COMMUNITY NEWS

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Jury hears testimony in Sarah Johnson death

Antonio Smith verdict expected Friday

T-G Staff Report



RAYMOND ANTONIO SMITH

The first-degree murder trial of Raymond Antonio Smith began Monday before Judge Forest Alexander Durard Jr. and a 12-member jury in Bedford County Circuit Court. Smith is charged with the premeditated murder of 32-year-old Sarah Angelina "Angel" Johnson at 3142 Sims Road on March 15, 2022.

The state contends the murder weapons used include a piece of fire wood and a fireplace grate. The state further contends through its evidence that the defendant, Smith, was the one who beat "Angel" Johnson to death.

The 47-year-old defendant is recorded to be a resident of Fay Creek Road in Bedford County and also has resided at a Shelbyville apartment. Since his arrest on March 21, 2022, Smith has been in Bedford County jail under no bond.

Smith has pled not guilty to the charges brought against him by the State of Tennessee, 17th Judicial District Attorney General's Office. Representing Smith in the trial, as public defenders, are local attorneys Michael Collins and James Tucker.

State prosecutors said in their opening remarks Monday morning they're about to bring enough evidence against Smith to prove he is, without a shadow of a doubt, guilty of first-degree felony murder in the brutal killing of "Angel" Johnson.

"This is not a case of self-defense," said District Attorney General Robert Carter. "This is not a case of duress or anything along those lines. This is simply a case of murder and theft."

The owner of the home where the crime took place is Kathy Mangrum, reportedly a friend of the victim. The state will allow Mangrum's testimony that she awoke to Johnson's screams. More state evidence shows that Mangrum witnessed Smith brutally beating "Angel." Mangrum told the state that Smith demanded she hand over the keys to her truck.

Smith then fled, she said. He added that evidence shows that Smith wrecked Mangrum's truck less than a mile down the road, approximately around 8 p.m. and then fled the scene. He was arrested and charged with the crime a few days later.

The DA said there had been people in the Sims Road home, prior to the crime, including Kathy Mangrum's son, Steven Eric Mangrum, but further stated that Eric and two others had gone to the store before the crime occurred. Mangrum, Johnson and Smith were the only people in the home at the time of the murder, the DA advised.

He further stated that Mangrum's daughter, Leah Mangrum, and her boyfriend, Rodney Un-

See TRIAL, 2A





Two new teachers signed letters of intent with Community Elementary and Cartwright Elementary on the night of the school system's recruitment fair. The school system has also signed several student teachers who were not in attendance; they have already signed letters of intent. School officials said they're hopeful for more recruits in the coming weeks.

School system hosts teacher recruitment fair

HR supervisor Watson chats about its purpose

By DAWN HANKINS

Bedford County School System recently organized a teacher recruitment fair. So, the T-G chatted with Neil Watson, director of human resources, about the purpose behind the event.

"The goal of the BCS teacher recruitment fair is to recruit potential teachers by inviting area student teachers, area teachers looking for a change in school districts and career-changers who hold a bachelor's degree or higher," Watson said.

To reach potential candidates, BCS promotes the event through various forms of media as well as at area college job fairs. "This recruitment fair is an opportunity for candidates to meet principals from each school and interview for open positions. It is also an opportunity for HR to schedule meetings with career-changers who have an interest in learning about the pathways to teacher licensure."

Watson said by meeting our local educators, potential educators will hopefully see that BCS is a special place to work with supportive and caring teammates who want to see students and educators alike reach their highest potential.

"Our why is student success, and we build each other up in helping students achieve."

When asked about crucial teaching positions that are open, Watson said that all teaching positions are important for maximizing student success; however, some positions are crucial and can be difficult to fill. These include English as a Second Language (ESL), Special Education, Grades 6-12 Math and Science.

Is there a shift in credential requirements for educators?

Watson said traditional-path teachers still earn a four-year bachelor's degree. However, there are currently several alternative pathways for teaching and obtaining teacher licensure. These are as follows:

1. Job-Embedded – a person with a bachelor's degree who is seeking a teaching license, and after screening, is placed in a classroom setting while working toward licensure;

2. Endorsement-Only Programs – coursework that results in a teaching license but not an additional degree (i.e. masters);

3. Master's pathway – coursework that leads to a master's degree and licensure.

When asked how many teachers his office estimates are still needed for the 2024-2025 school year, he said Bedford County needs to fully staff the newest school – Cartwright Elementary – which is set to open this fall. He said the new facility is approximately 95% staffed at this point.

"However, this did open up some positions around the school district. On average, we hire 70-90 new teachers per school year, which is on track for this coming school year as well."

Watson said the traditional path of teachers graduating from universities continues to decrease. BCS has seen a continued increase in career-changers, or, in other words, those holding a bachelor's degree or higher, making their way into the classroom and working through various licensure pathways.

"I foresee this potential teacher-recruiting pool continuing to increase; I predict this will one day be the source for the highest number of potential teacher candidates."

Statistics show that less college students are majoring in education. When asked if he believes this is true, Watson said yes, he believes that's accurate.

"The number of education majors continues to decrease. I am not sure about an absolute why, but education has changed. The social opinion of teachers has changed, and the pressure on teachers has increased."

Watson said he still believes the education profession is one of the most impactful and rewarding careers one can have.

"As a career-changer myself and now in my 14th year of education, and married to a career-educator, I can speak with authority when I say the rewards far outnumber the challenges. It is truly a noble profession, worthy of people's support and praise."

The human resources director said BCS attends various college teacher recruitment fairs annually at higher-education institutions such as Middle Tennessee State University, Tennessee Tech University and the University of Tennessee-Knoxville.

Watson was asked about teacher expectations on the local level.

"Aside from all the teacher expectations from the state department of education and the school district itself in terms of ethics, rules, regulations, etc., BCS is seeking teachers who first and foremost love children. Children of all ages need the same thing: someone who loves them, someone who believes they are capable of learning and growing, and someone who encourages them every step of the way. We want educators who are advocates and champions for our students."

Commission sends by-pass resolution to state

By DAWN HANKINS

Growth is here and coming full speed.

Discussions at the Bedford County Board of Commissioners meeting last Tuesday night all came back full circle to the growth of Bedford County.

The Commission said now is a critical time for the Tennessee Department of Transportation to continue the expansion of state route (By-Pass) 437. Commissioner John Boutwell presented resolution 2415-one intended for state officials-that requests for the expedited expansion of the by-pass.

The resolution originated with Boutwell and other committee members from the Rules and Legislative Committee.

Boutwell said it is thought the target area would be Highway 41A North (the El Bethel community area.) The resolution was approved by 17 of the 18 commissioners last Tuesday. Commissioner Drew Hooker was absent.

Boutwell said he had contacted State Rep. Pat Marsh and they learned from Tennessee Department of Transportation officials that the by-pass expansion phase was currently "dormant" and has been since 2017.

"It's just not on the radar with the state . . . funding not there," said Boutwell.

Boutwell said this state highway expansion, he believes, would ease traffic congestion for Shelbyville and Bedford County therefore making it easier for residents and tourists to access Highways 231 North and 41A North.

"The resolution points out how the heart of Bedford County's commercial retail is currently off those state highways. He said and of course there's more coming to 231 North-the new MTSU aviation school, the new Tennessee College of Applied Technology, the new Cartwright Elementary and likely more retail, as a result.



Commissioner John Boutwell reads the by-pass resolution which is being sent to Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) for the expansion of state route 437 from Highways 231 North and 41A North.

The expansion was also initially intended to go out to Highway 64 West. But discussions last night indicated that phase of expansion is still questionable.

"I was told it had something to do with that next leg over to 64 West," said Mayor Chad Graham. "They have to cross over the river . . . ."

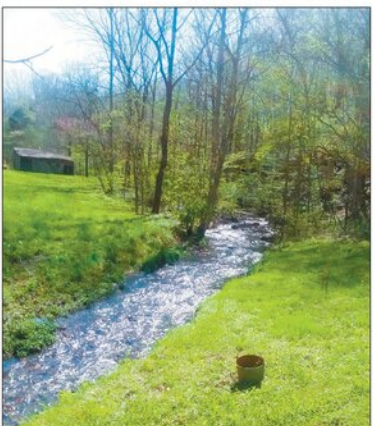
So, the phase still rests in the hands of TDOT.

That didn't deter the County from making its request known to the state.

Commissioners voted to send this resolution on to TDOT Commissioner Butch Eley. Commissioner Linda Yockey asked if this resolution was also being sent to State Rep. Pat Marsh.

"Who does this resolution go

See BY-PASS, 3A



T-G Photo by Dawn Hankins

SOUTHERN MIDDLE TENNESSEE STREAMING
Lazy, warm days are coming to creeks and campsites. Enjoy middle Tennessee! See more pictures on page 4.

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Strike Out Cancer
Event to be held on Saturday, read the story of former local athlete's story of cancer survival.

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Yentz Family Farm
Local farm plans big event for Mother's Day weekend, with first garden tea party.

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TRIAL

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derwood, arrived at the Sims Road home just before 9:15 p.m. on March 15. The DA has learned that Leah Mangrum mistakenly thought that Angel Johnson's body was actually that of her mother, Kathy Mangrum, and she became stained with blood out of trying to help her.

Carter further emphasized to the jury, "She cannot recognize the body, because of the condition of Angel's body."

Rodney Underwood was the one who initially called 9-1-1 to 3142 Sims Road. Carter stated that Kathy Mangrum had already fled the home from a side door. Fearful that Smith would return, Kathy Mangrum is reported to have hidden in nearby woods or most of the night.

For first degree murder, Tennessee punishes by either the death penalty, life imprisonment without the possibility of parole, or life imprisonment with possible parole. Should the jury find Smith guilty, a sentencing hearing will be held at a later date.

The state has also charged Smith with 1 count of theft of property (no less than $2,500 or more than $10,000) for allegedly stealing and wrecking Mangrum's truck. The truck was apparently abandoned at the Henslee and Sims Road intersection-less than a mile from the crime scene.

"When this trial concludes, I will ask you for justice," stated Carter. "And you will know the just verdict is finding the defendant guilty of the crime of which he is indicted."

"The state has a significant amount of proof in this case," said Carter. "We anticipate having 30 or more witnesses. But this is not like a TV show . . . that's not real life. It's far more difficult. And it will be far more difficult on you."

The DA added, "Each witness that we call to testify will add one piece to the whole puzzle. And, it's important that you remember that. No one witness can tell this whole story."

Carter said witnesses would include the TBI, the state coroner, Bedford County Sheriff Department deputies, EMS paramedics and Tennessee Highway Patrol officers-all who worked the scene on March 15, 2022.

"You will hear from individuals who were at or near the scene of the house on March 15, 2022. And you will hear from several neighbors who live in the area of Ms. Mangrum's house who were forced to interact with this defendant right after he committed the crime."

