23 of 30 passes for 225 yards and one touchdown. Zion Bryan led the Bethel receiving corps with eight catches for 98 yards, including a 50-yard reception. Jones finished with three catches for 41 yards and the game’s opening touchdown, while Kealan Polk added three receptions for 42 yards.

The Bethel defense held Lane scoreless over the final three quarters. Jordan Jackson led the Wildcats with five tackles, while Detarius Douglas, Brandon

Hall, Zhalyn Copes and Darrell Howard recorded four stops each. Copes and Howard combined for Bethel’s lone sack.

Durrell Miller forced two fumbles and recovered one for the Wildcats. Bethel also held Lane to 4-of-12 on third-down attempts.

Bethel possessed the football for 34 minutes and 23 seconds and ran 71 offensive plays compared to Lane’s 52. An announced crowd of 800 attended the season opener.

The Wildcats improved to 1-0 and will return to action Saturday, September 12, hosting Keiser University at 3 p.m. at Walter Butler Stadium.

Bethel’s Berry to Compete Internationally

COURTESY BETHEL SID

McKENZIE — Bethel University shooting sports standout Dalton Berry has been selected to represent the United States as a member of the USA Shooting Junior World Cup Team and will compete internationally next month.

Berry, a senior from Murfreesboro, will compete at the International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) Junior World Cup Sept. 12-21 in Porpetto, Italy. The selection adds another accomplishment to Berry’s collegiate career. He enters the competition as the defending 2025 Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) Collegiate Men’s High Overall national champion.

“I feel truly blessed to have USA on my back,” Berry said. “I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to represent my family, Bethel University and my country.”

Bethel shooting sports head coach Steve Thomas said Berry has earned the opportunity to compete on the international



stage. “Dalton is a fine young man and an extremely talented shooter,” Thomas said. “We are very proud of him and wish him the very best as he represents Bethel University and the United States in Italy.”