



(L to R): Stephanie Slack-Allen, DNP, APRN, PMHNP-BC; Chris Blount, PA-C; Elly Riley, DO; Lori Holladay, NP; Jill Bennett, NP; Katharine Bullock, FNP; and Emily Ezell, DO.



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Tuesday, August 11, 2026

McKENZIE, TENNESSEE

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**HEAT INDICES
THIS WEEK:**

Tues. 8/11 107°F
Wed. 8/12 109°F
Thurs. 8/13 109°F
Fri. 8/14 107°F
Sat. 8/15 106°F
Sun. 8/16 107°F

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OBITUARIES

David R. Fisher, 73
Sandra Kay Gallimore, 75
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Matthew W. Norden, 35

QUOTE

"Like many parents after a long family holiday, I usually welcome the moment when my kids head back to school."
— Jose Andres

ANOTHER YEAR BEGINS



Left, Creed Mann wrapped McKenzie Elementary School Resource Officer Jason Artymovich into a bear hug upon his return to school. Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner Right, Principal Jackie Wester welcomed West Carroll Primary families back to school. Photo by Cindy Smith/West Carroll Primary School



Carroll County Goes Back to School

BY LYNDSY SUMMERS
lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

Thousands of students across Carroll County made their trek back to school last week, with August 4 being the official first day of the 2026-27 school year. Directors at Carroll County's five special school districts released preliminary enrollment information on Friday, August 7.

The McKenzie Special School District entered the new school year with 1,280 students. McKenzie Elementary School has a total of 512 students, including 48 pre-kindergarten students; McKenzie Middle School has 395 students; and McKenzie High School has 373 students.

The Huntingdon Special School District began the year with 1,312 students. Huntingdon Primary had 411 students, Huntingdon Middle had 520 students and Huntingdon High School had 381 students by the end of the first week.

Clarksburg School finished the first week of school with 268 students across kindergarten

See **SCHOOL** on Page 2



Danielle Scullark and mom Brenda Jones are all smiles on Danielle's first day of first grade at Huntingdon Primary. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

AUGUST ELECTION



Carroll County Sheriff-Elect Eric Sawyers



Road Supervisor Ronnie Wade

County Elects New Sheriff

Re-Elects Wade
Road Supervisor

HUNTINGDON (August 6) — Eric W. Sawyers won a three-candidate race for Carroll County sheriff Thursday, while Ronnie Wade defeated a write-in challenger to retain the office of road supervisor.

Sawyers, the Republican nominee, received 2,291 votes. Independent Ryan White finished second with 1,156 votes, followed by independent Michael A. Smith with 1,093.

In the road supervisor's race, Wade received 2,727 votes. Write-in candidate Tommy Davis received 1,256.

Several contested County Commission and school board races were also decided in the August 6 county general election.

The Carroll County Election Commission revised its final report adding 142 ballots to the countywide total

See **ELECTION** on Page 3

Higdon Crowned Carroll County's Fairest

BY LYNDSY SUMMERS
lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

HUNTINGDON (August 8-9) — Stella Higdon, of Bruceton, is Carroll County's 2026 Fairest of the Fair. Higdon earned her title Saturday afternoon, receiving her crown and sash from last year's queen, Bailey Rogers.

Higdon is the 17-year-old daughter of Josh and Jana Higdon. She is a senior at Central High School.

Also in 2026 court were first maid Allie Kate Smith and second maid Katelyn Prather. Smith, of Huntingdon, is the 19-year-old daughter of Alicia Busby and Terry Smith. Prather, of McKenzie, is the 16-year-old daughter of Brian Prather and Amanda Prather.

The Fairest of the Fair pageants took place August 8 and 9 in the Carroll County Civic Center. Contestants ranged from just a few weeks old to 19 years of age.

Saturday's pageants were Little Miss Carroll County (ages 4-6), Little Miss Fairest of the Fair (ages 7-9), Junior Fairest of the Fair (ages 10-12), Miss Teen Fairest of the Fair (ages 13-15) and Miss Fairest of the Fair (ages 16-20). Sunday had the Fair Friends Baby Show (ages 0-23 months) and the Tiny Mr. and Miss Carroll County (ages 2-3) pageants.

The weekend's pageants marked the beginning of the Carroll County Fair, which continues through Saturday, August 15.

See **FAIREST** on Page 2



Stella Higdon. Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner

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CONTACT US McKenzie Banner, 3 Banner Row, McKenzie, TN 38201
P: 731.352.3323 • F: 731.352.3322 • E: banner@mckenziebanner.com
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Bethel Students Return to Campus

MCKENZIE (August 5) — Traditional students at Bethel University began moving into the dormitories on the McKenzie campus on Wednesday, August 5. First to arrive were athletes and members of Renaissance, who begin their training prior to the start of classes on August 19. Freshmen will be involved in orientation later this week, which includes a Freshman Carnival on Saturday, August 15.

Pictured Right, Faculty members and staff along with returning Bethel students assisted on move-in day on Wednesday, August 5. That was the first of several designated days for students to move in to the dorms. *Photos courtesy of Bethel University*



Fairest

...From Front Page



Top, Carroll County Fairest of the Fair 2026 Court — (L to R) First Maid Allie Kate Smith, Queen Stella Higdon and Second Maid Katelyn Prather. Above, Carroll County Teen Fairest of the Fair 2026 Court — (L to R) First Maid Avrie Estes, Queen Ava Grace Gordon and Second Maid Olivia Carey. Below, Carroll County Junior Fairest of the Fair 2026 Court — (L to R) First Maid Layla Jones, Queen Camilla Jenkins and Second Maid Emma Dillingham. *Photos by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner*



Top Left, Harlem Johnson and mom Kodia Johnson arrive for Harlem’s first day of first grade at Huntingdon Primary. *Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner* Top Right, Second graders Karley O’Rourke, Ella Manns, Emmy Langley and Caselynn Bramley are pictured before going into McKenzie Elementary School. *Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner* Above, West Carroll Primary students are all smiles meeting in the cafeteria on the first day of school. *Photo by Cindy Smith/West Carroll Primary School* Below, Ashley and Ella Lowe; Jessica, Matt and Tucker Merrick; and Thomas, River and Clay Wilson met in the McKenzie Elementary School cafeteria to walk to class together. *Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner*



School

...From Front Page

through twelfth grade.

Hollow Rock-Bruceton Special School District finished the first week of school with 620 students across pre-kindergarten and twelfth grade. Central Elementary School has 282 students in pre-kindergarten through fifth grade, Central Middle School has 142 students in sixth through eighth grade, and Central High School has 192 students in ninth through tenth grade.

The West Carroll School District began the school year with 725 students in pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade, which Director of Schools Preston Caldwell said was almost equal to the enrollment with which the district ended the 2025-26 school year. School-specific information was not available.



Jace Allen, Creed Diggs and Jiren Johnson were ready for their first day of first grade at McKenzie Elementary School. They are pictured with Jabari Barnett (far right), who attends McKenzie Head Start. *Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner*

Carroll County Fair 0-3 Year Old Reviews

Right, 0-23 Months Boys — First Page - Mason Carter, 20 months, son of Logan and Hessie Carter of Huntingdon; King - Brooks Brittain, 15 months, son of Grant and Kelsie Brittain. *Photo by Joel Washburn/The Banner*



Above, 0-23 Months Girls — Third Maid - Maelynn Taylor, 5 months, daughter of Sarah Luci of McKenzie; 1st Maid - Hattie Kay Thomason, 10 months, daughter of Tyler and Maggie Thomason of Huntingdon; Queen - Ellie Sills, 19 months, daughter of Brad and Erica Sills; and 2nd Maid - Blaze McDaniel, 11 months, daughter of Seth and Brooke McDaniel of Huntingdon. Below, 2-3 Year Boys — King - Raylan Crocker, age 3, son of Josh and Courtney Crocker of McKenzie; First Page — Spencer Moon, age 2, son of Gage and Katey Moon of McKenzie; Second Page — Maverick Brown, age 3, son of Matt and Leslie Brown of McKenzie; and 3rd Page - Arlo Harvey, age 2, son of Samantha and Levi Harvey, Huntingdon. Bottom, 2-3 Year Girls — Queen — Paislee Knox Gowan, age 3, daughter of Ian and Brittany Gowan of Huntingdon; First Maid — Haislee Crocker, age 3, daughter of Josh and Courtney Crocker of McKenzie; Second Maid - Zenlee Hussey, age 3, daughter of Hannah Marshall and Jenus Hussey of McKenzie; and Third Maid — Sunny Brooke Thompson, age 2, daughter of Tyler and Clay Thompson of Hollow Rock. *Photos by Joel Washburn/The Banner*





Above, McKenzie Mayor Ryan Griffin shows attendees the inside of the Safe Haven Baby Box. Below, Carroll County ministers touched the Safe Haven Baby Box and community members held each other as Bethel University Chaplain Dr. Anne Hames blessed the box. Photos by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner



McKenzie Unveils Safe Haven Baby Box

BY LYNDSLEY SUMMERS
lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE (August 6) — McKenzie's first-ever Safe Haven Baby Box opened to the public on Thursday, following a blessing ceremony and unveiling at McKenzie City Hall. The baby box gives mothers in crisis access to a safe, anonymous surrender option for a baby up to 45 days of age.

Thursday's unveiling marked the 460th Safe Haven Baby Box in the nation and the 32nd in Tennessee. McKenzie's Safe Haven Baby Box is located at the McKenzie Fire Department, on the left side of the fire truck bays. Previously, the nearest Safe Haven Baby Box was over an hour's drive from McKenzie.

Mayor Griffin said bringing a Safe Haven Baby Box to McKenzie was one of his biggest goals when he assumed office four years ago. The project was spearheaded by McKenzie's Battalion Chief Jason Arnold under the leadership of McKenzie Fire Chief Brian Tucker.

McKenzie Fire Chief Brian Tucker said of the baby box, "While we all pray that it's rarely needed, we're grateful to know that if that moment ever comes, a

frightened parent will have a safe, legal and compassionate place to turn, and a precious child will have the opportunity for a future filled with love and hope."

Safe Haven Baby Box representative Nancy Tate spoke to attendees on behalf of founder Monica Kelsey.

Tate shared the story behind Safe Haven Baby Box's orange footprint logo. The footprint is meant to represent "Baby Amelia," an infant who was abandoned in the woods by her parent. By the time authorities found her, Baby Amelia had already perished, her body ravaged by wild animals.

"We want to always remember Baby Amelia," Tate said, "and we want to make sure that the circumstances that surrounded her death — that we would never, ever, ever see those circumstances again."

Tate explained how the box works. The public can access the box from the outside, but only firefighters trained to use the Safe Haven Baby Box can open it from inside the fire station. When a baby is placed on the bassinet inside the baby box, the baby's weight triggers for the box to lock from

the outside. Once placed inside, the baby cannot be retrieved from the outside. An alarm goes out to first responders once the box is shut.

During a seven-day testing phase, Mayor Griffin said McKenzie's police and fire department members were able to respond to the baby box within three minutes on average. During that time, holes on the inside of the box provide fresh air for the baby to breathe.

All members of the McKenzie Fire Department have been trained to use the Safe Haven Baby Box.

Bethel University Chaplain Dr. Anne Hames led the blessing, inviting ministers in attendance to lay their hands on the baby box and for all attendees to gather around and lay hands on each other during the prayer.

In Tennessee, parents can legally surrender an infant of up to 45 days of age. Baby boxes are the only legal anonymous surrender options a parent can take. Otherwise, a baby can be surrendered face-to-face at the hospital, a fire station, an emergency medical service provider or a police station.