The DA explained that state evidence and testimonies will be clear and easily understood, without prejudice. "You have to use your common sense . . . ask yourself during testimony, does that pass the common-sense test?"

Calling the witnesses

The first witness called to the stand Monday was Taylor Swiderski, who lived on 223 Henslee Road in 2022. Swiderski outlined how he initially investigated the abandoned 4Runner on March 15, 2022, before calling 9-1-1.

He explained how all the doors were open on the "running" vehicle and music was still playing. He said he did not see anyone when he checked the vehicle.

Assistant DA Mike Randles showed the witness a map, asking him directions to Mangrum's abandoned vehicle. The 26-year-old answered all their questions with directional accuracy.

The assistant DA General also provided the witness with photographs (exhibits) of the vehicle. Swiderski identified the vehicle as the one he saw wrecked.

Witnesses have stated that Smith was seen later prowling through the neighborhood yards, including at the Swiderski house. Witnesses have described what Smith was wearing- the "Granny Boop" sweatshirt.

Neighbors are expected to testify that the night of the crime, dogs were barking, neighbors were running Smith off their property and one neighbor later found clothing belonging to the defendant in their vehicle.

Carter said witnesses have stated that Smith had rummaged through a bucket of yard sale clothes in their barn near the crime scene. "He was apprehended wearing those clothes," the DA stated.

The Violent Crime Response Team (VCRT) is expected to have some strong, forensic evidence. Carter explained that lab techs reveal how Johnson's DNA was found, in blood at the crime scene and on the gas pedal of the stolen truck.

He told the jury how a piece of fire wood was saturated with "Angel's" blood/DNA and located near her body. And most of all, he said the state would show through its evidence that Smith's DNA was on the non bloody end of that fireplace log. The same with the fireplace grate.

The DA told the jury that as for fingerprints, the TBI could not find sufficient ridge detail. Shoe prints containing Angel's blood will be presented as significant TBI evidence.

The toxicology report shows Meth and THC in Smith. There were no other drugs or pills, the DA revealed.

He said the state coroner's report shows Johnson died from blunt force trauma to her head and body. She had multiple contusions, fractures to her bones, hemorrhages and multiple bodily injuries. Carter said large portions of Johnson's hair was also ripped out of her head.

"There is clearly enough evidence to find the defendant guilty of premediated murder and theft," Carter said.

During the defense team's opening remarks, Attorney Collins advised the jury to watch out for "certain things" presented by state witnesses. He advised the jury to evaluate deeply the testimony of homeowner Kathy Mangrum.

Collins refuted the state's remarks that Mangrum ran into the woods because she was frightened. He stated to the jury that when a murder is committed in your home, especially one involving a dear friend, no one would spend 5 hours hiding in the woods.

Collins said alibis from some of the people who had been at the Mangrum home the night of the crime just doesn't add up. "They all had time to get their story straight . . . cover for each other," Collins told the jury.

He ended his opening remarks with the fact that attorney Tucker would close for the defense this week. He asked the jury to render a "not guilty' verdict for "Mr. Smith."

More witnesses

Other witnesses called by the state, basically to recount the crime scene events from March 15, 2020, included long-time Tennessee Highway Patrolman Barry Qualls and Bedford County Sheriff's Deputy Gabrielle Doyle.

While Qualls was called on the scene of the abandoned vehicle that night, he said his job, with the THP, does not include investigating crime scenes.

Doyle, who is now an SRO for Bedford County schools, was the county deputy first dispatched to the wrecked vehicle on March 15, 2020, along with BCSD Deputy John Brown. After being the first law enforcement on the scene of the abandoned vehicle, Doyle said she and Brown went to the home to talk to the apparent owners of the vehicle.

She testified that a piece of paper and pill bottles with 3142 Sims Road address on them was how they knew to go to Mangrum's house.

But no one answered, upon that initial visit, she said, and they left. She and Qualls would later be dispatched to return to the home, where they witnessed Leah Mangrum saturated with blood. Doyle and Qualls testified that they backed out of the kitchen area, so as not to disturb the crime scene. They placed caution tape until investigators could arrive.

Johnson's body was found between the kitchen and the living room. Qualls said Johnson was lying in what seemed like a large pool of blood but he did not approach the scene.

Pictures of Johnson's bloody body then circulated through the courtroom. Both Qualls and Doyle testified that those were pictures of the actual crime scene.

Jurors, one by one, were handed the photos to view.

More witnesses were to be called this week, including the cab driver who apparently gave Johnson and Smith a ride to the Mangrum home that night. As well, more neighbors were going to be called to testify.

Telling the jury Monday morning that they certainly can't make a decision in "the first quarter," Carter said they will need to hear all witness testimony. He asked them to be patient with the legal teams as they work their way to the end of this 2-year case.

The trial is scheduled to end this week with a jury decision. The Times-Gazette will continue to follow this case to verdict.

PENCIL SHAVINGS: BEDFORD COUNTY TOURISM

Bedford County Courthouse still stands in grandeur

By Dawn Hankins

Bedford County truly has a beautiful courthouse. And the work being done over the last few years has only heightened its beauty.

The courthouse structure over its existence has literally been through hell and back. Mobs, fire and tornadoes couldn't keep her down.

This week, I covered a criminal court trial in the new corrections building off Eady Road. It's a wonderful facility, with every room, restroom, information area, etc., in close proximity. The old standard pew benches are still in the Circuit Court room.

But I do miss hearing court cases in the old courthouse. There was just something distinctive about the sound of the gavel hitting the bench in that room following a verdict.

Maybe I've watched too much Perry Mason.

The good thing is the County is using it for its meetings, now that court has moved. So, I get to be a part of it, still, now that I'm covering County government meetings, etc.

If you haven't visited the courthouse in a while, stop by and see what great restoration of this historic building is taking place. Thanks to those who've also grown up here-walking up those tremendous steps- and have taken the time now to restore this beautiful, historic landmark.

I've always been a connoisseur of great architecture. If you are traveling down Lane Parkway near the square and get to a red light, look up to see its grandeur on the hill.

Better yet, drive up the hill to see it and get a picture. It will be a magnificent photo to give future generations.



Bedford County Courtroom





COUNTY PLANNING DIRECTOR WHITE HONORED

Chris White, Bedford County Government planning director, recently received the APA Small Town & Rural Planning award for his Renewable Energy Overlay Zone Model. The purpose of the Renewable Energy District is to allow Bedford County government to establish special land use regulations relating to solar and other renewable power technology development. Of some concern, the project stated, are Bedford County agricultural areas. The award was presented in Minneapolis, Minn. County Commissioner Greg Vick and White's wife, Emily Cartwright, traveled with him to the event.







Photo by Dawn Hankins

Commissioner Drew Hooker talks with Bedford County Government's Rules and Legislative Committee on Tuesday about plans of the Homeless Task Force. From left, Anita Epperson, John Boutwell, Greg Vick and Bill Anderson.

Commissioner Hooker gives Homeless Task Force update

By DAWN HANKINS

Drew Hooker gave the Homeless Task Force during Tuesday's Bedford County Standing Committee/Rules and Legislative meeting at the courthouse.

Hooker said the Task Force plans to continue evaluating the HIMS software, which is a homeless tracking software. Non profits will be involved this month.

"We're reviewing the City of Houston right now," advised Hooker. "They've had a significant decrease in homelessness over the last 4 or 5 years. They've actually got some processes . . . going to evaluate some of those things to see how they implement here in Bedford County."

Hooker said the City of Shelbyville is moving along with more of the Task Force's recommendations regarding homelessness. "We're excited that they're starting to move forward with that."

He said the three recommendations made to the City Shelbyville were 1. Anti-loitering 2. Anti-camping 3. Anti-panhandling.

Hooker said the anti-panhandling item stems as a result of concerns from several homeowners, public square business owners and other town merchants that have dealt with hostile individuals-panhandlers-on a consistent basis.

He said the Task Force will likely develop into more of a working group, so that it will involve more people in the community. "We're going to have that conversation . . . will update this group if we transition to that. It makes it a little less formal so that we can do things with the community."

Loehle honored for aviation career

TN Aviation Hall of Fame Inductee

Staff Report

Michael Loehle of the Shipman Creek area in Bedford County was one of four inductees recently selected for the 2024 Tennessee Aviation Hall of Fame.

The Gala to recognize the inductees will be held in Murfreesboro on Oct. 26 at the Embassy Suites Convention Center.

"That will be the night to honor my first wife, Sandy, and three generations of family, plus loyal friends and customers in 26 countries," Loehle told the T-G on Tuesday.

A native of Kentucky, Michael (Mike) Loehle's aviation journey began in 1975, when he soloed at age 16. He soon moved on to hang gliding and ultralight aviation where he designed and built many different aircraft.

Mike and wife, Sandy, moved to Shipman Creek, Wartrace, in 1984, when they he took over the Ritz Propeller company and eventually established Loehle Aircraft company. His many designs and kits soon established the company at the forefront of light aircraft homebuilding.

Subsequently, Michael developed an aircraft painting system that has also been extremely successful across the aviation industry.

Loehle Aircraft built the Loehle 5151 Mustang, which took its first flight in 1988. It was a ¾ replica of the North American P-51 Mustang.

In 2007, the Loehle Sport Parasol was built. It was a parasol wing single seat ultralight.

The Tennessee Aviation Hall of Fame has been designated by the General Assembly as the state's official Aviation Hall of Fame and as Tennessee's Official Repository and Archive for Aviation History (TCA 4-1-326.)

The Tennessee Aviation Hall of Fame, Inc. is a non-profit IRS 501(c)(3) public charity dedicated to preserving Tennessee's aviation history, advancing aviation education, and to honoring those who have made extraordinary contributions to aviation and aerospace.



NNA expresses concern

New postal rates slated for July 2024

PENSACOLA, Florida — The July 2024 proposed Periodicals rate increase amounts to an almost 10% bump for community newspapers that are already paying high rates for subpar service. The rate increase means newspapers are paying about 50% more for postage than three years ago. The USPS is allowed to raise rates without direct approval by the Postal Regulatory Commission, with only some review by the Commission for illegalities and errors. This is the second increase in 2024, following a pattern of twice-a-year price hikes under Postmaster General Louis DeJoy with his Delivering for America plan. "This increase, though excessive, was not surprising," National Newspaper Association Chair John Galer of The Journal-News in Hillsboro, Illinois, said. "The model of continuing to raise rates while providing intensely bad service is becoming increasingly problematic for newspapers and our readers around the country." Galer continued, "Concerns about the ability of local newspapers to provide essential information to citizens during an election year is certainly part of this equation. The delays hinder our customers from receiving timely information." The Postal Service is driven by the recently developed Delivering for America plan introduced by DeJoy in 2021. The intention was to raise capital to help USPS compete for package and parcel business. Twice a year increases have been part of this plan that allows them to continue to raise prices under expanded rate authority granted by the Postal Regulatory Commission. The 2022 Postal Service Reform Act was expected to lighten the need for major price increases as Congress relieved some of the burden on USPS for retiree health benefits; however, under DeJoy, the benefits relief and the aggressive price increases have all been part of his plan to raise revenue. The NNA is collaborating with members of Congress to require more accountability through improved regulation and data gathering. It urges its members to contact their Congressional delegations and U.S. Senators to bring attention to the situation. NNA applauds Senator Gary Peters, D-Michigan, for holding a hearing next week to provide oversight of the USPS and question its leadership about the persistent financial losses of USPS — which were more than $6 billion in 2023 —and the lack of progress with Delivering for America.

BY-PASS

From page 1

to?" asked Commissioner Yockey. "I don't want to leave Pat out of the loop since he was so effective on helping us with the other part."

Pat's desk is the first stop, the mayor reported.

Mayor Chad Graham said it was his understanding the resolution would go to TDOT and Marsh and State Sen. Shane Reeves would be copied. The governor's office would also receive a copy of the resolution.

This resolution highly emphasizes to TDOT how important this By-pass expansion is to the economic development of Bedford County-an area certainly with growing transportation needs.

Boutwell said stakeholders are also urged to become involved in this process. The project is deemed "critical" for the successful future growth of Bedford County.

County Clerk report

County Clerk Donna Thomas said during her report that year to date through March 31, there were 57,709 transactions in her office. She said that's pretty flat compared to last year.

Thomas said total collected money in the County Clerk's office was $5.3 million which is up about 25%. Some changes in law have inflated those numbers a bit over last year, she said.

Last year, the governor gave a discount on registration fees, Thomas said. The increase is also due to fees added on to electric vehicle registrations.

She added that as of Jan. 1, a law went into effect that all electric vehicles owners upon renewing their plate would have a $200 electric fee. There is a $100 fee for hybrid vehicles.

"If anybody in here has an electric vehicle or hybrid vehicle, brace yourself for that when you get ready to renew your tag."

There was though good news for the County.

"As far as revenue for Bedford County, right now, year to date, that's $754,000 which is up 9% over last year. That is largely due to an earmark fee, which went into effect last July, which is $3 per title, which is retained in our restricted fund for county clerk use."

She said the increase is also due to the fact that her office gets a lot of passport fees. She said that service is through the roof right now.

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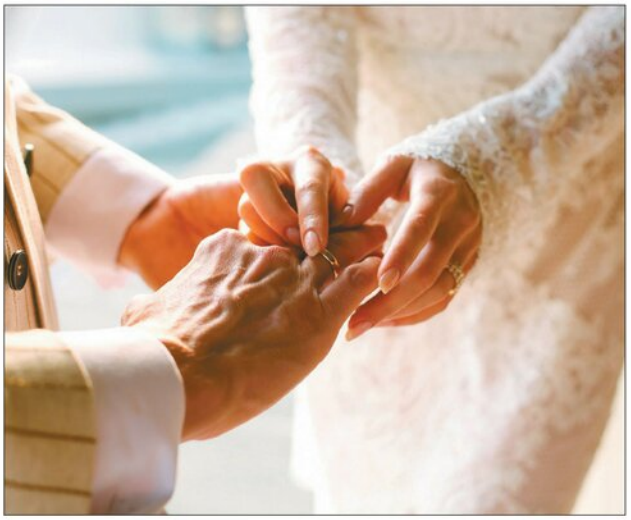




T-G Photos by Dawn Hankins

LOVELY SOUTHERN MIDDLE TENNESSEE
The area creeks in April are cool and comforting in southern middle Tennessee. The colors draw us in to God's creation.





Helpful tips for writing wedding vows

The exchange of wedding vows is a key component of a wedding ceremony and sometimes helps to ensure the marriage is binding in accordance with the faith of the participants. Vows also may be exchanged in service of tradition. According to the wedding resource Zola, vows are not a legal necessity for marriage and some cultures do not use them. Still, many couples like to recite vows during their weddings.

Couples have various options pertaining to the vows they share. In religious ceremonies, vows may be predetermined as part of the requirements and rituals of that faith and religious texts. Individuals also may choose to read romantic verses from poetry. Another option is to write one's own vows.

When drafting vows, here are some guidelines to follow.

• Utilize a template. Scour the internet for resources on writing vows. You'll likely find sample vows or even templates where you can fill in information if you do not know where to begin.

• Utilize memories of when you met. Your vows can include special anecdotes or stories of time spent in the early days when you first knew this was the person with whom you would spend your life.

• Explain who this person is to you. Tell the audience what it is about this person that has you smitten. Is he or she your partner in crime? Confidante? Best friend? Or all of the above?

• Share what you are pledging. Write out exactly what you are vowing to your special someone. Be definitive and draw from your personal experiences. For example, a vow to support you each time you adopt another shelter dog. A promise not hog the covers. A vow to warm your toes on cold evenings. Make it personal, heartfelt and humorous.

• Say you'll be there. At the heart of vows is a promise that you'll be around no matter what life throws at you. This is a safe sentiment to include in your vows, and likely one your future spouse and other guests will come to expect.

• Keep things brief. There is no need to write a novel for your vows, which may reassure you if you're nervous about the right wording and speaking in front of an audience. Outline the most important points you want to share and build on those sentiments.

• Reflect on the future. Wrap up your vows by noting your excitement about what the future may bring, whether that is a family, travel or another adventure.

Wedding vows are traditional components of many weddings. Couples easily can write their own vows to personalize the ceremony even further.



Community Calendar

Decoration Day
Rosebank Cemetery Decoration Day will be held 2 p.m., May 19, at Flat Creek Community Center in Flat Creek.

Decoration Day
New Hope Cemetery
May 5th, 2024 at 2:00pm
at the cemetery

Spring in the Hollow
Lynchburg will celebrate all things spring on Saturday, April 27, during its 28th annual Spring in the Hollow event. Activities begin at 8 a.m. Special events include a bird house auction, art contest and plant sale.

FUMC Services Sunday
Join the congregation at Shelbyville First United Methodist Church for Sunday worship at 10 am. Pastor Abe Zimmerman will preach "The Good Shepherd" from John 10:11-18. Come and explore the diverse methods through which Jesus, our shepherd, guides and nurtures us, his flock. For those unable to attend, we offer a livestream on Facebook and a broadcast on WLIJ 1580 AM.

School registrations
PreK Registration
May 7, 2024
Harris Middle School
8:30 AM-4:00 PM
Kindergarten Registration
Tues. May 7, 2024
Each Elementary School (Cartwright registration will be hosted at East Side Elementary School & Eakin Elementary School)
8:30 AM - 2:00 PM

Airport Event
Shelbyville Municipal Airport will sponsor Aviation Day on Saturday, April 27, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free admission and parking. Food vendors onsite.



T-G Calendar Girls Ivy and Daisy McCready of Hawaii, who visit family here on occasion, enjoyed their Easter holiday. Send us pixs of your littles for the calendar page to dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net.

JAIL INTAKE
Bedford County Sheriff's Department

Mary Ann Pruitt, elder abuse by caregiver (non-violent)
Jessica Elaine Jones, theft of services, fraud, trespass of real property
Anthony Buchanan, violation of probation
Tadelro DeShawn Conley, capias, failure to appear,
Timothy Paul Farrar, capias, failure to appear
Cassandra Kay Hurst, harassment
Courtney Rose Hutchinson, statutory rape
Nehemiah Malachi Jones, failure to appear
William Thomas Kelly, to serve time, General Sessions Court
Edward Guy Prince Jr., shoplifting
George Anthony Reyes, driver to exercise due care, leaving the scene of an accident
Nicholas Todd Reynolds, burglary, criminal conspiracy, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of schedule II drug
James Coy Tucker, hold extradition another state
James Earl Walker, driving on revoked license, traffic control device/stop sign
Ashley Nicole West, shoplifting
Natasha Lynn West, criminal conspiracy, simple possession
Kayli Jo Young, contributing to a minor
A motor vehicle theft was recorded in the report with no known offender.
Brandon Lee West, simple domestic assault
Arturo NMN Adame-Catalan, no driver's license exhibited on demand
Ajaikumar Baria, light law, no driver's license exhibited on demand
Ronnie Campbell, vandalism
Kenneth Shane Fox, violation of probation
Pedro Francisco, financial responsibility, no driver's license exhibited on demand, violation of registration law
Maria Del Rocio Garcia-Alvarez, driving on a revoked license, light law
Timothy Daniel Gifford, driving on revoked
Shona Rena Jones, violation of probation
George Scott Mason, harassment
Ashley Hope Mooningham, driving on suspended, financial responsibility, running red light/stop sign
Harm Anthony Moore, violation of probation
Carlos Ojeda Quiroz, no driver's license exhibited on demand, traffic control device/stop sign
Victor Quijada Marin, no driver's license exhibited on demand, violation of registration law
Juan Carlos Reyes, driving on revoked, speeding
Pedro Reyes Ramon, no driver's license exhibited on demand
Nicholas Todd Reynolds, burglary, criminal conspiracy, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of schedule II drug
Sabrina Elizabeth Rhodes, hold for extradition to another state
Kahmya Monae Scheaffer, driving on a suspended license
Leslie Nicole Simmons, shoplifting
James Earl Walker, driving on revoked license, traffic control device (stop sign)
Trinity Alyssa Wentz, to serve time, General Sessions Court
Christopher Joel Wilhoite, assault, failure to appear



SPD Photo

DISPATCHERS RECOGNIZED
Shelbyville Police Department honored its dispatchers during National Public Safety Telecommunications Week.

Sheriff's Report for March 2024

As with any sheriff's report, one incident is too many.

Bedford County Sheriff Austin Swing gave his department's monthly report at the law enforcement standing committee meeting on Tuesday.

Here's how it goes for the month of March . . . .

Deputies logged in over 84,000 miles, served 993 warrants and made 212 total arrests.

In March, there were 306 inmates in holding and a total of 431 processed through the local corrections department. (Note: Bedford County must house some prisoners for the state. The sheriff said BC has the newest facility.)

There were 4 burglaries, 26 alarms set off, 355 investigations, a stolen vehicle, 56 auto accidents with juries and 10 auto accidents with injuries.

Three drunk drivers were arrested, eight prowlers roamed and 1 child abuse case was reported.

According to the sheriff's report, there were 20 aggravated assaults, 84 motorist assists, four fires in the County, 14 domestic dispute calls and 87 people transported into custody.

Deputies made 346 traffic stops. There were 63 hang ups at the sheriff's department.