LaShonda Williams, George Cassidy and Bobby Young were honored with plaques during their final meeting with the MSSD Board of Education. Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner

MSSD Board Considers Elementary Roof Repairs

BY LYNDSLEY SUMMERS
lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

McKENZIE — The McKenzie Special School District (MSSD) Board of Education faced a heavy agenda Tuesday night, initiating formal discussions on a million-dollar roof replacement for McKenzie Elementary School and approving 34 district policy amendments just hours after the first day of the 2026-27 school year concluded.

Addressing the district's most pressing infrastructure concern, the board voted to begin formal conversations regarding the elementary school roof, which faces extensive leaking and contains asbestos panels. Finance Director Brad Davis estimated a total replacement cost between \$1 million and \$1.5 million.

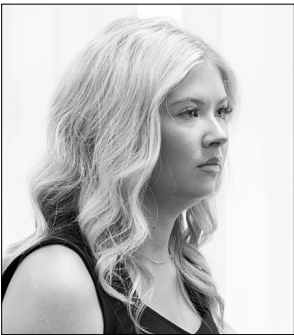
The board also prioritized general maintenance, awarding a \$33,678 bid to S.M. Lawrence for backflow preventers in the middle school and high school maintenance shop.

Following the infrastructure debate, the board approved, on first reading, 34 amendments to the policy manual to comply with new state laws that took effect July 1.

Among the changes, the board adopted a definition of "sex" as the "immutable characteristics of the person's reproductive system that identify the person as male or female, as determined by anatomy and genetics existing at the time of birth."

In connection with this, interscholastic athletes are now required to submit birth certificates or medical documentation confirming birth sex.

Other significant policy shifts include a mandate for K-12 instruction on child



McKenzie High School senior Madelyn Morris is the new MSSD student school board representative. Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner

trafficking awareness. Director of Schools Dr. Justin Barden is currently seeking state-level guidance and consulting with the Carl Perkins Center before finalizing the curriculum.

Additionally, the district introduced a standards-based report card for kindergarteners, and a new policy emphasizes teacher-led instruction over device usage for grades K-5. Dr. Barden stated he is awaiting state guidance on this policy, though some device usage remains permitted for now.

Beginning in the 2027-28 school year, seventh-grade students who excel in state-mandated math tests will be automatically enrolled in high school algebra, with an opt-out option for parents.

Finally, a new rule requires teachers to refrain from sexually-related behavior with students, extending to those who have graduated or withdrawn from school within the preceding 12 months.

The meeting also marked a transition in student leadership. McKenzie High School senior Madelyn Morris, the daughter of Amanda and Marty Morris, was sworn in as the new student representative to the board.

"I love being a part of this

school district, and I'm really excited. My mom's a teacher, so it's really important to me just to have communication with everybody here and make sure everything is going smoothly," Morris said.

The night also served as the final meeting for members LaShonda Williams, George Cassidy and Bobby Young ahead of the August 6 election. Each chose not to seek re-election.

Williams, who served on the board since 2018 and held roles as vice chairman and chairman, reflected on her tenure.

"I feel like our school system is in good hands," Williams said, "which makes my leaving easier"

Matthew Lane, Brian Stafford and Brian Winston were elected to fill the vacancies, while Spiridon Roditis was re-elected to his seat.

Fiscal reports presented during the meeting showed a mix of budget amendments, including \$20,760 in TISA-related funds, \$510.13 from local option sales tax and a \$29,440 special education grant, offset by \$1,000 in maintenance costs.

Additionally, the board increased the reimbursement mileage rate from 58.5 cents to 76 cents per mile, following IRS guidelines.

In other business, the board renewed its memorandum of understanding with the McKenzie Police Department for school resource officers and appointed Tonya Brown, Josh Kee and Kelly Spivey to the Disciplinary Hearing Authority.

The district also reported 21 confirmed cases of bullying during the 2025-26 school year, with three resulting in suspensions of 10 days or less.

The board's next meeting is Tuesday, September 1 at 5:30 p.m.

Election

...From Front Page

late Thursday night after resolving an issue involving one Huntingdon precinct.

The revision increased the number of ballots cast to 4,705.

Carroll County had 14,180 active registered voters as of June 1, according to Tennessee's six month summary report on voter registration. Based on the revised total, approximately 33.2 percent of the county's active registered voters participated in the election. The report also listed 3,504 inactive voter registrations, making the combined total of registered voters in Carroll County 17,684 and the turnout for the August election 26.6 percent.

Mayor, County Commission

Carroll County Mayor Joseph G. Butler was unopposed in his re-election bid and received 3,861 complimentary votes.

In County Commission District 1, Darrell Ridgely, Jimmy Halford and Randy Long won the three available seats. Ridgely led with 420 votes, followed by Halford with 332 and Long with 305.

Daniel Lee Willman and Lana Y. Suite won the two District 2 seats. Willman re-

ceived 256 votes, and Suite received 234.

Brandy Boyd led the District 3 race with 302 votes. Will McMackin won the second seat with 219. Amon Miller received 96 votes, and Dwayne Tordsen received 64.

Incumbent Morris L. Rogers won one of the two District 4 seats with 410 votes. Write-in candidate Jerry Wayne Burcham won the second seat with 17 votes. Write-in candidate Otis N. Nesbitt received one vote.

Seven candidates competed for three seats in District 5. Jimmy Crossett led with 507 votes, followed by incumbent Barry Mac Murphy with 417 and Curt Taylor with 312. Rakaya Humphreys received 220 votes, incumbent Cyril Ostiguy received 160, Anna Wheel received 149 and Paul D. Huguely received 108.

Madison Boyd Endres and incumbent Philip E Moore won the two District 6 seats. Endres received 445 votes, and Moore received 272. Kurt Hunley received 199, and incumbent Jimmy D. McClure received 165.

Incumbents Lori Dillahunty and Walter Smothers held on to their seats in District 7. Dillahunty received 348 votes, and Smothers received 198. Lynn Grice received 119, and Jimmie Sue Staten received 83.

Incumbents Jay Phipps

and Willie Huffman won the two District 8 seats. Phipps received 161 votes, and Huffman received 150.

Incumbent Spiridon L. Roditis, Ricky Price and Incumbent Jason R. Martin won the three District 9 seats. Roditis led with 439 votes, followed by Price with 422 and Martin with 370.

County Offices

In the Assessor of Property race, John Austin ran unopposed receiving 3,502 complimentary votes. Incumbent County Trustee Paula Bolen ran unopposed receiving 3,894 complimentary votes. Incumbent Circuit Court Clerk Sarah Bradberry ran unopposed receiving 3,636 complimentary votes. Incumbent County Clerk Darlene Kirk ran unopposed receiving 4,007 complimentary votes. Incumbent Register of Deeds Natalie McCullough Porter ran unopposed receiving 3,392 complimentary votes.

School Board Races

April Hampton won the contested race for the Hollow Rock-Bruceton Special School Board's 16th District at-large seat. Hampton received 365 votes, while Eric Daniel Gonzalez received 130.

Morgan Butler and Shawna Smith won the two Huntingdon Special School

Board at-large seats. Butler received 942 votes, and Smith received 919.

Five candidates competed for four seats on the McKenzie Special School Board.

Brian Winston led the field with 692 votes. Brian Keith Stafford received 625, Spiridon L. Roditis received 602 and Matthew Lane received 528 to win the remaining seats. Renee Hobson received 457 votes.

Brian Crum and Keith E. Hollowell won the two South Carroll Special School Board at-large seats. Crum received 407 votes, Hollowell received 388 and Sam Melton received 110.

Other school board candidates elected without opposition included Mike Foster in Carroll County District 1, Deborah Broadbent in District 2, Charlotte Tucker in District 3, Michael Graves in the Hollow Rock-Bruceton 15th District, Brandy Boyd in the Town of Bruceton, Johnathan Tedford in the Town of Hollow Rock, Linda Black in West Carroll's Old County District, Kelly M Weaver in the Old Trezevant District and Paul Mueller for an unexpired Old Trezevant District term.

No candidate qualified for the West Carroll Special School Board's Old Atwood District seat.

Clarksburg Election

Current Mayor Howell Wayne Todd won the contested race for mayor of Clarksburg with 74 votes. Jeff Reed received 48.

Judy Grant Smith and Barbara A. McClure won the city's two alderman seats. Smith received 89 votes, and McClure received 88.

State Primaries

Marsha Blackburn carried Carroll County in the Republican primary for governor with 1,775 votes. Monty Fritts received 1,006, and John Rose received 926.

Jerri Green led the county's Democratic gubernatorial primary with 377 votes. Carnita Atwater received 118, Kevin Lee McCants received 55, Adam "Ditch" Kurtz received 51 and Tim Cyr received 30.

Marquita Bradshaw led Carroll County in the Democratic primary for U.S. Senate with 304 votes. Maria Brewer received 116, Kevin Lee McCants received 83, Diana Onyejiaka received 49 and Civil Miller-Watkins received 42.

The closest reported primary contest was the Democratic race for the 8th Congressional District. Heidi Kuhn received 217 votes in Carroll County, two more than Dewey Gordon Bryan's 215. Leonard Perkins received 82 votes, and Jordan

D. Hinders received 64.

Tammy Floyd-Wade received 495 votes for Democratic State Executive Committeewoman in District 24.

Bill Hagerty received 3,251 votes in the Republican primary for U.S. Senate, while David Kustoff received 3,314 in the Republican primary for the 8th Congressional District.

Tandy Darby received 1,372 votes in the Republican primary for the District 76 seat in the Tennessee House of Representatives. Brock Martin received 1,934 votes in District 79.

Ryan Anthony Ellegood received 2,754 votes for Republican State Executive Committeeman in District 24, and Tess Robbins received 2,695 votes for State Executive Committeewoman.

Judicial Retention

Carroll County voters favored retaining all seven judges appearing on the ballot.

Supreme Court Justice Kyle A. Hixson and Supreme Court Justice Mary L. Wagner were retained. Voters also favored retaining Court of Appeals Judges William E. Phillips II, Steve Maroney and Valerie L. Smith, along with Court of Criminal Appeals Judges Stacy L. Street and Steven W. Sword.

Things In My Head with Charles Manfredi



BETHEL UNIVERSITY

Renaissance Announces Launch of Country Band

MCKENZIE (August 7) — Bethel University’s Renaissance program has announced its newest addition to a growing family of performance groups, launching the Renaissance Country Band this fall.

“Country music has deep roots in Tennessee, and we’re thrilled to offer current and future students another outstanding opportunity to perform, tour, develop their craft, and prepare for careers in the music industry and beyond,” the Bethel University Renaissance group said.

With its launch, Renaissance welcomes three musicians and leaders into part-time staff roles to help shape the future of the Renaissance Country Band.

Randle Currie is the director of the Renaissance Country Band. For over 25 years, Currie toured the world as Brad Paisley’s steel guitarist, performing on 11 albums featuring 14 number one country hits. He has also recorded with John Michael Montgomery, Albert Lee and Raul Malo, while touring with Martina McBride and Bryan White.

“The Country Band has been a dream of ours for years,” said Dr. C. Scott Shepherd, associate dean of the School of Visual and Performing Arts, “but we were determined to launch it the right way. When Randle agreed to join us, we knew the time had come. We simply couldn’t imagine a better person to launch this exciting new group.”

Bethel Renaissance alum Byron Chaney serves as the band’s rhythm section director.

One of the early standout musicians to emerge from the Renaissance program, Chaney’s professional credits include contributing to the Billboard Top 10 R&B hit “Fell in Love” featuring Anthony Hamilton, while also serving as a music director for nationally recognized artists and ministries.

Throughout his career, Byron has collaborated with legendary artists including Aretha Franklin, Frankie

Beverly & Maze, The Isley Brothers, Fantasia, Anthony Hamilton, Tank, Ginuwine, Bobby Jones, Keke Wyatt, Summer Walker, London On Da Track, King George and many others.

Today, Byron serves as director of digital audio production at Jackson Central-Merry High School.

“When we began searching for someone to lead our rhythm section, one name continually rose to the top: Byron Chaney,” Shepherd said. “As one of Renaissance’s own, he brings the professional experience, heart for students, and leadership we were looking for. We’re thrilled to welcome our first choice home.”

Bethel Renaissance alumna Sophia Wright is the band’s bluegrass coordinator.

Through her work with Bethel University, Ozark Mountain Music and the International Bluegrass Music Association, Wright has coordinated festivals, performances, artist relations, educational camps and live events while earning a reputation for exceptional planning, organization and relationship-building across the bluegrass community.

Wright will continue serving as Bethel University’s director of student engagement and student organizations while assuming this new part-time role as Renaissance bluegrass coordinator.

“There are few young leaders I respect more than Sophia Wright,” Shepherd said. “I’ve wanted Sophia to be part of our Renaissance leadership team for years. She loves students, understands this program, and is exactly the right person to help lead the next chapter of Renaissance Bluegrass.”

From choirs and worship teams to theatre, production, instrumental ensembles, bluegrass and now the Country Band, Renaissance continues to expand the ways students can grow as artists while learning from professionals who have built remarkable careers in the performing arts.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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

Letters to the editor of public interest are solicited. Most letters, not libelous or harmful, will be published. The editorial staff may restrict the number of letters dealing with the same subject matter. The signature of

the writer must be affixed to the letter with a verifiable address and phone number. The address and phone number will not be published at the request of the writer, however the name will be published. Tri-County Publishing does not publish unsigned letters of opinion.

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

THE WIT AND WISDOM OF DAVID JOHNSON

The Preacher’s Wife

I had a conversation with a church leader who was telling me about the new preacher their church had hired. His comments about it revealed much regarding his expectations of a preacher’s wife.

“Our new preacher’s wife is really something. We got a two-for-the-price-of-one when we hired him. Our former preacher’s wife wasn’t much. She kept to herself. It seemed like she was more interested in her kids that she was in helping her husband in the ministry.”

I’ve counseled many preachers’ wives from numerous religious beliefs. What I’ve learned is that the expectations of a preacher’s wife seem to be as varied as the colors in a 64-box of Crayola crayons.

Some churches expect the wife to be at the forefront of every activity, while others allow the wife to find her own niche in the life of the church.

Problems will surface when the expectations of a preacher’s wife don’t not fit the personality of the woman. In that atmosphere, members often give subtle, covert messages to the woman that she is not measuring up. And if she’s not secure in herself, she’ll personalize those messages. Chronic feelings of guilt and dissatisfaction with self are sure to follow. If professional help isn’t sought, depression won’t be far behind.

To live life based on the expectations of others is to live the life of a chameleon; constantly trying to read situations and become whatever

they’re expected to be. The problem with the life of a chameleon is they never develop a true sense of self.

Not only do the expectations of a church play an important role in the life of a preacher’s wife, equally important are the expectations a preacher has of his wife. A minister can be guilty of “brow beating” his own wife with his comments of derision regarding her lack of participation in ways he believes she should be participating.

When a preacher accuses his wife of not being supportive of him simply because she doesn’t attend every function that he chooses to attend, he’s indicating that his emphasis in his ministry is more about him than it is about being a Christ-like leader in his home.

Perhaps the most difficult area for preachers’ wives is when their expectations of themselves are unrealistic.

I remember a preacher’s wife speaking tearfully of all the ways she was failing as a minister’s wife. She had a long list of things she itemized as works she wasn’t doing.

As we looked at the list together, it became clear that the things she wasn’t participating in was due to:

- Her involvement in the activities of her children.
- Fatigue from spending every day in her own job/career.
- They were activities she had no talent for or interest in.

It took quite some time to help this woman reframe her view of herself. As she be-

gan seeing all the wonderful things that she was doing, her spirit began to lift.

When she developed a mindset of finding her role based on God’s expectations of her, rather than hers or other’s expectations of her, she once again found joy in her Christian walk.

It’s critically important to the health of a church that they work to help maintain the “healthiness” of their preacher and his family. If church leaders have certain expectations of a preacher’s wife, they need to meet with her and make those expectations apparent before they agree to hire her husband. This is a much healthier approach than hiring her husband first and then later being disgruntled with her because she’s not meeting their expectations.

Godly women of character, with empathetic hearts, who know how to protect confidentiality, need to befriend the preacher’s wife. Help her to be transparent with them. Develop an intimate relationship with her. Love her for who she is.

I offer this advice to preacher’s wives:

1. Find your place in God’s heart first.
2. Allow Him to help you find your place in serving Him.
3. Live your life desiring to please Him.

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

HUNKER DOWN WITH KES

Talk About Truly Hunkering Down

I remember August 14, 1965, very well. The problem was, I hadn’t prepared a lick for it. I clearly didn’t understand the significance of the entire situation until I got out of the car...and watched Mom drive away.

I was eighteen years old. And thought I knew a lot more than I did. That changed in a heartbeat when I saw the tail-lights of our 1960 Chevrolet disappear around the corner of the University of the South’s bookstore.

The air suddenly seemed like it had been sucked out of the cosmos. Time, space, reason, life itself came to a halt. I stood in abject silence, between our family suitcase and a borrowed duffle bag, containing most of my worldly possessions, and tried to make some sense of it all.

There was one thing that was abundantly clear. The world as I knew it had just taken a drastic turn. Somehow in my little heart, I knew there could be no going back. No matter what!

I felt so alone. And when I finally managed to get a little air back into one lung, and breathing again, I realized that was because I WAS alone. For the first time in my life!

Standing on that sidewalk in front of Gailor Hall, a few tears slid silently down my cheeks, but I can guarantee you, the majority of them were flooding across my poor desolate soul.

Back home, we’d been talking about going off to college for a year and a half. The consensus in the back booth at Frank’s Dairy Bar was it would be a blessing. I can remember Larry Ridinger distinctly saying, “Anyplace would be better than here.”

Our town was kinda small. You could take the grand tour in six minutes. We knew ev-

eryone, and everyone knew us. All things moved (to us) at a relatively slow pace. Life was church, baseball, school, summer work, the county fair in October, and “be home by supper.”

We all celebrated when a birth was announced, and we mourned together when an older trailblazer went on to Glory. We gathered at the Park Theatre and watched “Destry Rides Again” as one. We celebrated the Fourth of July like no other place on earth. I went to school from the first grade till graduation with basically the same people.

In my Pollyanna mindset I thought college would be just more of the same. And I began to buy into the “get out of town” motif. Without putting one whit of thought into it!

Mrs. Mary E. Warren, our guidance counselor, started steering us to a college if you could spell your name correctly and pass Miss Barbara Clark’s sophomore English class. We all agreed politely and looked at the various school catalogs she had. But there was football practice, night rides out to the clay pits, gosh awful chemistry elements to memorize, and girls that I’d known all my life were transforming right before my eyes.

Yeah, I talked about college. Dad was high on me going. I looked at a few brochures. I joined in some of the discussions at Frank’s. But the problem was, I never actually spent any time THINKING about college.

I never seriously entertained the downside about leaving home. The dramatic change. The upheaval it would create. I stood between the suitcase and duffle bag as my only link to the only life I’d ever known drove off and realized, “I obviously wasn’t

smart enough yet to go off to college!”

Doug and David Paschall, who were attending the University of the South, stopped by the service station where I was working. “Kes, it is a great school. Small. You will get to know everyone there. You can play ball with us. It is the perfect place for you.”

I said, “OK,” and never considered anywhere else.

Mom helped me pack. Folks in town had wished me well. Dad was so proud. There was no parade down Main Street to see me off.

Reality can be a hard teacher. I kicked at the duffle bag and figured I was stuck here whether I liked it or not. Maybe for the first time in my life, I realized that Larry Ridinger, and the rest of us, might not have gotten everything just right about the little town we had grown up in.

It looked almighty good from 212 miles away on this late August afternoon.

I wasn’t sure I could do this on my own. I wasn’t sure I wanted to....

History records that I did make it. I found my way to class. I survived. With a great deal of help from some very special (now lifelong) friends.

I appreciate the education. I cherish those classmates to this day.

But when August rolls around every year, I don’t think so much of triumph, and overcoming, and college degrees.

I think about a lonely, lost, scared little boy who wasn’t sure he was cut out to make it in this world. Moments like that will keep you humble. Forever.

And I do not consider that as a bad thing.

Respectfully,
Kes
kesley45@aol.com



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OUR STAFF

BRITTANY WASHBURN MARTIN
Publisher • Graphic Designer • Editor
brittany@mckenziebanner.com

JASON R. MARTIN
Editor • News & Sports • TCP Print Shop
jmartin@mckenziebanner.com

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

TERESA WASHBURN
Office Manager • Accounting
teresa@mckenziebanner.com

JANNA PRATT
Graphic Designer • Circulation
design@mckenziebanner.com

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

BRAD SAM
News & Sports
brad@mckenziebanner.com

LYNDESE SUMMERS
Graphic Designer • News
lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

25

4

17

1

McKENZIE SENIOR CENTER SCHEDULE

Wednesday, August 12, 6-8 a.m., line dance class, \$5.

Thursday, August 13, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Senior Day at the Carroll County Fair.

Saturday, August 15, karaoke/dance night.

All events are open to the public.

EAGLE WING MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION RIDE-IN

The Eagle Wing Motorcycle Association will have a ride-in to Ace's Pizza at 1516 E. Wood Street in Paris on Saturday, August 15 at 1 p.m. All types of motorcycles are invited. For more information, text 731-336-4407.

McKENZIE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION DECADES REUNION

Plans are underway for the third annual MHSAA Decades Reunion weekend on September 25-26. All MHS alumni are invited to return to McKenzie to reconnect with friends, classmates, and former teachers through many reunions and other planned events. Updates on the upcoming weekend will be on the alumni association's Facebook site and in the McKenzie Banner. For more information, email mckenziehsalumni.tn@gmail.com.

MHS CLASS OF 1976 REUNION

McKenzie High School Class of 1976 is holding a 50-year class reunion on September 26, 1 p.m. at Chandler Farms in

McKenzie. The event is in conjunction with the MHS Alumni Association annual reunion. For more information, e-mail Amy Rich Carter at amycarter58@gmail.com or Marsha Spain Smith at smith-marsha99@yahoo.com. Deadline for registration is August 14.

THE BREAKFAST CLUB AT HOMETOWN HEALTH CLINIC

Everyone is invited to The Breakfast Club every Monday from 9-10:30 a.m. for coffee, snacks, mingling and a light activity. Take the chance to connect and socialize before getting interactive with games, light exercise and fun! Bring a friend and come make new ones at Hometown Health Clinic - Pediatrics/Specialty Entrance. We can't wait to see you there!

CARROLL HUMANE SOCIETY EVENTS, NEWS

Cat Vouchers

Cat spay/neuter vouchers are always available for \$60. To purchase by phone for use at Paris Vet Clinic, call 731-514-0878 and leave a message. These are available to anyone regardless of residency. We now offer cat vouchers to Carroll County residents for \$60 at the Huntingdon Animal Clinic. These must be purchased in person at the shelter with cash or card, and proof of residency is required. However, Carroll Co. residents can still use Paris Vet Clinic if preferred.

McKENZIE TOPS MEETS WEEKLY

Win over weight with support and encouragement by meeting with the McKenzie Chapter of TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) each Monday at 3 p.m. in the McKenzie

Church of Christ gymnasium. The first meeting is free. For more information, call 731-352-7309. If no answer, leave a message.

McKENZIE FARMER'S MARKET

The McKenzie Farmer's Market, across from City Hall on Cedar Street, is open each Saturday until the end of October from 8 a.m. until noon.