There was a total of 109 other incidents on the report, making the grand total of events through the BCSD last month, 758.

The report states that there were 27,348 meals served in March to adult prisoners. There were 1,316 meals served to juveniles. The food cost for both was over $34,000.



T-G Photo by Dawn Hankins
Bedford County Sheriff Austin Swing discusses the monthly sheriff's department report with the County's law enforcement standing committee on Tuesday.

Peanuts shine in this stir-fry dish

Peanuts work well in sweet desserts and are commonly found in the form of peanut butter swirled with jelly atop bread for lunchtime sandwiches. However, peanuts can be an ingredient in savory dishes as well. In fact, peanuts often are included in the popular Thai dish Pad Thiam which is Thailand's variation on the traditional stir-fry. Its salty, sweet and often spicy. Try this version, courtesy of 300 Best Stir-Fry Recipes (Robert Rose) by Nancie McDermott.

Pad Thai
Serves 2 to 4

4 ounces dry rice noodles
1/4 cup chicken stock or water
3 tablespoons fish sauce
2 tablespoons soy sauce
2 tablespoons granulated sugar
1 teaspoon hot pepper flakes
3 tablespoons vegetable oil, divided
1 tablespoon chopped garlic
4 ounces boneless pork (such as loin or tenderloin) or skinless chicken breast or thighs, thinly sliced
8 to 10 medium shrimp, peeled and deveined
1 egg, beaten
1/2 cup chopped garlic chives or green onions
2 cups bean sprouts, divided
1/3 cup chopped roasted salted peanuts
3 tablespoons freshly squeezed lime juice
4 lime wedges

1. Bring a large pot of water to a rolling boil over high heat. Add noodles and remove from heat. Let stand for 5 to 7 minutes, stirring occasionally, until noodles are softened but still firm. Drain, rinse well in cold water. Drain and set aside.

2. In a small bowl, combine chicken stock, fish sauce, soy sauce, sugar and hot pepper flakes and stir well. Set aside.

3. Heat a wok or a large deep skillet over medium heat. Add 2 tablespoons of the oil and swirl to coat pan. Add garlic and toss well, until fragrant, about 15 seconds.

4. Add pork, spreading into a single layer. Cook, undisturbed, until edges change color, about 1 minute. Toss well. Add shrimp and toss well. Cook, tossing often until shrimp are pink and firm and pork is cooked through, 1 to 2 minutes. Add noodles and cook, tossing often and pulling to separate noodles, for 1 minute.

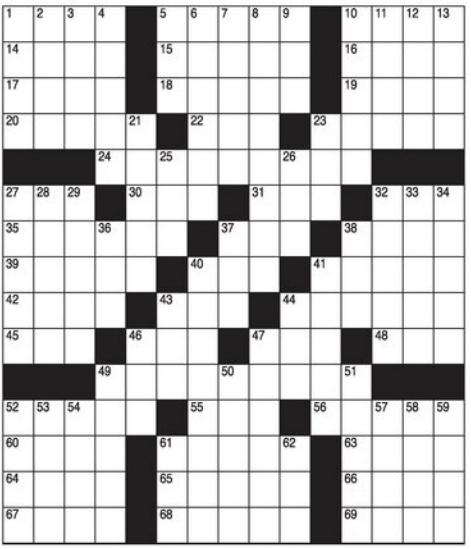
5. Add chicken stock mixture, pouring in around sides of pan. Cook, tossing often, turning and scraping noodles to heat and soften them, until noodles curl up and are tender and shrimp are cooked through, 1 to 2 minutes more. Add an additional 1 to 2 tablespoons of chicken stock or water as needed to keep noodles from sticking or burning.

6. Push the noodles to one side and add remaining 1 tablespoon of oil. Add egg and swirl to expose to hot pan. Cook, undisturbed, until edges have begun to set, about 15 seconds. Cook, stirring often, until egg is softly scrambled but still very moist, about 1 minute.

7. Add garlic, chives and 1 cup of the bean sprouts and cook, tossing often, until they have begun to wilt, about 1 mimute more. Add peanuts and lime juice and toss well. Transfer to a serving platter. Place the remaining bean sprouts and lime wedges on one side. Serve hot or warm, mixing in the raw bean sprouts and squeezing a little lime juice over the noodles just before eating.



Crossword



CLUES ACROSS
1. Excessively theatrical actors
5. Footwear
10. A way to disfigure
14. Exchange rate
15. Hawaiian wreaths
16. North-central Indian city
17. Bungle
18. Extremely angry
19. A short note of what's owed
20. Criminal organization
22. Mimic
23. Try to grab
24. U.S.-born individuals
27. Some are covert
30. Order of the British Empire
31. Don't know when yet
32. Payment (abbr.)
35. Winged angelic being
37. Variety of Chinese
38. A way to be anxious
39. Famed wrestler Hulk
40. Partner to cheese
41. Slang for sergeant
42. Canadian flyers
43. Actress Ryan
44. Highly unpleasant vapor
45. Body part
46. Halfway
47. Cool!
48. Consume
49. Salts
52. Upper bract of a floret of grass
55. Housepet
56. Cavalry-sword
60. Symbol of a nation
61. Frocks
63. Used to carry food
64. Portuguese folk song
65. Sharp mountain ridge
66. Ireland
67. Where golfers begin
68. Greek mythological sorceress
69. Fluid suspensions

CLUES DOWN
1. 'Mad Men' leading man
2. Water (Spanish)
3. Annoy
4. Bulgarian capital
5. Japanese title
6. Capital of Zimbabwe
7. Giraffe
8. A mixture of substances
9. Midway between south and southeast
10. Staffs
11. Turkish title
12. Type of acid
13. Thin, flat strip of wood
21. Russian river
23. Ribonucleic acid
25. Partner to flow
26. Airborne (abbr.)
27. Earthy pigment
28. Genus of earless seals
29. 'Key to the Highway' bluesman
32. By or in itself
33. Hot fluid below the earth's surface
34. Partner to trick
36. British Air Aces
37. Ammunition
38. Supervises flying
40. Health care for the aged
41. Flanks
43. Millimeters
44. Where wrestlers perform
46. Not around
47. Flightless bird
49. Bell-shaped flowers of the lily family
50. Expressed concern for
51. Satisfies
52. Flew off!
53. Wings
54. Load a ship
57. Vigor
58. British title
59. Whiskeys
61. __ Adams: founding father
62. Body of water

Horoscopes

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20
You can get your spark back with some help from friends, Aries. You may have been struggling in one form or another, but others can provide the perspective needed.
TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, you are a dependable rock and that comes with a lot of responsibility. Sometimes you may feel overwhelmed, and in those instances feel free to delegate some tasks.
GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21
Too much joking around may strike a nerve of someone close to you, Gemini. Feel out every situation before you start communicating in such a laid back and jovial way.
CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, like it or not, you have to stand by a promise or a commitment you made to someone, even if you no longer feel like doing so. Once it is finished, you can go your separate ways.
LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, if others have underestimated you or written you off in the past, you will have an opportunity to prove them wrong this week, even if you already know the truth.
VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22
Your keen eye for detail has you pointing out a mistake that may have cost someone a lot of money, Virgo. Your reward could be a promotion or another commendation.
LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23
Making room for your needs right now is challenging as others seem to require all of the attention, Libra. You will have a chance to balance the scales soon enough.
SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22
Right now you may be reluctant to commit or comment on an issue that is affecting some in your circle, Scorpio. You can get involved once you dig further and do your own research.
SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21
Sagittarius, when you hang out with friends, you may be tempted to spend more than is in your budget at the moment. Set a limit, and perhaps leave your credit cards at home.
CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, you are ready to move forward, but others in your orbit may be holding you back. Know when to cut loose and do things according to your bigger vision.
AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18
Thinking about all of the things in your life that may not be going to plan could have you feeling down, Aquarius. Flip the perspective and start focusing on the right things.
PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, you are known for being a dreamer, but right now you have to come down from the clouds and develop a solid plan of action. There will be time for fanciful ideas later.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS
APRIL 21
James McAvoy, Actor (45)
APRIL 22
Jeffrey Dean Morgan, Actor (58)
APRIL 23
Gigi Hadid, Model (29)
APRIL 24
Kelly Clarkson, Singer (42)
APRIL 25
Al Pacino, Actor (84)
APRIL 26
Kevin James, Comic (59)
APRIL 27
Darren Barnet, Actor (33)

LAWN & GARDEN WORD SEARCH

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

SUDOKU

Here is 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!

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

Level: Beginner

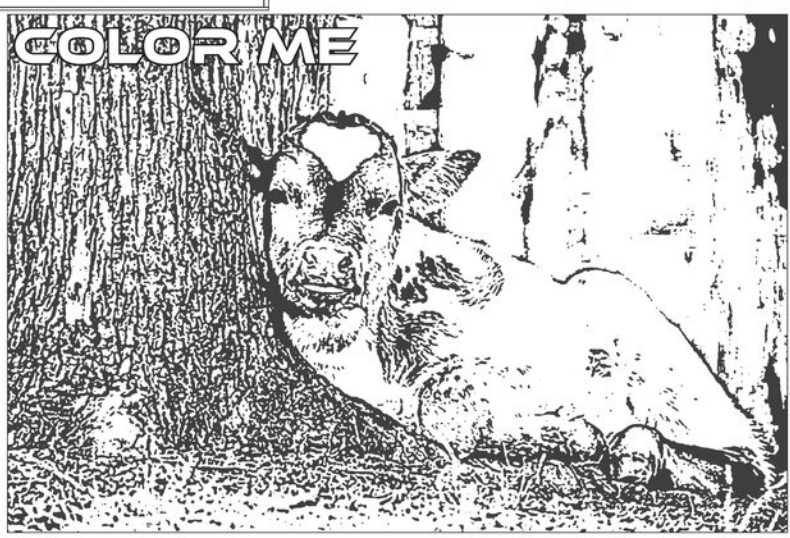
	7				9			
	1		4					
	5			8		6		
				1	2	3		
			7		4		2	
		6	3					
		8	1	6		2		
4		5						
		7						5

Level: Intermediate

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

Level: Advanced

COLOR ME



WORDS

AMEND
BLOOMING
BORDER
COMPOST
CUT
DRAINAGE
DROUGHT
EDGE
FERTILIZE
GARDEN
GREEN
HEALTHY
INSECTS
LANDSCAPING
LAWN
MOSSY
MULCH
POLLINATOR
PRUNE
SCENT
SHRUBS
SUNLIGHT
TRIMMING
WEEDS

Misc For Sale

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-888-869-5542 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move. (TnScan)

Garage Sale
Friday, April 19 and Saturday, April 20
2041 Patterson Cemetery Road
Chapel Hill, TN
Lots of good items, priced cheap

Auctions

GET THE WORD OUT about your next auction! Save Time & $$$. One Call For All. Your ad can appear in this newspaper + 97 other TN newspapers. For more info, contact this newspaper's classified dept. or call Becky Moats 931-624-8916. (TnScan)

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AMANDA BEEMAN:

The State of Tennessee, Department of Children's Services, has filed a petition against you for dependent and neglect and for change of legal custody of ALYSSA LYON (BEEMAN), DOB: 07/16/2007. It appears that ordinary process of law cannot be served upon you because your whereabouts are unknown. You are hereby ORDERED to appear in Bedford County Juvenile Court on the 3rd day of June, 2024 to answer this. If you fail to do so, a default judgment will be taken against you pursuant to Rule 55 of the Tenn. R. of Civ. P. for the relief demanded in the Petition. You may view and obtain a copy of the Petition and any other subsequently file legal documents at the Bedford County Juvenile Court Clerk, Shelbyville, Tennessee. Further questions may be directed to: Elizabeth G Spurbeck, Associate Counsel, State of Tennessee, Department of Children's Services, 1400 College Park Drive, Columbia, TN 38401, 931-777-9022.