MONTHLY GENEALOGY GROUP AT GORDON BROWNING MUSEUM

A Genealogy Group meets at the Gordon Browning Museum, 640 North Main Street, McKenzie, the first Wednesday of each month at 2 p.m.

CARROLL COMMISSION MEETS MONTHLY

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

CARROLL COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY MEETS MONTHLY

The Carroll County Democratic Party meets the second Saturday of every month at 10 a.m. at the Carroll County Complex at 625 High Street, Huntingdon.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

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



DAVID R. FISHER 1952 – 2026

McKENZIE — David R. Fisher, 73, of McKenzie, died at his residence on Monday, August 3, 2026.

Born on August 8, 1952, in Humboldt, he was the son of the late U.L. and Alice Jo Stavely Fisher.

Funeral services were Saturday, August 8, at 11 a.m. at Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home, with interment was at Carroll Memorial Gardens.

A dedicated journalist, Mr. Fisher spent three decades contributing to Tri-County Publishing, Inc. His distinguished career included roles at The Carroll Leader in Huntingdon, The McKenzie Banner, and the Dresden Enterprise. He began his career with the Washburn family's publications in 1991 and served faithfully until his retirement in 2021.

Mr. Fisher was a graduate of Bethel University and a member of Bridge of Hope Church in Paris. He also served his country with honor for 30 years as a member of the Tennessee Army National Guard.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 53 years, Diane Westmoreland Fisher; his two sons, Jonathan Fisher and James (Lisa) Fisher, all of McKenzie; a sister, Janet (Jeff) Moody of Puryear; a brother, Lyndel (Sherry) Fisher of Newbern; and his two grandsons, Daniel Fisher and Daylen Fisher.

CHARLES GILLENWATER 1946 – 2026

McKENZIE — Charles E. (Chuck) Gillenwater, 79, died on July 6, 2026, in San Francisco, Calif. A grave-

side service is Wednesday, August 12, 2026, at 10 a.m. at Carroll Memorial Gardens.

Chuck was born in McKenzie on October 10, 1946, to Charles E. and Virginia Hickerson Gillenwater. The family moved to New Orleans, La., in 1954.

He served in the Air Force as a Morse code interceptor while stationed in the Philippines and enjoyed a long career as a travel agent in San Francisco.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his maternal grandparents, Ben and Nova Hickerson of McKenzie; and his paternal grandparents, Mack Ed and Valda Steele Gillenwater of Dresden.

He is survived by his brother, Phil (Christine) Gillenwater of Chattanooga; niece, Patti (Bill) Dillard; and nephew, Michael Gillenwater.

If further assistance is needed, please contact Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home. +

MATTHEW WAYNE NORDEN 1991 – 2026

HOLLOW ROCK — Mr. Matthew Wayne Norden, 35, of Hollow Rock died Monday, August 3, 2026.

A celebration of life was held Saturday, August 8, 2026, in the Galilee General Baptist Church of Bruce-ton (250 Rogers Ln, Brucetown, TN 38317). Bro. Paul Hollingsworth officiated.

Matthew was born in

McKenzie, on April 21, 1991, to Richard Norden and Tammy Brown Jones. Along with his parents, he is also survived by a son, John Wayne Norden; a daughter, Zowey Renee Norden; and a brother, Richard Adam Norden. He also leaves many friends and loved ones.

Bruceton Funeral Home.

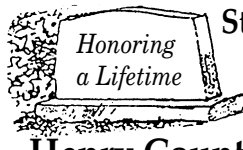
SANDRA KAY GALLIMORE 1951 – 2026

DRESDEN — Sandra Kay Gallimore, 75, of Dresden, died Friday, August 7, 2026. A celebration of life was Sunday, August 9, at Bowlin Funeral Home. Burial was at Sunset Cemetery.

She was born in Riverside, Ill., to Jewell Williams and Estelle Blasingim Williams.

Kay is survived by her devoted husband, Gerry Gallimore of Dresden; sons, Kevin (Kim) Gallimore of McKenzie and Brian (Kris) Gallimore of Dresden; brothers, Jay Williams of California, Raymond (Faye) Williams of Arizona, and Mark (Dannyyelle) Williams of Dresden; sister, Sue (Phil) Dobbs of Arkansas; four grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

She was preceded in death by her brother, Bobby Williams and his wife, Shelby; brother, Dale Williams; sister, Velma Temple and her husband, Gene; infant sister, Thelma Williams; and sister-in-law, Julie Williams.



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Fried Green Tomatoes
2 green tomatoes
Corn meal
Salt to taste
Oil for frying
Peel tomatoes (best to use tomatoes that have begun to turn light color). Slice in serving sizes. Dredge in corn meal that has salt and pepper in it. Fry in oil until golden brown, turning to brown on each side.

Fried Okra
Okra
Salt and pepper
Corn meal
Oil

Buttermilk
Wash and cut okra in bite size pieces. Salt and pepper to taste. Put on enough buttermilk to make corn meal stick to okra. Dredge okra in corn meal. Drop in hot oil (enough to cover okra) and deep fry until golden brown.

Stuffed Banana Peppers
8 peppers
1 cup seasoned breadcrumbs
1 egg, beaten
1 tablespoon garlic powder
Salt and pepper
Cut tops off peppers. Combine breadcrumbs, eggs, garlic, salt and pepper with mixture. Put open side of pepper against side of pan, which has been oiled. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes. You may use hot or sweet peppers.

German Fried Cabbage
1 tablespoon Crisco
Small head cabbage
1/2 cup chopped green pepper
1/2 cup chopped onion
Salt and pepper to taste
1/2 cup water
Melt Crisco in skillet. Chop cabbage into shreds. Put all ingredients in skillet. Cover with lid. Cook until tender and lightly browned. Do not let burn. You may need to add a little more water during cooking.

Snappy Carrots
1 can sliced carrots
1/4 cup brown sugar
1 tablespoon mustard
2 tablespoon margarine
Melt brown sugar, margarine and mustard over low heat until brown sugar is dissolved. Stir in carrots. Simmer for 15 to 20 minutes.

Gasoline Prices Decrease During Week

TENNESSEE (August 10) — The national average price of gasoline decreased 10.7 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.94/g today. The national average is up 9.5 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 85.6 cents per gallon higher than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

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

August 10, 2025: \$2.75/g (U.S. Average: \$3.08/g)

August 10, 2024: \$2.98/g (U.S. Average: \$3.43/g)

August 10, 2023: \$3.42/g (U.S. Average: \$3.81/g)

August 10, 2022: \$3.53/g (U.S. Average: \$3.96/g)

August 10, 2021: \$2.86/g (U.S. Average: \$3.18/g)

"Average gasoline prices declined in 47 states over the last week while diesel fell in 39, with the national average price of gasoline posting a double-digit drop

per gallon," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "Diesel's decline was roughly half that of gasoline, in part due to continued pressure on refined product markets from ongoing Ukrainian attacks on Russian oil refineries. However, the wild ride continues. Iran is pushing back against a reopening of the Strait of Hormuz, and oil prices edged modestly higher in Sunday night

trading, signaling that the recent relief may not last. With the Strait remaining closed, upward pressure on fuel prices could return quickly, and if things don't go well, the national average could climb to its highest level ever recorded this late in the calendar year. For now, enjoy the dip, but keep a close eye on how the Strait situation develops in the days ahead."

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SPIDER-MAN: BRAND NEW DAY 3D (PG-13)
Tues. 7:35
Wed. 7:35
Thurs. 7:35

ONE NIGHT ONLY (R)
Tues. 7:30
Wed. 7:30
Thurs. 7:30

SUPER TROOPERS 3 (R)
Tues. 7:25
Wed. 7:25
Thurs. 7:25

THE ODYSSEY (R)
Tues. 7:20
Wed. 7:20
Thurs. 7:20

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Dr. Jay Phipps Honored with Pharmacist of the Year Award

NASHVILLE (July 10) — Dr. Jay Phipps is the 2026 Tom C. Sharp Pharmacist of the Year, the Tennessee Pharmacists Association (TPA) recently announced. The Tom C. Sharp Pharmacist of the Year Award is one of TPA's highest honors recognizing a pharmacist who has distinguished the profession of pharmacy.

Dr. Phipps graduated from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Pharmacy (UTHSC). While at the UTHSC, he served as an Ensign in the United States Public Health Service and worked in the office of US Surgeon General. He is founder and CEO of Phipps Pharmacy with five locations in Tennessee and serves as President and the CEO of PhippsCARE.

Dr. Phipps has earned fellowship in the American College of Apothecaries, the American College of Veterinary Pharmacists and the Tennessee Pharmacist Association. He has served TPA as President, chaired the Tennessee Pharmacist Research and Education Foundation Board of Directors and Nominations Committee. He held leadership roles in the American Pharmacists Association, American College of Veterinary Pharmacists and the National Community



Dr. Jay Phipps (second from left) is pictured with his family after receiving the 2026 Tom C. Sharp Pharmacist of the Year Award. Submitted photo

Pharmacy Association.

Dr. Phipps is a respected leader in the pharmacy profession whose influence extends beyond Tennessee. A tireless advocate for pharmacy, he works regularly with government leaders to advance the profession while setting the standard for community pharmacy practice. Known across the world as the "Pharmacy Gladiator," Dr. Phipps works to enable pharmacists to provide the highest level of Pharmacy Doctor-provided care to the patients they serve.

Established in 1958, the Pharmacist of the Year Award recognizes a TPA member who has distinguished the profession. In

1965, it was renamed in honor of Tom C. Sharp, Sr., who served as TPA Executive Director for 30 years, and in 2001, expanded to also honor Tom C. Sharp, Jr., who also provided 30 years of leadership as TPA Executive Director.

Established in 1886, TPA is the leading organization representing pharmacists and pharmacy technicians across Tennessee. Committed to advancing pharmacy practice, TPA supports its members through advocacy, education and professional development initiatives that enhance patient care statewide. For more information, please visit tnpharm.org.

West Carroll School Board to Meet

ATWOOD — The West Carroll Special School District (WCSSD) Board of Education meets Thursday, August 13 at 5:30 p.m. in the West Carroll Jr/Sr High School cafeteria for a budget workshop. The board will transition to a regular meeting at 6:30 p.m., with the following topics listed on the agenda:

- Approve 26-27 Yearly Memberships (TSBA, TSSE, AIM'S and Sam's Club).
- WCSSD Field Trip List 2026-27.
- Resignation of John Morris.
- Discuss/Approve Fiscal Year 2026 WCSSD Budget Amendments.
- Discuss/Approve Fiscal Year 2027 Budget.
- West Carroll Element-

tary School Construction Update.

- Discuss/Approve Student Disciplinary Hearing Authority (DHA) – Six-member board chosen from the following alternates: Adam Douglas, Leslie Farmer, Brianna Rice, Crystal Polinski, Kellie Medina, Jaxon Stringer, Brandi Tolley, Jackie Wester and Jessica Williams.
- Discuss/Approve Consolidated Application for IDEA/ESSA grant
- Discuss/Approve Plasma Cutter Bids (Innovative School Models Grant)
- Discuss/Approve WCSSD Policy 5.3052 Local COVID-19
- Discuss/Approve Policies on Second Reading: 1.804 Alcohol and Drugs in the Workplace, 2.400

Revenues, 5.114 Personnel Records, 5.200 Separation Practices for Tenure Teachers, 5.201 Separation Practices for Non-Tenure Teachers, 5.202 Separation Practices for Non-Certified Employees, 5.302 Sick Leave, 5.400 Personnel Health Examinations/Communicable Diseases, 5.403 Drug and Alcohol Testing for Employees, 5.606 Political Activities, 5.608 Tutoring for Pay, 5.800 Director of Schools and 6.411 Student Wellness.

Approval for appearing before the West Carroll Board is outlined in West Carroll Policy 1.404. Visit the policy manual on wcssid.org or call the West Carroll Central office at 731-662-4200.

Operations Supervisor Named at Baptist Ambulance Carroll County

CARROLL COUNTY (August 5) — Chris Bradshaw is Baptist Ambulance's new Carroll County operations supervisor, the ambulance provider announced on Wednesday.

In his new role, Bradshaw will work alongside the Carroll County team, supporting the dedicated professionals who serve the community while helping advance Baptist Ambulance's mission of providing exceptional

patient care.

Chris brings more than seven years of experience in emergency medical services and fire rescue, along with more than 15 years of leadership and management experience.

"His extensive background in employee development, training and operations makes him a tremendous asset to our team," Baptist Ambulance said in a statement.



Chris Bradshaw

HUNTINGDON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Compton to Speak About History Of Electricity in Carroll County

HUNTINGDON — Lynn Compton, retired general manager for the Carroll County Electric Department, will speak to the Huntingdon Historical Society about the history of

electricity in Carroll County on Wednesday, August 19. Compton's presentation begins at 9 a.m. in the conference room of Huntingdon City Hall.

The town of Huntingdon

got its first lights in 1901. Steam power powered the early light system. In 1935, a public act was passed that allowed local governments to operate local electric utilities, enabling rural counties to receive reliable electricity. Only five electric systems are county owned, and three of them are in Tennessee's Carroll, Weakley and Benton counties.

Guest speaker Lynn Compton was born in Mixie, Tenn., in a home with only one lightbulb and a refrigerator. He was raised in Carroll County and graduated from vocational school. When he was 19, Compton was hired at the Carroll County Electric Department, and he "climbed poles" for 13 years. Compton then served as the general manager for 26 years before retiring.

The public is invited to join the Huntingdon Historical Society for a lively discussion about the history of electricity in Carroll County.

THANK YOU

First and foremost, I want to thank everyone who supported, encouraged, volunteered, prayed, and voted for me throughout this campaign. While the outcome wasn't what we had hoped for, your support meant more to me than words can express.

This journey has been an incredible experience, and I am truly grateful for every conversation, every handshake, and every opportunity to meet so many wonderful people across Carroll County.

I would also like to congratulate Eric Sawyers on his election as Carroll County Sheriff. I wish him the very best as he serves our community.

It has been an honor to earn your trust and support. From the bottom of my heart, thank you all. May God bless each of you, and may God continue to bless Carroll County.

RYAN WHITE

FOR CARROLL COUNTY SHERIFF

PAID FOR BY RYAN WHITE FOR SHERIFF, CARRIE HOLLOWELL, TREASURER.

JASON R. MARTIN

FOR CARROLL COUNTY COMMISSIONER

DISTRICT 9

To the Voters of Carroll County's 9th District,

Thank you for your complimentary votes and placing your faith in me. I promise to not take this position lightly. I fully understand the responsibilities that you all have bestowed upon me. I know that with your help Carroll County will have great achievements over the next four years.

Sincerely,
Jason R. Martin

PAID FOR BY THE CANDIDATE

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who supported me during my campaign for re-election as Carroll County Road Supervisor.

My family and I appreciate every act of kindness and help that was extended to us during this time.

I look forward to continuing to serve the citizens of Carroll County.

RONNIE WADE

Thank You

Thank you for your vote of support in the 2026 General Election. I will continue to strive to improve the quality of life for all citizens of Carroll County.

Willie Huffman
Carroll County Commissioner — District 8

MHS Alumni Announces Reunion Schedule

MCKENZIE — The McKenzie High School Alumni released a schedule of events for the Decades Reunion on September 24-26.

Thursday, September 24

4-8 p.m.: McKenzie High School Historical Exhibit and Open House, Gordon Browning Museum, 640 N. Main St. (Exhibit on display from August 19-October 3. Regular hours Wednesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.)

Friday, September 25

8 a.m.: MHSAA Golf Tournament, Carroll Lake Golf Club. Contact Brian Winston at Carroll Bank and Trust (731-352-2282) to enter.

9 a.m.-5 p.m.: McKenzie High School Historical

Exhibit, Gordon Browning Museum, 640 N. Main St.

12:30 p.m.: MHS Homecoming Parade-Downtown McKenzie

2 p.m.: "Homecoming '86" 40th Anniversary Commemorative Video, Park Theatre, 2312 Cedar St., Courtesy of the Carroll County Historical Society. Free Admission/Donations Appreciated.

5 p.m.: McKenzie High School Alumni Tailgate Party, inside Rebel Stadium. Admission \$7 (includes homecoming football game at 7 p.m.) Food trucks available. ALL McKenzie High School alumni, faculty/staff, and families are invited!

Saturday, September 26

9-11:30 a.m.: McKenzie High School Alumni of the 1950s and '60s Reunion,

McKenzie Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 16 N. McTyeire St.

9 a.m.-6 p.m.: McKenzie High School Historical Exhibit, Gordon Browning Museum, 640 N. Main St.

3 p.m.: Round Table Discussion celebrating the 2006 McKenzie Rebel state baseball championship 20th anniversary, Park Theatre, 2312 Cedar St.

6 p.m.: Live Music at Hometown Hangout, 14985 Highland Dr.

Ten McKenzie High classes will hold reunions throughout the weekend: 1966, 1971, 1976, 1979, 1986, 1996, 2001, 2006, 2010, 2016.

For more information and updates, follow the MHSAA Facebook page. or e-mail mckenziehighsalumni.tn@gmail.com.

Senior Day on the Midway is Thursday

HUNTINGDON — Senior Day on the Midway at the Carroll County Fair is Thursday, August 13 from 10 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. inside the Carroll County Civic Center at 201 Fairgrounds Road.

Senior citizens are invited to enjoy a day of fun, friends and fair-time memories.

The event is hosted by Carroll County Senior

Services and their community partners.

Doors open at 10 a.m. for visitors to register and receive a raffle ticket and Bingo card. Vendors will be set up.

A cake walk begins at 10:45 a.m., followed by "A Little Friendly Competition" at 11 a.m. Categories include: Oldest Man/Woman, Oldest Married Couple, Newlyweds, Ug-

liest Legs, Prettiest Legs, Fair King/Queen.

At noon, baskets will be raffled and Bingo will begin.

Lunch, sponsored by Phipps Pharmacy, is served from 12:30-1:30 p.m. and includes grilled chicken fettuccine Alfredo, salad, rolls, dessert and drinks.

Marriage Licenses

Jessica Voyles Avalon, 39, of Lexington, to Terry Lynn Burton Jr., 37, of Lexington.

Shawna Nickolle Meade Smith, 29, of Greenfield, to Travis Andrew Ideus, 29, of McKenzie.

Courtney Michelle Reese, 30, of McKenzie, to Gabriel Esteban Chavez Jr., 31, of McKenzie.

Joshua Daniel Robbins, 46, of McKenzie, to Kimberly Jill Bridges Agent, 41, of McKenzie.

James Lyn Lessenberry, 63, of Huntingdon, to Mary Jo Rundquist Montes De Oca, 67, of Huntingdon.

Carla Michelle Callo-way, 51, of Cedar Grove, to Joellyn Lois Funder-

burk, 40, of Cedar Grove.

Krysten Renee Flatt, 29, of Eva, to Jonathan Glen Mitchell, 27, of Eva.

Lawrence Shelby Norman Jr., 44, of Milan, to Rachel Anna Shallcross Fairley, 51, of McKenzie.

Kevin Wayne Thompson, 53, of Huntingdon, to Amy Elizabeth Whitehead Moody, 53, of Huntingdon.

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- Business Cards • Programs
- Vinyl Banners • Name Badges
- Self-Inking Stamps • Forms
- Canvas Portraits • Magnets
- Yard Signs • Ink Pens & more!



Huntingdon Police Reports

Theft of Handgun — According to a report made on July 23, Sgt. Ethan Parham took a report at the Huntingdon Police Department regarding a stolen handgun.

The complainant advised that a black Springfield .380-caliber semi-automatic handgun with ivory/off-white G10 grips had been stored in her vehicle. She stated the handgun had been missing for approximately two weeks, and she initially believed it had been misplaced.

The handgun was entered into NCIC as stolen, and the incident remains under investigation.

Shoplifting — According to a report made on July 14, Sgt. Ethan Parham responded to Walmart regarding a shoplifting complaint.

Walmart Loss Prevention advised that on June 22, Alyvia Foster used the self-checkout and scanned multiple items but failed to scan and pay for all merchandise before leaving the store. The incident was captured on Walmart's security surveillance system.

The unpaid merchandise was valued at \$78.11. Foster was issued a criminal citation for theft of property involving merchandise and cited into Carroll County General Sessions Court.

Driving Without a License Following Crash — According to a report made on July 23, Sgt. Ethan Parham responded to a two-vehicle crash at the intersection of Buena Vista Road and Veterans Drive.

During the investigation, officers determined that Gaspar Baltazar-Gomez failed to stop at the posted stop sign at the four-way intersection, resulting in a collision with another vehicle. Further investiga-

tion revealed Baltazar-Gomez did not possess a valid driver's license.

Baltazar-Gomez was arrested and charged with failure to stop at a stop sign and driving without a valid driver's license. According to the report, federal authorities later determined Baltazar-Gomez was not lawfully present in the United States, and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security issued an immigration detainer for him.

Shoplifting — According to a report made on July 27, Sgt. Ethan Parham responded to Walmart regarding a shoplifting complaint.

Following an investigation, officers determined Ariel McCurdy and Chetney Johnson concealed multiple items of merchandise and attempted to leave the store without paying. The incident was witnessed by Walmart Loss Prevention and captured on the store's security camera system.

The merchandise was valued at \$31.11. McCurdy and Johnson were each cited into Carroll County General Sessions Court for theft of property involving merchandise.

Felony Evading Arrest, Reckless Driving — According to a report made on July 23, Officer Daniel Inman observed a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed on Lexington Street. Radar showed the vehicle traveling 69 mph in a posted 45 mph zone.

Officer Inman activated his emergency lights and siren, but the driver failed to stop and continued traveling at a high rate of speed. The vehicle passed a delivery van before turning into the Missionary Baptist Church parking lot and continuing onto Moody Street.

Lt. Joey Hedge later observed the vehicle continue onto Noles Lane. Sgt. Ethan Parham then observed the vehicle fail to stop at the intersection of Noles Lane and Highway 22 South, narrowly missing multiple vehicles as it entered the intersection.

The vehicle eventually came to an abrupt stop, and the driver, Hunter Canada, exited. Sgt. Parham placed Canada in handcuffs without further incident.

Canada was arrested and charged with felony evading arrest and reckless driving. He was also cited for speeding 69 mph in a 45 mph zone and failure to obey a stop sign. Canada was transported to the Carroll County Jail.

Simple Possession of Marijuana — According to a report made on July 21, Officer Brad Allen was contacted by an off-duty police officer who reported seeing a man in a van attempting to roll a marijuana joint while parked at Huck's.

Officer Allen responded and made contact with Emmanuel T. Little. When Little opened the vehicle door, Officer Allen detected a strong odor of marijuana coming from inside. Little admitted having marijuana and handed Officer Allen an envelope containing a small amount of crushed marijuana.

When asked if there was additional marijuana in the vehicle, Little stated there was more inside a can in his backpack. Officer Allen located a can containing a clear plastic bag with a green leafy substance believed to be marijuana. The marijuana weighed 4.2 grams.

Little was cited into Carroll County General Sessions Court and charged with simple possession of marijuana.

McKenzie Police Reports

Driving on Suspended License — Celonza Rudolph, Graysville, Alabama, was charged with Driving on Suspended License on August 5.