ENTER this the 5th day of April, 2024.

Honorable Charles Rich
Bedford County Juvenile Court

High School Graduation Dates

- **Cascade High School, Wartrace, Graduation**
  - Thursday, May 23, 2024, Cascade Football Field, 7:00 PM
    - **Inclement Weather Makeup Date**
      - Friday, May 24, 2024,Cascade Football Field, 5:00 PM
- **Community High School, Unionville, Graduation**
  - Friday, May 24, 2024, Community Football Field, 7:00 PM
    - **Inclement Weather Makeup Date**
      - Saturday, May 25, 2024, Community Football Field,10:00 AM
- **Shelbyville Central High School Graduation**
  - Saturday, May 25, 2024, SCHS Football Field, 7:00 - 9:00 PM
    - **Inclement Weather Makeup Date**
      - Sunday, May 26, 2024, SCHS Football Field, 7:00 - 9:00 PM
    - **The Webb School, Bell Buckle, Graduation**
      - Saturday, May 25, 2024, 11 a.m.





PUZZLE SOLUTION

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

ANSWER: Level: Beginner

ANSWER: Level: Intermediate

ANSWER: Level: Advanced



Jason Gentry Atkins



Jason Gentry Atkins, age 52 of Shelbyville, passed from this life suddenly Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at Vanderbilt Bedford Hospital.

A Gathering of Family & Friends was held 1-4p.m. Sunday, April 14, 2024, at H.V. Griffin Park under the Lewis pavilion.

Jason was born on May 31, 1971, in Columbus, Mississippi to the late Carl B. Atkins and Patricia Bennett Atkins. He was an avid outdoorsman especially if it involved water, he enjoyed anything from fishing to arrowhead hunting, TikTok, and NASCAR. Jason worked in construction for most of his adult lifemost recently with Black Diamond Construction as a superintendent. He attended Gateway Church.

Survivors include his loving wife of 33 years, Kellye Atkins; children, Jennah Atkins, Tate (Kelsey) Atkins both of Shelbyville, TN, Aaron (Sarah) Atkins of Arlington, IN; grandchildren, Shay, Hadlee, Clark, and Ace; sisters, Coby (Chris) Carson of Shelbyville, TN, and Patti (Danny) Holt of Fayetteville, TN; mother in-law, Ruth "Memaw" Clark of Shelbyville, TN. Jason is also survived by many nieces and nephews. Along with his parents he was preceded in death by his brother; Chris Atkins and father in-law; Olan Clark.

He was a big teddy bear that loved his family. He will be greatly missed.

Doak-Howell Funeral Home is serving the family.

Hubert Eugene Groce



Hubert Eugene Groce, 62, of Lynchburg, died April 11, 2024.

Funeral Services were held 2:00 p.m. Sunday, April 14th, at Hillcrest Funeral Home with Donnie Rader officiating. Burial followed at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens. Visitation was Saturday evening from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

He was born May 16, 1961 in Fayetteville; employee of Jack Daniel's Distillery for 43 years and a member of El Bethel Church Of Christ. He loved dirt track racing in his younger years, fishing and fooling with cars. He was a loving family man who loved loving on "his babies."

He was preceded in death by his parents, Johnnie O. Groce and Susie Obelene Wagster Groce.

Eugene is survived by his wife of 43 years, Rhonda Ann Leverette Groce; his daughter, Tonya (Daniel) Miller of Lynchburg; his son, Lee (Tara) Groce of Fayetteville; brothers, Randy (Dianne) Groce of Murfreesboro, J.L. (Teresa) Groce of Shelbyville; four grandchildren, Kallie (Jacob) Baker, Rylee Groce, Kinsley Miller and Landon Miller.

Bedford Louis Walls



Bedford Louis Walls, 82, of Shelbyville, died April 14, 2024.

Funeral Services will be held 12:00 p.m. Thursday, April 18th, at Hillcrest Funeral Home with Brother Elbert Smith officiating. Burial will follow at Swanson Cemetery.

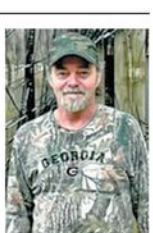
Visitation will begin at 10:00 a.m.

He was a native of Bedford County; owner/operator of Walls Stump Grinding Service and a member of the Baptist Church. His famous words were: "It'll Take Just A Minute."

He was preceded in death by his parents, Tom Walls and Mattie Ellen Sanders Walls Thornberry; his first wife, Martha Gayle Walls; his second wife, Barbara Gayle Walls; a son, Toby Louis Walls and a daughter, Tina Gayle Walls.

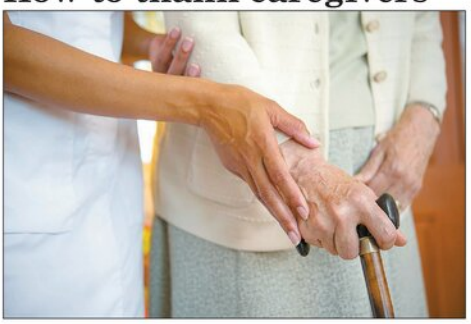
He is survived by a son, Tracy Hugh Walls (Vickie); two grandchildren, Jennifer Warren (T.J.), Miranda Barnes (Calvin); three great grandchildren, Hailee Warren, Alyssa Walls and Weston Barnes.

Phillip Eugene McClanahan



Phillip Eugene McClanahan, age 61, of Christiana, passed away April 14, 2024. Per his request, he will be cremated. There will be a private service held at a later date. He was born December 12, 1962, in Murfreesboro, to Shirley Inez Dalton Kirby, and the late James Bradley McClanahan. He was a commercial electrician, working with Vari Electric in Murfreesboro. He was an enthusiastic Tennessee Titans fan, and loved spending time with his family. In addition to his father, he was preceded in death by his wife, Lori Qualls McClanahan, and a brother, Steven McClanahan. In addition to his mother, survivors include his sons, Camron Dane (Kyrstal) McClanahan, Joshua Shane McClanahan, and Samuel Adam McClanahan; a sister, Theresa (Jimmy) Hillis; a brother, James (Kathy) McClanahan, Jr.; grandchildren, Trenton Dane McClanahan, Cheyenne Alexis McClanahan, and Molly Ann Marie McClanahan. Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.

How to thank caregivers



Caregivers, whether they're medical professional or informal caregivers like family members, are integral components of many health care teams. Caregivers work tirelessly for the benefit of a person in need, although the job often proves humbling and even overwhelming.

Informal caregivers, including family members and friends who pitch in, generally do not get the attention they deserve. It is important for them to know their efforts are appreciated. Individuals can engage in various behaviors to express their gratitude to caregivers.

Say Thank you

One of the easiest ways to show appreciation to caregivers is to thank them outright. A simple Thank you can transform a person's day in an instant. Knowing they are appreciated may help them stay motivated when the going gets a little tough.

Say it with food

Caregiving requires sacrifice. That means certain things may be put on the back burner, such as time allotted to prepare home-cooked meals. Give thanks with some delicious meals that are ready to go and can be easily heated up. If cooking is not your thing, then you can offer gift cards to a favorite restaurant or a gift basket full of delicious treats.

Write a heartfelt note

Offer a card thanking the caregiver on your own behalf and on behalf of person who is on the receiving end of the care. Many times, families help out by rotating caregivers if a person needs around-the-clock care. That can mean adult children, siblings, cousins, and others will take turns sitting in the caregiver seat. Personally thank all of the people who lend a hand with notes that explain how they are offering invaluable assistance.

Provide a day off

Assisted living facilities and skilled nursing homes may have Respite care services. This means an individual who is being cared for by others can stay a few days at the facility while the caregiver gets a respite. Offer such a scenario to a caregiver who needs a break.

Offer a soothing gift

A caregiver may enjoy relaxation-based gifts such as a massage therapy appointment, spa pedicure, haircut, or another type of pampering.

Pitch in

Whenever possible, lighten the load of the caregiver by offering as much assistance as you can. Many hands can make light work of any situation.

Caregivers put in many hours and work hard for people in need. Showing them how much they're appreciated can boost esteem and provide inspiration to continue with a stressful job.



Henry Carroll Adams



Henry Carroll Adams, 77, of Ocoee, Florida, transitioned from this earthly life to eternal life on April 13th, 2024.

A memorial service with military honors will be held in Shelbyville at Feldhaus Memorial Chapel, 2022 North Main St., on May 11th, 2024 at 11:00 am. Henry will reach his final resting place at the Middle Tennessee Veteran's Cemetery, Monday, May 13th, time TBD. Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Henry was born on October 8th, 1946, to O.C. and Maxie Adams in Andalusia, Alabama. Henry and his family moved to Ocoee, Florida in August of 1959. After graduating from Ocoee High School in 1965, Henry went on to attend a local community college, eventually landing in the field of industrial machinery and fabrication. Henry had the ability to fix all things broken, often being referred to as "MacGyver" because he could always make something out of nothing.

Henry had a love for all things outdoors. Earlier in life he enjoyed camping, fishing, and hunting. Henry also appreciated nature and all the wonderful things it had to offer. He spent time bird watching and exploring their natural habitats. He also had a love of plants and flowers. Later in life, Henry planted a bamboo garden which ended up being a bird sanctuary. He loved to sit outside watching and listening to all the birds that lived there.

Henry had a passion for old muscle cars, collecting guns, and dogs. Over the years he owned several different muscle cars including a 1966 Chevy Camaro and his prized possession, a 1970 Chevy Chevelle. Henry also had a love for his gun collection. He had rifles, handguns, and shotguns the favorite being a 44 magnum that was never too far from him. Henry was an avid dog lover. He spent many years of his life starting at an early age raising and training dogs. He was particularly drawn to obedience training in which he taught during his prime.