Officer Timothy Dillon observed Rudolph driving on Brooks Avenue. The car had front-end damage from a crash with a skid steer machine at a driveway that was being repaved. Rudolph had previously been suspended in Alabama. He was cited into General Sessions Court.

Driving on Revoked License — Brandon Pullen, 26th Avenue, Nashville, was charged with Driving on a Revoked License on August 5.

Officer Jayden Rembert

stopped Pullen's vehicle after Pullen was observed not wearing his seatbelt and operating the vehicle erratically. A license check revealed the revoked status due to a prior DUI. He was cited into General Sessions and the license document was seized.

Stolen Phone — Lindsey Damesworth, Reynolds Street, McKenzie, was charged with burglary after she concealed a phone she had borrowed.

Officer Timothy Dillon's report indicated Timothy Hickey, an inmate at Carroll County Jail, gave her permission to take the phone because she needed it to

access her bank information. When Dillon was released, the report indicates that Damesworth stated she did not have it; however, the phone was pinged and found to be at Damesworth's residence.

Warrant Service — Jeffery Lynn Hampton, Florida Court, McKenzie, was arrested on active warrants of Cruelty to Animals and Assault on August 8.

Officer Matthew Cunningham went to Florida Court, where he made the arrest of Hampton on the two warrants.

Property Transfers

Nicholas Burns and wife, Pamela Jane Appleton to Nicholas B. or Pamela Jane Appleton, as trustees. No district listed.

Christy Cook to Christy and husband, Rodney Cook in District 10.

Craig Clayton Ellis to Willard Trent Ellis in District 15.

Craig Clayton and Willard Trent Ellis to Blunts Creek Trust dated July 20, 2026, in District 15.

Craig Clayton and Willard Trent Ellis to Craig Clayton and Willard Trent Ellis as trustees in District 11.

Craig Clayton and Willard Trent Ellis to Craig Clayton and Willard Ellis as trustees in District 11.

Craig Clayton and Willard Trent Ellis to Blunts Creek Trust dated July 20, 2026 in District 11.

Craig Clayton and Willard Trent Ellis to Craig Clayton and Willard Trent Ellis as trustees in District 11.

Craig Clayton and Willard Trent Ellis to Blunts Creek Trust dated July 20, 2026 in District 11.

Craig Clayton and Willard Trent Ellis to Craig Clayton and Willard Trent Ellis as trustees in District 15.

Brian Thomas Marsolek to Stephanie Nicole Moudy and Thaddeus in District 16.

William E. and wife, Lecia Webb to Joshua and wife, Ashley Costello. No district listed.

Clay Roberts Easley as executor to Christopher L. and wife, Tarra N. Henry in District 16.

Alan G. Kinningham as trustee to Don A. and wife, Jeanna C. Bush in District 7.

The Industrial Development Board of the City of McKenzie, Tennessee to Carroll County Lumber Company, Inc. in District 4.

LaLonnne E. Gillespie to Legacy 8357 U/A dated 19 March 2027 in District 24.

Carter Heath and wife, Winifred J. Hollingsworth to Carter Heath and wife, Winifred J. Hollingsworth in District 18.

Carter Heath and wife, Winifred J. Hollingsworth to Carter Heath and wife,

Winifred J. Hollingsworth in District 24.

Northwest Tennessee Property General Partnership to Earl W. Sullivan in District 4.

Wanda Edwards to Craig and wife, Josie Hutchison in District 11.

Clayton Brothers Farm Trust to Daniela Castelan in District 7.

Martha Lyn Greer and others to Jerry Greer and others in District 21.

Joel T. and wife, Teresa Washburn to Jason R. and wife, Brittany M. Martin in District 4.

Clayton Brothers Farm Trust to Michael and wife, Margaret Morrison. No district listed.

Matthew D. and wife, Lindsey A. Holt to Elizabeth N. Etheridge in District 9.

Scott E. and wife, Christine L. Williams to David M. and wife, Bonnie K. Chaney in District 4.

William E. and wife, Lecia Webb to Kenneth Joseph and wife, Mary Josephine Carlyn in District 19.

Sandra T. Bradberry to John Brent Bradberry in District 4.

Melissa Ann Dufek and others to Melissa Ann Dufek in District 12.

Swamp Oak Group LLC to Charles Lee and wife, Jennifer M. Johnson in District 6.

Opendoor Property Trust to Rickey Alan and wife, Penney Elizabeth Turner. No district listed.

Brenda Joyce Spencer and others to Haley Brooke Williams and husband, Isaiah Denote Lamonth Donald in District 16.

GL Land, LLC to Nicholas and wife, Megan Hutson in District 23.

GL Land, LLC to Dennis and wife, Debra Hutson in District 23.

John Michael and wife, Susan Elizabeth Gilliam to Jeremy L. and wife, Angela D. Mayberry. No district listed.

Timothy Hough to Jessie Christman Jr. in District 16.

Vance and wife, Tammy Ward to Eugene J. Gardner

Jr. No district listed.

Thomas H. and wife, Dian L. Edwards to Joseph G. and Victoria A. Gross and others in District 4.

Elizabeth Dunn and others to TF Holdings in District 4.

Ronnie and wife, Sandra J. Cooper to Adam L. and wife, Amanda L. Dennison in District 3.

Steven G. and wife, Michele L. Harn to Edward Eric and wife, Marcia Anne Hester in District 7.

Elizabeth N. Etheridge to Patrick Joseph and wife, Bianca Elizabeth Macdonald in District 3.

Jerry L. and wife, Nanette Stanley and others to JLH Golf Group, LLC in District 4.

Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation to Carolyn Sue Anzaldua. No district listed.

Carol Crider F/K/A Carol Crocker to Kenneth Atkinson II. No district listed.

A Marie Krebs to A. Marie Krebs as trustee. No district listed.

Matthew B. Rouse to Tyrel W. Mitchel as trustee and others. No district listed.

Hendricus Van Woerden to Jeffrey and wife, Cindee Eychaner in District 9.

Steadfast Home Buyers and AGMLLC dba Steadfast Home Buyers to Andrew J. Luman and others. No district listed.

Marshall R. Chaney Jr. to Vicki J. Scott and others in District 11.

RT Jenney, LLC. to Martin and Bailey, Inc. No district listed.

James Rodney and wife, Andrea Gaye Hampton to Christy N. Brandon in District 11.

Austin Fongers to Kevin G. and wife, Barbara J. Lane in District 8.

Martha Jean Autry to Susan (Suse) Cole. No district listed.

Habitat for Humanity of Carroll County, Inc. to JayAnn Johnson in District 22.

Robert C. Williams, individually and as executor, to Luthor E. and wife, Beth K. Pride in District 22.

Carroll County Sheriff's Reports

Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon, Driving on Suspended License — On July 29, Deputy Dustin McClure was conducting criminal interdiction on Highway 70A in McMoresville when he observed a silver Nissan Altima traveling without functioning registration lights. As Deputy McClure approached in his marked patrol vehicle, the Nissan abruptly turned onto School Street. After confirming the registration lights were not functioning, Deputy McClure initiated a traffic stop near School and Park streets.

Deputy McClure identified the driver as Quincy D'Shawn Douglass, 42, of Memphis. A records check showed Douglass' driver's license was indefinitely suspended through Madison County Circuit Court. Deputy McClure reported that Douglass and his female passenger displayed signs of extreme nervousness, including heavy breathing and visibly shaking hands. After Douglass exited the vehicle, he gave deputies consent to search it and stated there was "nothing" inside. Both occupants denied there were firearms or illegal narcotics in the vehicle.

During the search, Deputy McClure located a black bag on the passenger side of the vehicle containing a loaded FMK 9mm pistol. The firearm had one round in the chamber and eight additional rounds in the magazine. The passenger later told deputies the firearm belonged to Douglass and that she had repeatedly told him not to carry it because of his previous legal trouble. She stated that when she saw the marked patrol vehicle approaching, she removed the firearm from the center console, where Douglass had placed it, and put it inside her bag because she did not want him to get into trouble. She also admitted she initially lied by claiming the firearm belonged to her.

Based on the firearm's location, the passenger's statements and Douglass' status as a convicted felon, Douglass was arrested and transported to the Carroll County Jail. He was charged with unlawful possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and driving on a suspended

driver's license.

Theft of Firearm — On July 30, Deputy Jeremy Smith received a report concerning a firearm stolen from a residence in Atwood. The victim reported that a black Smith & Wesson .380 handgun had been stolen either from her purse or from inside the residence. She was unable to provide an exact time when the firearm was taken but discovered it missing that day.

Two fully loaded magazines were also reported stolen with the firearm. The handgun was valued at approximately \$400. The firearm was entered into the National Crime Information Center database as stolen.

Burglary, Theft, Vandalism — On August 2, Deputy Terry Millholen responded to a residence on Smyrna Road in Huntingdon regarding property damage and stolen items. Deputies were advised that the homeowner was currently residing in a nursing home and a family member had been caring for the property. A family member had gone to the property earlier that evening and discovered several items had been damaged. Deputies learned the driver's side rear window of a Ford Ranger had been broken and the doors of an exterior storage shed had been forced open. After gaining entry to the shed, an unknown subject allegedly cut the fuel lines on a Toro lawn mower and stole two boxes of tools. Deputies also determined the rear door of the residence had been damaged to gain entry into the home. Items reported stolen from the residence included a flashlight, a 50-inch Vizio television and a Vizio surround sound system. An archery bow was also listed among the stolen property in the report. The investigation remained active at the time of the report.

Burglary, Theft — On August 1, Deputy Michael Smith received a report of a camper that had previously been broken into on New Liberty Church Road in Cedar Grove.

The owner reported that he had traveled to Florida and, after returning sometime in June, discovered his camper had been burglarized.

A small bag of tools valued at approximately \$200 was reported stolen. The owner did not report the burglary until August 1 and had since moved the camper to Madison County.

Fraud — On August 3, Investigator Angel Furr met with a woman at the Carroll County Jail lobby who reported fraudulent activity involving her First Bank account. The woman provided bank statements showing several transactions during July that she said she did not authorize. Investigator Furr contacted a First Bank representative, who advised that the woman had reportedly been involved in a romance scam and that the individual involved had taken a significant amount of her money. The bank representative believed the individual may have gained access to the woman's email and subsequently her bank account. Fraudulent activity dating back to June was also reportedly being disputed. The woman reported approximately \$585.83 in fraudulent transactions during July. The transactions occurred between July 2 and July 28 and included charges associated with Owcownerly.com, Omniwatch and Mission Lane. She also reported unauthorized Walmart.com transactions, although Investigator Furr was unable to independently verify those transactions through her account. Investigator Furr provided the woman with a copy of the report to give to First Bank.

TOWN OF TREZEVANT

NOTICE OF MEETING

There is special called meeting Thursday, August 20, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. for the Town of Trezevant's second reading of the 2026-2027 Budget Amendments Ordinance at the Trezevant Community Center.

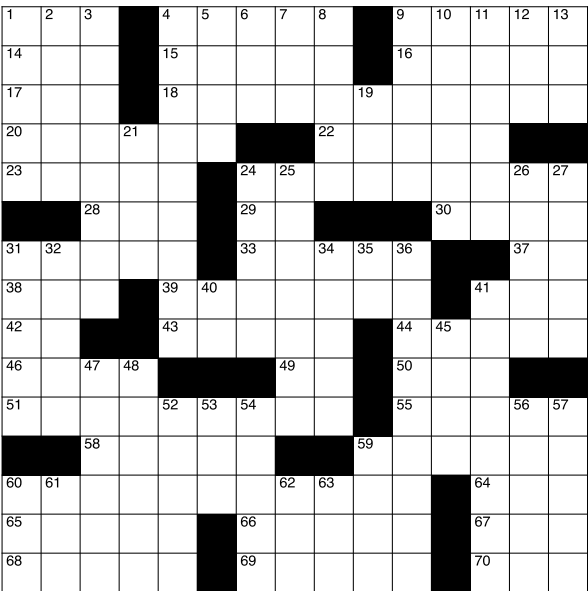
A394/32-1

Color A Masterpiece



Weekly Crossword

- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Midway between south and southeast
 - 4. Fathers
 - 9. Wine grape
 - 14. Al Bundy's wife
 - 15. Derived from ammonia
 - 16. Venezuelan state
 - 17. Interest rate
 - 18. Experts
 - 20. Vascular tissues
 - 22. Smooth and glossy
 - 23. Administrative region in S. Korea
 - 24. One from Damascus
 - 28. Special interest group
 - 29. It cools your home
 - 30. Oh, God!
 - 31. Intestinal pouches
 - 33. Men
 - 37. Twelfth star in a constellation
 - 38. Former CIA
 - 39. Arrange in grades of size
 - 41. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
 - 42. "The Great Lakes State"
 - 43. Having earlike appendages
 - 44. Momentarily stop
 - 46. Ancient kingdom
 - 49. Of I
 - 50. White clerical vestment
 - 51. Songs to one's beloved
 - 55. Charges
 - 58. Computer application originator
 - 59. A place to dock a boat
 - 60. One guided by reason
 - 64. Slang for cigarette
 - 65. Sailboats
 - 66. "Jerry Maguire" actor Zellweger
 - 67. Screen type



- 68. Country legend Haggard
- 69. Puts together in time
- 70. When you anticipate arriving
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Involuntary muscular contraction
- 2. Eastern US transit agency
- 3. Leaves a place
- 4. Cease to participate
- 5. Current units
- 6. Cease to exist
- 7. General's assistant (abbr.)
- 8. Earth vibration
- 9. Very strong winds
- 10. For each one
- 11. A bog
- 12. The creation of beautiful or significant things
- 13. Affirmative
- 19. Pie __ mode
- 21. Nonclerical
- 24. Indonesian island
- 25. Educational environment
- 26. Namibian peoples
- 27. Bring out or develop
- 31. Moves into a place of thought
- 32. Out of the way
- 34. Loads a ship
- 35. Beloved Hollywood alien
- 36. Distinguishes
- 40. The ancient Egyptian sun god
- 41. Secondary or explanatory title
- 45. Relating to a wing
- 47. One who gives a speech
- 48. In the middle
- 52. Loop with a running knot
- 53. Airborne (abbr.)
- 54. Sweet persons
- 56. Put into play
- 57. Small cattle breed
- 59. Millisecond
- 60. Revolutions per minute
- 61. They __
- 62. Moon crater
- 63. A place to stay the night

Week 32 See solution in next week's edition.

Wellness Word Search

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

Balanced
Breathe
Care
Cleanse
Energy
Fitness

Gratitude
Harmony
Healing
Holistic
Hydration
Meditation

Mindfulness
Nutrition
Recovery
Relaxation
Resilience
Routine

Serenity
Slumber
Stamina
Strength
Vitality
Well-Being

THIS DAY IN HISTORY



1851: Isaac Singer is granted a patent for the sewing machine.

1981: The IBM Personal Computer is released.

1990: The largest and most complete Tyrannosaurus rex skeleton to date is found and named Sue after Sue Hendrickson.

SUDOKU

WEEK 32

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

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 wellness. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 4 = E)

A. 7 16 4 7 12 11 25

Clue: Well visit

B. 24 20 7 10 20 14

Clue: Medical expert

C. 4 17 4 14 7 15 8 4

Clue: Physical activity

D. 24 15 4 10

Clue: The foods one eats

Answers: A. checkup B. doctor C. exercise D. diet

LETTER MIX-UP

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

MINDFULNESS

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

Riddle Me This

When is a doctor most annoyed?

Answer: When he is out of patients.

WORD SCRAMBLE

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

ERAHEBT

Answer: Breathe

GUESS WHO ?

I am an actor born in Massachusetts on August 12, 1975. I attended Columbia University and majored in physics. But I went into acting like my older brother, playing many supporting roles. I went on to win an Academy Award for a starring role.

Answer: Casey Affleck

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PUZZLE SOLUTION

Week 31 Crossword Puzzle Solution

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

SUDOKU SOLUTION WEEK 31

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

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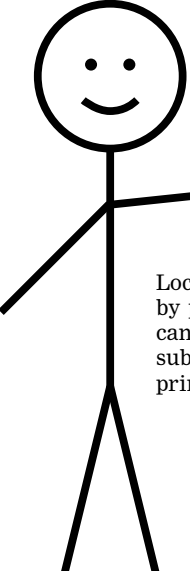
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Starting salary will be \$18 per hour or higher based on experience. A high school diploma or GED equivalent is required, but ten years of experience and/or a college degree in a closely related industry is preferred. The Town of Trezevant is a drug free workplace with participation in the Tennessee Drug-Free Workplace Program. Applications may be picked up at City Hall during business hours M-F 8 a.m.-4 p.m., except 12-1 p.m. (closed for lunch) and will be accepted until August 17 at 4 p.m. The Town will begin scheduling interviews on August 18.

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Left, MHS Vice Principal Zach Tippitt goes down in the dunking booth after a bullseye by Hannah Winstead. Right, McKenzie Mayor Ryan Griffin participated in the Punt-Pass-Kick competition. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner

Meet-and-Greet for McKenzie Football, Cheer, Band a Big Hit

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

MCKENZIE (August 8) — McKenzie football players, cheerleaders and band members hosted a meet-and-greet event Saturday at Rebel Stadium. Players from the McKenzie Youth Football League (MYFL) all the way up to high school, middle and high school cheerleaders and the McKenzie Marching Rebels were introduced on the field, followed by a variety of games, activities and vendors for a full evening of fun.

The event began with a prayer by recent MHS alum Carlton Townes and the playing of the National Anthem by the Marching Rebels.

Each of the teams and groups were then brought onto the field and introduced by Brian Winston and Craig Lunn.

This year, K-2nd Grade Flag Football includes five teams: the Carroll County Lumber Bills, the American Roofing Co. Raiders, the Carroll Bank & Trust Cowboys, the Hometown Hangout Chiefs and the Power Supply Ravens.

3rd-4th Grade Flag Football includes five teams: the McKenzie Banking Company Titans, the Tosh Farms Packers, the High Pointe Storage Raiders, the Maddox Insurance Cowboys and the Winstead Concrete Bears.

MYFL also includes a 5th-6th Grade Tackle team.

The MMS cheerleaders performed a routine during



Stafford Roditis (left) won the adult round of the Punt-Pass-Kick competition. MHS coaches Ben Hargett (center) and Austin Chapman also made a strong showing in the event. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

their introduction, and the high school squad cheered throughout the event.

Besides the National Anthem, the Marching Rebels performed pep songs during the introductions.

New MMS Head Coach Jay Taylor addressed the crowd, introducing his assistant coaches and thanking the fans for their support.

MHS Head Coach Keith Hodge also spoke, thanking the crowd and expressing his excitement for the season.

Punt-Pass-Kick competitions were held for middle school, high school and adults. Participants began in one end zone with a punt, then threw a pass as far as possible and kicked a field goal from that spot.

The middle school win-

ner was Payton Cox, the MMS kicker.

The high school winner was Parker Ross, a sophomore backup QB and starting defensive back for MHS.

The adult winner was Stafford Roditis, an MHS alum and standout kicker now playing for the UTM Skyhawks.

Winners received gift certificates to Hometown Hangout.

The dunking booth was a big draw, with a variety of McKenzie school staff taking splashes throughout the event.

A variety of items were available for purchase, including cheer uniforms, pom poms, vintage jerseys and helmets. A silent auction was held, and concessions were provided.

MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOTBALL



Above, Starting a new home game tradition, MMS teacher Braxton Hobson served as honorary teacher captain, joining players (L to R) Kingsten Gibbs, Reed Gaskins and Navadius Owens for the pregame coin toss. Below Left, Rebel Makhyn Gilbert makes a leaping catch. Below Right, Rebel Reed Gaskins spins a Tornado ball carrier to the ground. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner



Rebels Struggle Against Union City in Opener

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

MCKENZIE (August 6) — McKenzie Middle School hosted Union City Thursday to open the football season. The Rebels struggled on both sides of the ball in the first half as the Golden Tornadoes opened up a big lead. McKenzie made some adjustments and looked better down the stretch, avoiding the shutout with a late touchdown, but Union City claimed a 44-7 win.

With the new season came a new tradition for MMS football. For each home game, eighth grade players will choose an honorary teacher captain from the middle or elementary school to participate in the pregame coin toss. The teacher chosen for the first game was seventh grade ELA teacher Braxton Hobson.

McKenzie won the coin toss and chose to receive the opening kickoff.

The Rebels began their first drive at their 26. Navadius Owens started the drive with back-to-back carries to move the chains, but it was quickly third-and-nine. A high snap was recovered by Union City at the McKenzie 23.

The Tornadoes scored on three plays and added a two-point conversion for an 8-0 lead halfway through the first frame.

McKenzie went three-and-out on their second possession, but Rebel Makhyn Gilbert had a solid punt to put Union City at their own 34.

On the first snap, Gilbert ran down a Tornado and made the tackle to prevent a touchdown, but the 50-yard gain set up Union City for a 16-yard score on the next play. Reed Gaskins led a host of Rebels in stopping the two-point try, and the Tornadoes led 14-0 late in the first quarter.

The Rebels began the ensuing drive at their 42, and Owens moved the chains as the frame ended. On the first play of the second quarter, quarterback Kenden Coleman's pass was intercepted.



Rebel Navadius Owens drags a Union City defender into the end zone for McKenzie's late touchdown. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

The Tornado quarterback took the first snap 70 yards to the end zone, but a holding penalty negated the score. Three plays later, Union City scored on a 61-yard run. A completed pass added two points, and the Tornadoes led 22-0.

Union City pulled off a successful outside kick to steal a possession from McKenzie and scored on two plays. Another two-point conversion made the score 30-0.

Owens found space for an excellent return on the ensuing kickoff, finally stopped at the Tornado 23. Coleman kept for 11 yards and a first down, then Owens ran for four. Coleman lost two yards on a keeper, then completed a pass to Gilbert for six. On fourth-and-two at the 4, Owens was stopped just short of the first-down marker. With two minutes remaining in the half, Union City took over at their own 3.

The Rebel defense held strong to force a fourth down, but Union City completed an 11-yard pass to move the chains. Two plays later, another touchdown was negated by a penalty, but the next play resulted in a Tornado score. The Rebels stopped the two-point try, and the score was 36-0 with five seconds left in the half.

McKenzie received the kick as time expired.

Union City received the second-half kickoff but

committed back-to-back penalties to start the drive. Owens made a tackle for a five-yard loss to make it second-and-20 at the Tornado 25, but Union City scored again on a 75-yard run. The two-point conversion was good, and the Tornadoes led 44-0 halfway through the third quarter.

The Rebels went three-and-out on their first drive of the second half.

Union City began their drive with a false start, then Gaskins made three straight tackles to force a fourth down as the quarter ended. Rebels Mason Davidson and Colin Yeley made the stop for the turnover on downs on the first snap of the final frame.

Gilbert had two carries to bring up third-and-short, then Owens moved the chains on back-to-back plays. Quarterback Cord Wall scrambled to turn a high snap into a short gain, then Owens earned two more first downs. Two more gains by Owens were followed by a fumble to make it fourth-down, but Owens took it ten yards to get the Rebels on the board with under a minute to play. Payton Cox kicked the PAT, and Union City led 44-7.