One area of Henry's life that was particularly important to him was his military service. Henry was a Vietnam Veteran and was very proud of the opportunity he had to serve his country. Henry served in the US Army as MP and Dog Handler in Okinawa from 1966-1968. Throughout his entire life, Henry had reverence for the military and those who served. He enjoyed spending time with others who shared that common bond.

Henry had one daughter, Daffney, and a grandson, Hank. He loved both unconditionally. The apple of Henry's eye though was his grandson, Hank. From the day Hank was born, Henry was there to love, support, and guide him through life. Henry was extremely proud of Hank and was always eager to share his wisdom and knowledge with him when they spent time together.

Henry also has 3 siblings, two sisters, Gail, and Cathy, along with a brother, Mike. Over the years, Henry developed a special bond with his sister Gail. They spent many days talking about life and the things they experienced. Their relationship was invaluable to Henry, particularly in his later years.

Henry was preceded in death by his parents Oliver Carroll and Maxie Chancellor Adams. Henry is survived by his daughter Daffney Eddins (Bill); grandson William Henry Eddins (Hannah); sisters Gail Adams, Cathy Baker (Henry), and brother Mike Adams (Tammy); one niece Cory Baker; one nephew Logan Adams; and two great nieces Adrie Ross and Vanessa Kiehm.

Connie Sue Price



Connie Sue Price, age 69, of Shelbyville, passed away April 12, 2024.

Memorial services will be 11 AM Friday, April 19, 2024, at Feldhaus Memorial Chapel.

The family will receive visitors 10 AM until service time Friday at the funeral home.

She was born November 23, 1954, in Bedford County, to the late Cecil and Elvis Irene Smith Mullins. She was homemaker, enjoyed fishing, and watching old western movies.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Randy Price, and a daughter, Charity Price.

Survivors include a son, Billy Pittman, of Murfreesboro; grandson, Brandon Pittman; a brother, David Mullins; brothers in law, Larry Price, Don Price, and Phillip Price.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Services offered by funeral homes

Funeral homes provide an array of invaluable services to families mourning the loss of a loved one.

The period surrounding the death of a loved one can be difficult to navigate. Mourning a recently deceased family member or friend can dominate individuals' thoughts, compromising their ability to devote much time and energy to anything else.

Some people decide to pre-plan their funerals in an effort to ensure their wishes are honored upon their death. Pre-planning also can afford survivors more time to grieve and ensure they won't need to make hard decisions at a difficult time in their lives. When a deceased individual makes no such plans, family members are tasked with planning the funeral, a process that can be simplified with the help of experienced staff at a nearby funeral home. Funeral homes offer an array of services that can ensure ceremonies honor the life of the deceased and take some of the pressure off that person surviving family members.

¥ Honor the deceased: No two people are the same, so there's no one-size-fits-all template for a funeral service. Funeral home staff recognize that and can often help families identify unique traits about the deceased that can be conveyed during the ceremony. Whether it's playing a favorite song or choosing an especially meaningful passage from a religious text or a favorite book, funeral home staff will work with families to personalize the ceremony as much as loved one's desire.

• **Establish the desired ambiance:** Funerals tend to be somber, but they also can be celebratory. Funeral home staff can help families establish the desired tone of the service by showcasing how the viewing space can be decorated and prepared for visitations.

• **Organize the ceremony:** Funeral home staff also can help grieving families organize the ceremony, including contacting clergy to preside over the service. Funeral staff also may reach out to extended family members who immediate family may want to perform certain functions in the ceremony, such as reading passages and serving as pallbearers. Funeral directors also may request military honors for the ceremony if the deceased is a veteran.

• **Burial details:** If the deceased is being buried, funeral staff can contact local cemetery officials and get the details on the purchase of a plot if no plot has been purchased previously. Funeral staff also can help families choose a casket and burial liner and organize additional details that grieving relatives may know little about. If the deceased is being cremated, funeral home staff can coordinate the cremation process and help family members choose an appropriate urn.

Shelbyville Softball Set to "Strikeout Cancer," Recognizing Former Player Alyvia Smith's Two-Year Journey

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com



Alyvia Smith before her senior season at SCHS. *Submitted Photo/Ellie Kay Photography.*

When Alyvia Smith first went to the doctor for what was thought to be a softball related injury to her left knee in March of 2022, she was told nothing was broken and given crutches for a week.

"I thought it was an injury to my knee at first because I had kind of twisted it in a game," Smith said, "so that's what I figured it was, but then it kept getting worse."

Smith, who is currently a freshman at Motlow, was in the first month of her junior year at Shelbyville Central, and she was determined to not let the pain keep her off the field. Her teammates noticed that never-say-die attitude, including then-sophomore starter and recent Motlow Softball signee, Lilly Brown.

"Even though her knee was hurt, Alyvia never wanted to give up, she never wanted to stop playing," Brown remembered, "Like she only stopped playing for a couple of games. She just kept going through the pain."

That pain continued to get worse as the season continued, but Smith soldiered on, playing everyday while trying to keep it in the back of her mind.

"I think I really just ignored it thinking I have to get through this season, they need me," she said.

The Eaglettes' season came to a close in the second week of May after losing to Coffee County twice in the district tournament, but Alyvia's fight was only just beginning.

"It didn't get really really worse until summer ball," Smith added, "and by then I had to go to the doctor in August [2022] because my leg was swelling and bruising so much to the point that I simply could not play anymore."

Shelbyville Central and Coach Sean Whitaker try to begin fall ball workouts in October which meant Alyvia did not have much time to figure out what was going on in her knee to get ready for her senior season, so she went to a sport orthopedic to try and find an answer for why the pain was persisting in her left leg.

"They thought I had a hairline fracture on my leg, so they wanted me to get an MRI," said Smith, but the news she would receive was something she could have never imagined.

"On September 29, 2022, the MRI results came back and they told me that I had some form of cancer in my bone and recommended me to an oncologist at Vanderbilt," she said, not knowing that this diagnosis was just the first step in a nearly two-year-long journey filled with numerous twists and turns.

The first thing she did when she got the news? She dialed up her softball coach, Sean Whitaker.

"Well, I remember the day she called and told me," recalled Coach Sean, "The first time she called in October 2022, I was sitting on the lawn mower mowing the yard, and it hit me pretty good. Because I had never been around that really, nobody in my family was involved. Like the girls, they always, her sister, her friends, and her mama, they're always cracking jokes, so she really didn't have time to think about it and process it."

"Her friends and family kept her from sitting down and really thinking about it. For me, I just tried to talk to her, you know, asking her if she's doing ok and stuff like that," he continued.

Why would her first call be to her coach? He's relatable, and his down to earth personality he showcases on a daily basis as he tries to impart a family environment in the program allows his players to feel comfortable asking for help not just in softball, but in life as well.

This culture he has tried to build as he is in his third year at the helm was never more prevalent than one particular exchange when Smith was trying to explain why she called Whitaker first.

"Whenever you can't hit, you call coach Sean, ask him a whole bunch of questions. I feel like I can ask him anything about anything in life," Alyvia said, before Lilly Brown interjected with a giggle.

"Yea, Coach Sean is big about making your bed every morning."

"Start your day with something positive every morning," Coach Sean yelled out in the background as a smile spread across his face.

However, in October of 2022, Smith was concerned with a lot more than just making her bed at the start of every morning. The oncologist who diagnosed her with cancer did a pair of bone biopsies in the final two weeks of October, but after the results came back they told Alyvia that they didn't know what her bone was filled with. They then recommended her to a rheumatologist at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital.

After seeing the rheumatologist, Smith was told that they were pretty sure that she had a bone disease called Chronic Recurrent Multifocal Osteomyelitis, or CRMO. She was incorrectly diagnosed for the second time, this time with CRMO in January of 2023, just two months before her senior season was set to begin.

All of these doctor visits were messing with Alyvia's younger sister, Alyssa, who was getting ready for her sophomore season on the diamond where she was going to be playing every day.

"Just seeing her down and not 100%, it really threw me off," Alyssa said.

Her older sister continued to put on a brave face despite her new diagnosis, and Alyvia says that her younger sister actually was a huge help, whether Alyssa realized it or not.

"We kinda just joked about it, her [Alyssa] just joking around made me feel better, and that's kinda just what she does," said Alyvia.

In response to this CRMO diagnosis, she was prescribed Humira shots for her senior season, but the pain she had been experiencing did not go away.

"I played every game except for one week because of pain my senior year," she said. " The pain started in my left knee, but then it spread to the entire lower leg below my knee."

"The worst pain was whenever it spread to my knee, and I couldn't walk for like a week. I couldn't bend it, I couldn't walk, it was bad. That was last August, so fortunately I didn't have to play or anything then, but that's how rough it got," Alyvia continued.

Despite everything she was going through, including the immense pain, there was a reason she kept fighting to be out there on the softball diamond.

"Playing just made me feel normal because it was the one time I didn't have to think about anything," she said, "I just did what I did out there on the field."

Since the shots obviously weren't helping, Alyvia got more imaging done once the season was over in June of 2023. These confirmed what everyone feared: the shots were not working at all, but worst of all, she may in fact actually have cancer.

While everyone held their breath, Vanderbilt Children's Hospital performed another bone biopsy on September 14, 2023. At first, the results were inconclusive, but after the bone sample was sent out to the National Institute of Health, the conclusion confirmed everyone's worst fear.

The diagnosis this time – for the third time no less – was finally correct: she had non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Once the doctors figured that out, Alyvia had more imaging done and the results showed that there was cancer in both her left and right tibia, right hip bone, and later it moved to her left knee.

"When I first got diagnosed [in October 2023] they wanted to start treatment immediately so it wouldn't get any worse," she explained, "So I did it every three weeks on Fridays for five months. I had six rounds of chemo. Daily, I still went to practice at Motlow, I went to the games, did what I normally did really except for on that third friday."

Of course, since she had to go through chemotherapy, she had to mentally address the elephant in the room.

"When I found out my hair was gonna fall out, I cried. I cried a lot, but that's really the only time I really cried," Alyvia recalled.

"People look at you differently because you don't have hair, they'll laugh at you sometimes, and stare, and it's really hard mentally, but it makes you stronger in the end."

The chemo treatments began on November 17th, 2023, and ended on March 1st, 2024. As of March 18th, Alyvia Smith is officially a cancer survivor and is in remission.



The Eaglettes show off the front of the T-shirts. *Submitted Photo.*

Fast forward to the present day, she doesn't always feel that way yet though. Not that she doesn't believe it, but more so because of how the treatments kept her off the field.

I still feel like I still have it kind of because I can't really do everything I used to be able to do," Smith explained. "I can't play yet, but my hair is growing back, so that's good," she said with a hearty laugh, showing that her sense of humor is still fully functional.