Time expired just after the ensuing kick.

The Rebels have a bye week, then travel to Lexington on Tuesday, August 18. Kickoff is 6:30 p.m.

McKenzie's Blackburn Inducted into USA/ASA Tennessee Hall of Fame

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

LEBANON (August 1) — Greg Blackburn of McKenzie was inducted Saturday into the USA Softball/Amateur Softball Association (ASA) Tennessee Hall of Fame for his 35-year career as coach/sponsor of the Jean Shoppe men's slow pitch softball team, which yielded ten world tournament wins and 30 state tournament wins.

Also inducted were two of Blackburn's former players, Craig Harris and Buddy Majors. Harris was originally from Memphis and Majors from McMinnville, and Blackburn recruited them when they were students at Bethel College.

Blackburn has previously been inducted into the Independent Sports Association (ISA) National Hall of Fame, the National Softball Association (NSA) Hall of



(L to R) Greg Blackburn of McKenzie and his former players Craig Harris and Buddy Majors were recently inducted into the USA Softball/Amateur Softball Association (ASA) Tennessee Hall of Fame. Photo courtesy USA/ASA

Fame and the United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) Hall of Fame.

He told The Banner, "I want all my players to know

that I'm really thankful for what they've done for me to get these accolades. I couldn't have done it without them."

Lynn Watkins Named Head Men's Golf Coach at Bethel University

MCKENZIE (August 4) — Bethel University Vice President of Athletics Derek Horne announced Tuesday the hiring of Lynn Watkins as the new head coach of the Wildcats' men's golf program.

Watkins begins his first collegiate coaching position following a distinguished 40-year career in education and administration, bringing more than five decades of golf experience, proven leadership and deep roots in the McKenzie community.

A lifelong resident of

McKenzie, Watkins earned a Bachelor of Science in Education from the University of Tennessee at Martin and a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership from Trevecca Nazarene University. He retired in June 2023 after an accomplished career with the McKenzie Special School District, where he served as a teacher, coach, assistant principal, principal and director of schools.

He and his wife, Molly Beth, are the proud parents of three adult children—Mitchell (Katie), Re-

bekah (Carter), and Paul (Stephanie)—and grandparents to Porter, Miller, and Mollie.

Watkins has enjoyed the game of golf for more than 50 years and has maintained a longstanding relationship with Bethel University through friendships with alumni, faculty, staff and supporters. Encouraged by Bethel golf coaches John Austin and Larry Joe Smith, Watkins accepted the opportunity to lead the Wildcats program.

"I've always felt that Bethel University has been

a part of my life," Watkins said. "Many of my closest friends are Bethel alumni, and I worked alongside so many Bethel graduates throughout my career in education. This is an opportunity to give back to a university that has given so much to our community."

Watkins said he is eager to invest in the lives of Bethel's student-athletes while continuing to build a competitive golf program.

"I look forward to developing lifelong relationships with our student-athletes, especially getting to

know our international players and learning about their backgrounds and cultures," Watkins said. "Most of all, I'm excited to add to the list of people who call me 'Coach.'"

Horne believes Watkins' leadership background and passion for mentoring young people make him an ideal fit for the program.

"First, we would like to thank Coach John Austin for the outstanding work he did leading our men's program to new heights of success, and we wish him the very best," Horne said. "We are extremely proud and excited to name Coach Watkins as our new

head coach. He has been an influential part of this city and region throughout his entire life.

"His love for the game of golf, his commitment to developing young people, and his proven leadership skills make him an outstanding fit for our program and for Bethel University."

Watkins inherits a men's golf program that has established itself as one of the Mid-South Conference's top contenders and looks forward to continuing that tradition while helping student-athletes succeed both on the course and in the classroom.

5 Broadway Debuts in Downtown McKenzie

BY LYNDSLEY SUMMERS
lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

MCKENZIE (August 6) — 5 Broadway received a warm welcome from the McKenzie community on Thursday morning, as the McKenzie Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the downtown event space.

Owned by Zeke and Kaitlyn Henderson, 5 Broadway is an event space made for small-scale gatherings like bridal and baby showers, birthdays and dinners. It can comfortably hold up to 80 people at a time and includes restrooms and a commercial kitchen. Linens and furniture are also available.

The Hendersons, who

also own The Silly Goose Children's Shop in McKenzie, live between Gleason and McKenzie. Noticing the area's need for small-scale event spaces and seeing opportunity in one of McKenzie's historic downtown buildings, they began working on 5 Broadway — which is, as the name suggests, located at 5 Broadway, McKenzie.

"There's a beautiful venue here in McKenzie that facilitates events for hundreds of people," Zeke said, referring to The Venue at Waddell Place, "but people don't always need a space for 300 when they're having a birthday party for 25. With 5 Broadway being right here in downtown McKenzie, it gives everyone a space to



Zeke and Kaitlyn Henderson celebrate 5 Broadway's debut with a ribbon-cutting ceremony coordinated by the McKenzie Chamber of Commerce. Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner

connect and have a good time."

5 Broadway hosted its first event, a Sweet 16 birthday party, on July 23. It also served as the venue of a back-to-school breakfast on August 4. The Hendersons said they have several bookings coming up, including a Mayor's Luncheon during McKenzie's Sweet Tea Festival.

Zeke and Kaitlyn have

more in store for downtown McKenzie — namely, a project Zeke called "the worst-kept secret" in town. Now that they have opened 5 Broadway for bookings, their next plan is to renovate the building to the right of The Silly Goose Children's Shop and open a menswear store.

McKenzie Mayor Ryan Griffin spoke at Thursday's ribbon-cutting. "When

I travel and look at other downtowns," he said, "I normally find a couple of people who have bought into the city that they have started to revitalize. When I think about Zeke and Kaitlyn, that's what I see for McKenzie. We have a lot of momentum happening downtown, and we're thankful for their investment in the city."

McKenzie Chamber of

Commerce Director Monica Heath reiterated Mayor Griffin's thanks and said, "I just can't wait to see what you can accomplish."

It costs \$100 per hour to host an event at 5 Broadway, and linens add \$50 to the overall cost. A full-day event at 5 Broadway is \$800. To book, message 5 Broadway on Facebook or call 678-936-2566.



Prescott & Pearl is located at 91 Bruce Street, in a right-side room of McKenzie's historic train depot. Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner

Prescott & Pearl Coming to theDEPOT

BY LYNDSLEY SUMMERS
lsummers@mckenziebanner.com

MCKENZIE — Carli Beeler has big plans for the city of McKenzie's fashion scene. Over the weekend, the recent McKenzie High School graduate announced the launch of Prescott & Pearl, a new clothing boutique and gift shop located at 91 Bruce Street. The shop will be the first business to open in theDEPOT, McKenzie's historic train depot turned retail incubator.

Beeler, the daughter of Tim and Ashley Beeler, credits her family's passion for building businesses and serving the surrounding communities for inspiring her to open a shop of her own. Her grandfather, Gary Simmons, owns Gary Simmons Lease-Sales in McKenzie, and her brother Drew Beeler has opened two businesses in McKenzie (Hometown Hangout and McKenzie Nutrition), one business in Greyton Beach, Fla. (Pecan Jacks) and will soon open a smoothie shop in Martin (Leaf & Berry).

Having always loved fashion, Beeler felt drawn to open a clothing boutique where she could help customers find the right pieces to make them feel confident. Aside from clothing, Prescott & Pearl will carry accessories, gifts, home décor and more.

"This has been a dream of mine for as long as I can remember, and I truly



Carli Beeler owner of Prescott & Pearl. Photo courtesy Prescott & Pearl

can't believe I finally get to share it with all of you," Beeler said.

Beeler said Prescott & Pearl is in its "final stretch" as she puts some finishing touches on the store and waits for a few last shipments to arrive. She has not yet announced an opening date.

However, the excitement of the upcoming launch coincides with another significant milestone for Beeler: she moves to Oxford, Miss., in the next few

days to begin her college career at The University of Mississippi. While she is away, Beeler said she plans to run Prescott & Pearl "behind the scenes" while her family and friends will work in the store.

Beeler also announced plans to bring Prescott & Pearl online, inviting customers from all over to shop from her selections. She hopes to eventually bring Prescott & Pearl to Oxford and other towns as a pop-up shop.

Rack Room Shoes Celebrates Grand Opening at Paris Crossing

PARIS (August 8) — Rack Room Shoes is now open at the new Paris Crossing shopping center. The newest location spans 6,000 square feet and is designed for seamless navigation, with enhanced family-focused graphics and seasonal displays featuring the latest back-to-school arrivals.

The store celebrated its grand opening event Saturday, August 8. The first 100 families to attend received exclusive Rack Room Shoes swag and had a chance to win

a \$500 Rack Room Shoes gift card. The first 100 kids also received a gift from Skechers.

Featuring an array of exciting activities for the entire family, customers became a part of the store's ribbon-cutting ceremony and enjoyed face paintings. Customers also took advantage of savings, with up to 30% off top brands including Brooks, Nike, Adidas, HEYDUDE, Converse and Crocs, 3x rewards points for all new and existing members on event day, plus \$20 off \$119 in-store,

with no exclusions.

"We're proud to bring Rack Room Shoes to Paris with a store designed to serve the entire family," said Jon Salge, regional manager at Rack Room Shoes. "Our focus is on providing customers with both value and quality in one convenient location. We look forward to being part of this growing area."

Rack Room Shoes is located at Paris Crossing at 1931 Mineral Wells Ave. It is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Nights on Broadway Goes Acoustic



MCKENZIE (August 6) — McKenzie's summer concert series Nights on Broadway continued Thursday night with an acoustic set by Huntingdon musicians Tylan Johnson, Claudia Cooper and Luke Cooper. Attendees gathered around the stage on Banner Row to meet with friends and enjoy the music. Photo by Joel Washburn/The Banner



W Lube Pro in Huntingdon Hosts Ribbon Cutting

HUNTINGDON (August 6) — W Lube Pro held its ribbon-cutting and grand opening on Thursday, August 6 at its brand new location at 21110 E. Main Street in Huntingdon.

Joe and Ben Wortham of Bruceton are the owners of the new Huntingdon location plus Quick Lube in

McKenzie.

Saul Haney is the general manager for both locations.

The new business is open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday and open the first Saturday of each month. The McKenzie store is open the same weekday hours and open on the second Saturday of each month.

Both locations have a customer waiting area.

The Wortham brothers built the custom-made structure. They plan to continue their construction business.

The event was facilitated by the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce.



Keelan Sneed, pictured above, has worked at E.W. James & Sons in McKenzie since he was 14 years old. Photo by Lyndsey Summers/The Banner

Keelan Sneed Receives Tennessee Grocers Education Scholarship

MCKENZIE — The Tennessee Grocers Education Foundation recently awarded Keelan Sneed of McKenzie with a Smith & Woods Management Scholarship in the amount of \$1,300.

Sneed, a 2026 graduate of McKenzie High School, has worked at E.W. James & Sons in McKenzie since he was 14 years old. He plans to attend The University of Tennessee at Martin and major in K-5 elementary education.

"We are so proud of Keelan and all of our scholarship

recipients," said Rob Ikard, TGCSA president. "These awards represent an investment in the future of Tennessee's food industry by supporting talented students as they pursue their educational and career goals."

The Tennessee Grocers Education Foundation awarded 102 scholarships totaling \$133,150 this year to students connected to Tennessee's grocery and convenience store industry.

Scholarship recipients are employees of TGCSA

member companies or the children or spouses of full-time employees of member companies.

The Smith & Woods Management Scholarship recognizes students who have demonstrated academic achievement, leadership and a commitment to excellence. Through scholarships like this, the foundation continues its mission of investing in the next generation of leaders for Tennessee's food industry.