She says she is extremely thankful for her now-former coaches for routinely checking up on her after her appointments and making sure she was doing okay whenever possible, even though she was a freshman at Motlow.

Motlow already had an event honoring Alyvia almost two weeks ago now, on April 5th, and the shirts from that event will be worn by every member of the Eaglettes during Saturday's game.

"It means a lot," Alyvia said about the Strike Out Cancer event scheduled for Saturday.

"It shows that people care, having people show support means a lot because it helps you get through whatever you're going through," she said.

"Hopefully we can push it into the community that sports are more than just winning and losing," Coach Sean said about Saturday's event, "try to have a family environment. We're getting there."

He also had some final words of wisdom on what he learned from the past two years that he will take with him and cherish moving forward even more so now.

"Just don't take anything for granted," he said, "Try to live the best you can and don't take anything for granted."

Alyvia expects to be full go by the time August rolls around to get ready for fall ball at Motlow, but this time she will be joined by her old Eaglettes teammate, Lilly Brown.

The Strike Out Cancer event will be held on Saturday, April 20, with first pitch against the Nashville Lady Knights coming at 3:00 p.m.



Alyvia Smith (left) with her sister Alyssa (right) after losing her hair. *Submitted Photo.*



The back of the "Strike Out Cancer" T-shirts. *Submitted Photo.*

Eaglettes' Bats Struggle In Home Loss To Columbia Central

BY NOAH MADDOX
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The Shelbyville Central Golden Eaglettes struggled to string together hits in Sunday's matinee home loss to District 9-AAAA foe, Columbia Central, 4-2.

Bailey Lovell went seven complete innings in the circle for the Lady Lions, allowing only four hits while striking out 14 batters with one walk on 103 pitches. She did give up a home run, but one of the two runs given up was unearned.

Lilly Brown hit that home run for the Eaglettes, driving in Sammie Brown to cut the Lady Lions' lead in half, 4-2, in the sixth inning. Brown also tallied a double, finishing 2-3 on the day with two RBI.

Sammie Brown and Ja'Mya Anderson collected the only other hits for the Eaglettes, but on the whole, the lineup never really got going against Lovell.

Alissa Robb got the nod in the circle for the hosts, going 3.2 innings with three strikeouts and three walks while giving up seven hits on 86 pitches. Of the four runs Columbia Central scored against Robb, only one was earned as the Eaglettes committed three errors on the day She also hit two batters.

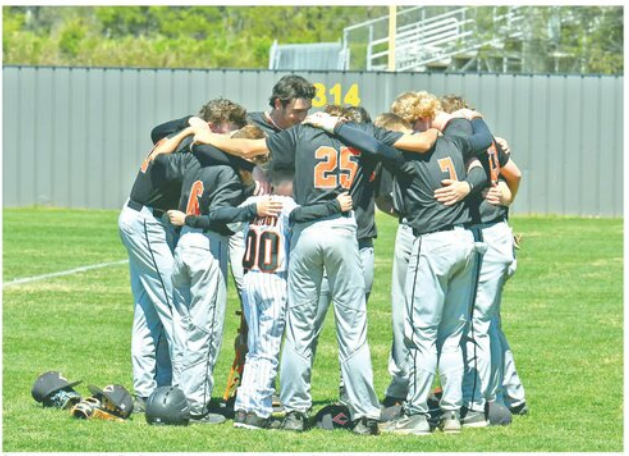
Sammie Brown came in to finish out the fourth inning, and after she finished the seventh inning, she had struck out four batters with only one walk and had only given up one hit on 45 pitches.

The Lady Lions left 11 runners stranded on base offensively, but three-hole hitter Ruthie Lindsey led Columbia Central with three hits, going 3-3 – all singles – with a walk and a run scored. The top-four hitters in the visitor's order accounted for seven of their eight hits on the day.

The Golden Eaglettes fall to 2-6 (0-3) with their next game coming at home against Lincoln County on Tuesday in another key District 9-AAAA matchup.

Champs Walk Off Rockets In Game One, Drop Game Two

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com



Cascade pregame huddle. The Champs picked up a series split against Chapel Hill this week. *Photo by David Smith.*

GAME ONE

The Cascade Champions took game one of their District 9-AA series against the Forrest Rockets in dramatic fashion on Monday night, walking off the Rockets in the bottom of the seventh to win, 4-3.

Logan Green, after being pinch-hit for in the previous inning, stepped up to bat down to his team's final out with the bases loaded and trailing by a single run. Cascade's senior center fielder promptly deposited the third pitch he saw into center field for a base hit, allowing Sawyer Lovvorn and courtesy runner Elijah Wesenberg to come around to score the tying and winning runs.

The explosive Cascade offense was held in check for the majority of the night with Rockets' starter Preston Gentry keeping the Champs at bay for the first five and two thirds innings.

Cascade's ace Walker Craig held his own on the mound against a disciplined Chapel Hill lineup, and this game was a pitchers duel until the fifth inning when the visitors were able to scratch across two runs thanks to an RBI groundout by Gentry and a two-out RBI double by Tyler Baxter. Craig finished the night going six complete innings on 92 pitches, giving up five hits and two runs with four walks while striking out five batters.

As Chapel Hill took a 2-0 lead into the bottom of the sixth, Gentry looked like he was going to hurl six complete shutout innings. Then, Travis Sheffield sent a freshman, Isaac Winton, to the plate to bat for Logan Green with two outs and nobody on base just to find any sort of spark, and a spark is exactly what he found.

Winton, who was 1-3 coming into that at-bat in his career, delivered a two out single into right-center field, and after a James Magee double drove in the run, Cascade cut the lead to one run.

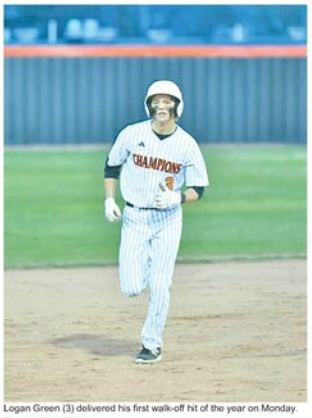
This brought up freshman right fielder Wickey Parker, who had struck out looking in both of his previous at bats, wasted no time in swinging at the first pitch he saw, hitting a soft grounder to second base. Mealer, knowing he had to hurry his throw to beat out the speedy Parker, rushed it too much, throwing underneath the glove and allowing Cascade to score their second run of the night to tie the game at 2-2. Gentry would strikeout the next batter, limiting any further damage, but the majority of the damage had already been done.

Gentry did not come back out for the seventh, so he went six complete innings, giving up seven hits, two runs with only one of them being earned, and he struck out 12 batters while only walking one.

Chapel Hill would respond by loading the bases in the top of the seventh against reliever Zach Crosslin thanks to a pair of walks and Tyler Baxter's third base hit of the night. After Kason Fuller lined out for the second out, Crosslin lost the aptly named Carter Walk on five pitches, allowing the visiting Rockets to take the lead, 3-2, with an RBI walk. Crosslin then settled down to retire the next batter, but Cascade would once again have to rally, but this time the top of the lineup would be leading things off.

After an infield pop-up by Connor Melson, the lineup flipped over to Jordan Childress, who drew a one out walk from new reliever Kason Fuller. Sawyer Lovvorn then nearly grounded into a game-ending double play, but he was able to beat out the throw at first base. Walker Craig then singled into left field, moving Lovvorn to second, and after cleanup hitter Jayden Hathcock was hit by a pitch, the Champions had the bases loaded with two outs and Logan Green stepping back up to the plate.

This time, Sheffield left Green in against the new pitcher, Fuller, and the senior delivered with his first walk off hit of the season on a line drive into right centerfield to drive home Lovvorn and Wesenberg to win game one, 4-3, and pick up their 10th win of the season.



Logan Green (3) delivered his first walk-off hit of the year on Monday. *Photo by David Smith.*

GAME TWO

Cascade went on the road for game two of the series, but the Forrest Rockets' bats came to life in a 16-10 win for the home side in a game that lasted almost three and a half hours on Tuesday night.

Jayden Hathcock made his return to the mound for the first time since March 18th at Huntland, and it showed in the first inning in his command. Chapel Hill sent all nine batters to the plate, and despite leaving the bases loaded, they were able to push across three runs. The Rockets also were able to force Hathcock to throw 41 pitches to get three outs, so Travis Sheffield brought out Sawyer Lovvorn for the bottom of the second inning. Hathcock only gave up one base hit in the inning, but he walked four batters and hit one other as the hosts put together quality at-bat after quality at-bat.

Lovvorn came in and threw 2.1 innings, giving up five hits, nine runs – six earned – and five walks to three strikeouts. Lovvorn only had thrown five innings all season up until Tuesday night.

Logan Green came in for Lovvorn with one out in the fourth inning to face the leadoff hitter, Brennan Mealer, with the bases loaded. Mealer promptly deposited the fifth pitch he saw in a 2-2 count over the right field wall for the first and only home run of the night, driving home all four runs for a backbreaking grand slam to take a 13-6 lead going into the fifth inning.

Caden Hammonds came in for Green, who left facing the minimum of three batters without recording a single out, and Hammonds was able to go the final 2.2 innings to close out the game. He gave up five hits, three runs, and struck out one batter while walking one. He also recorded a base hit at the plate in his at-bat in place of Green.

Luke Allen got the start on the mound for Chapel Hill, giving the Rockets 3.0 innings against an extremely potent Champions offense. He gave up five hits, six runs – with four of them coming in the third inning as Cascade batted around – and struck out two batters while walking three.

Carter Walk came in to relieve Allen in the fourth inning with two on and nobody out, and despite giving up a first pitch RBI double to Sawyer Lovvorn, settled down to strike out Walker Craig and Jayden Hathcock to end the inning after Lovvorn was thrown out at third base. Walk closed out the game, giving up only four runs – three earned – on just three hits. He also struck out four batters while walking three, and he was able to induce a lot of soft contact with the combination of his fastball and breaking ball.

Chapel Hill took a 3-0 lead after the first inning, but Cascade's bats woke up in the second and third innings, scoring five runs total to take a 5-3 lead going into the bottom of the third.

In the home half, Carter Walk took a leadoff walk, and Chapel Hill took advantage by scoring four runs to take a 7-5 lead to end the third. Cascade cut the lead in half in the top of the fourth, 7-6, but then another leadoff walk led to another massive inning by the Rockets in the bottom half of the fourth inning to take a 13-6 lead.

Cascade responded with three runs of their own to trim the lead to 13-9, but the Rockets methodically found ways to tack on one run in the fifth and two runs in the sixth to counteract the Champs' one run in the top of the seventh and were able to pick up their 10th win of the year, 16-10.

Cascade falls to 10-6 (4-2) and are set to continue District 9-AA play on Monday and Tuesday against Grundy County.

Shelbyville Beats Franklin County Behind 5-Run Fifth

BY NOAH MADDOX
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The Shelbyville Central Golden Eagles handled the visiting Franklin County Rebels, 9-6, on Saturday thanks to a five-run fifth inning to win their fifth consecutive game this season on Saturday.

Stephen Bobo led Shelbyville – winners of nine of their last eleven games – with three hits, including a double, and a pair of runs-batted-in from the leadoff spot while William Bobo and nine-hole hitter Caden Duggin recorded two hits apiece. Duggin recorded one RBI while Bobo's two hits were a triple and a double. Kyler Trice also picked up an RBI on a double.

Palmer Edwards got the start on the mound for the Golden Eagles, throwing three complete innings with three strikeouts and a walk on 65 pitches while giving up three hits and three earned-runs (4 total). He was relieved by William Bobo for the fourth and fifth inning, striking out a pair of hitters while not allowing a single baserunner. Stephen Bobo came on for the sixth, striking out two and walking one.

Shelbyville took a 2-1 lead after the second inning before Franklin County put up a three-spot in the top of the third inning to take a 4-2 lead. The Golden Eagles then tied things up with a pair of runs in the bottom of the fourth.

After William Bobo held the Rebels scoreless on the mound in the top of the fifth, Shelbyville's bats went for the kill shot in the home half of the inning, plating five runs against Jacob Hardison to take a commanding 9-4 lead that they would not relinquish.

Franklin County did get two runs back, but the result was not in doubt, as the

Eagles Come Back To Win Game Two At Columbia in Extras

BY NOAH MADDOX
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The Shelbyville Central Golden Eagles picked up a a huge road District 9-AAAA win on Tuesday night against the Columbia Central Lions, 7-4, after 10 innings.

The Golden Eagles trailed 4-0 going into the seventh inning and it looked like all hope was lost, but the resiliency of Shelbyville came through with a four-spot to send the game into extra innings.

Matthew Thomas came in to relieve Burton Moore, who went 6.0 shutout innings on 111 pitches, only giving up three hits while striking out eight batters and walking four. The Golden Eagles took full advantage, working great at-bats to the tune of drawing four walks and collecting a pair of base hits against Thomas to tie the game at 4-4 before the Lions could even record two outs. Walker Potts was quickly brought to the mound, and he was able to get the final two outs of the inning.

Palmer Edwards got the start on the mound for Shelbyville, going 5.1 innings on 96 pitches and giving up six hits, four runs – two unearned – and four strikeouts with four walks. He also gave up a home run to Connor Bowden.

Blake Bone came on in relief first, throwing 3.1 hitless shutout innings on 33 pitches, only issuing a pair of free passes while striking out one batter. He was pulled for Ashton Worley for the final 1.1 innings, and Whorley only gave up one hit himself and tallied a strikeout, earning the win in the process.

Columbia jumped on Edwards early for a pair of runs to take a 2-0 lead after the first inning, and they doubled their lead in the third inning all while holding Shelbyville scoreless. The Golden Eagles looked like they would be regretting all the runners stranded on base – 18 in total once the game ended – but the visitors were able to shock the home crowd with a four-run explosion in the top of the seventh to tie the game at 4-4.

The score would stay 4-4, despite the 11 walks drawn and nine hits tallied for the game by Shelbyville, until the 10th inning. Walker Potts, who got Columbia into extras in the first place, finally started to lose his touch. He finished with 68 pitches and 3.1 innings pitched, but it was the three unearned runs given up in the 10th inning that doomed the Lions. He gave up four hits, a trio of walks, and tallied three strikeouts.

Columbia was unable to recover in the home half of the tenth, as Shelbyville pitching continued their strong night in shutting out the hosts to secure the win. After scoring four runs in the first three innings, the Lions didn't score again, stranding 11 baserunners in the process.

Shelbyville picks up their first district win of the season, and will possibly be credited with a series sweep via forfeit due to Columbia letting their pitcher in game one of the series go over the 120-pitch limit. That ruling is still up in the air, however, so for now, the Golden Eagles improve to 13-10 overall while picking up their first win in District 9-AAAA play.

Bedford County property transfers

The following property sales were recently recorded in the Bedford County Register of Deeds office.

File date: April 9

Location: 1013 Old Center Church Rd; Seller, Sean Christopher Stratton, Ashley Baker; Buyer, James A Ladd Jr, Susan P Ladd; Price, $650,000 (Deed).

Location: 3557 Midland Road; Seller, Caleb Parsons, Brandi Parsons; Buyer, Justin Ryker Logan, Holly Jane Logan; Price, $337,500 (Deed).

Location: 6A Hall Mill Road Unionville; Seller, Running With Scissors LLC; Buyer, Mary Lou Kniss, Mary Lou Kniss Revocable Living Trust, Kniss Revocable Living Trust; Price, $489,000 (Deed).

File date: April 10

Location: 103 Sandy Ln Unionville; Seller, Ladd Limited Partnership; Buyer, Stephen M Ladd, Marcelle L Ladd; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 900 N Main St Shelbyville; Seller, Macs Convenience Stores LLC; Buyer, Boghani Properties LLC; Price, $2,000,000 (Deed).

Location: Perfection Dr; Seller, Brenda G Walker, Samuel Walker; Buyer, Susan E Pinkston, Samuel T Walker Jr; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Warner Bridge Rd; Seller, Gerald Valiquette; Buyer, Gerald F Valiquette Trust; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 317 Cortner Rd Normandy; Seller, Wade Winfred Hill, Krystal Louise Perkins, Krystal Louise Hill; Buyer, Aricindy Castillo Guzman; Price, $235,000 (Deed).

Location: 353 Burnt Hill Rd Unionville; Seller, Priscilla Smith; Buyer, Priscilla K Smith Family Trust; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Sims Rd; Seller, Priscilla Smith, Terry Smith; Buyer, Priscilla Smith, Terry Smith; Price, $0 (QD).

File date: April 11

Location: 1430 Hwy 64 West Shelbyville; Seller, Juan Casas Vera, Juan Casas, Hannah O Casas, Hannah O McDonald; Buyer, Kenneth Stickler, Shamra Stickler; Price, $389,900 (Deed).

Location: Big Springs Rd; Seller, Mike W Pitts, Michael W Pitts; Buyer, Mike W Pitts, Michael W Pitts, Matthew Dale Pitts, Katherine D Pitts; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: McDale Rd; Seller, Kanahikkumar Chotaliya, Biren Patel; Buyer, Global Development LLC; Price, $775,000 (Deed).

Location: 210 Ashlyn Dr Shelbyville; Seller, Charles Rodney Bowling, Chanel Donegan; Buyer, Justin Balsewicz, Ashley Balsewicz; Price, $345,000 (Deed).

Location: Wartrace Pike; Seller, Reva Angela Albert; Buyer, Gwendolyn Ferial Rippy, Margaret Rippy Holton, Reva Angela Albert, Jessica Ann Rippy; Price, $0 (QD).

File date: April 12

Location: Kayden Ave; Seller, Robert H McConnell Sr Testamentary Trust, Raven A McCullough; Buyer, Mark A McConnell; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Bedford Lake; Seller, Cody Nash, Kara Beth Nash; Buyer, Robert Flade; Price, $100,000 (Deed).

Location: Butler Ave; Seller, Madison Madden, Kay Madden; Buyer, Kacy Lanae Bondurant, Miguel Castaneda Maneiro; Price, $105,000 (Deed).

Location: Hurricane Grove Rd; Seller, Billy Townsend Williams Jr, Melissa Williams; Buyer, Kyle Williams, Cheyenne Williams; Price, $0 (QD).

Seller, Michele Marie Faraone, Adam Christopher Eckstein; Buyer, Michele Marie Eckstein, Adam Christopher Eckstein; Price, $0 (QD).

File date: April 15

Location: 135 Sulphur Springs Rd; Seller, Kurt R Ashbaugh; Buyer, Duane V Swanson, Jacquelyn Jones Swanson; Price, $640,000 (Deed).

Location: 103 Sandy Ln Unionville; Seller, Marcelle L Ladd; Buyer, Stephen M Ladd; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 1108 South Brittain St; Seller, James Russell Sartain, Lindsey D sartain; Buyer, Ana Marie Martinez Velasco, Alfredo Martinez Gonzalez; Price, $304,000 (Deed).

Location: 629 Mac St Shelbyville; Seller, Andrea N Carroll, Ricky Nelson Williamson; Buyer, Destiny Lanette Noe, Arville Noe Jr; Price, $327,500 (Deed).

Location: 329 Winners Circle; Seller, SDH Nashville LLC; Buyer, Anna Miller; Price, $316,415 (Deed).

Seller, Global Homes Inc; Buyer, Elizabeth Carroll; Price, $310,000 (Deed).

Guide to becoming a landlord



People may pursue being a landlord as a means to ensure a steady source of income. Though that is a reality for most landlords, there are other benefits to owning rental properties, including potential tax deductions and long-term security.

Investing in residential rental property can be a lucrative way to increase wealth, but it's also a lot of work. It's important that prospective landlords do not overlook the risk involved in such a pursuit, as tenants are not always reliable. As with any investment, it's best for people to do their homework and weigh all of the information accordingly before moving forward.

What is a landlord?

Before becoming a landlord, it's best to get a broad picture of the role. A landlord is a private individual or company who owns a property. In turn, that landlord rents out the property to people at a profit. It is believed the concept of Oland lording began in the early 1800s due to overcrowding in the United States. Landlords bought property to let out to people in need of shelter, and realized they could make money by renting homes and apartments to others.

How much do landlords make?

Unlike a full-time job with a set salary, it is not possible to nail down one figure for income on a rental. Thato's because many variables go into the equation. Real estate professionals' notes that rental property income varies based on the property's location, whether the landlord chooses to live on the property, and whether a person is a full-time or part-time landlord, to name a few factors. One thing that landlords have going for them right now is property appreciation. According to Forbes, housing prices have increased 4.5 percent per year since 1975.

Costs of being a landlord

Potential landlords should understand that buying rental property requires an initial, and potentially sizable, financial investment. It's important to know some of the potential costs involved.

- Cost to buy a property
- Landlord insurance
- Advertising the property
- Attorney fees
- Tenant background check fees
- Maintenance and repair needs
- Loss of income if tenants fail to pay
- Loss of income between tenants
- Cost involved in hiring a property manager

Learn the rental laws

Landlords should know federal laws and local rules and regulations that pertain to rental properties. Most laws involve making Reasonable accommodations in rules, policies and practices or services if it is necessary should a tenant become disabled There are building codes specific to rentals, and it's wise to know what is involved in squatters' rights. A skilled real estate attorney can help landlords navigate legal issues.

Keep accurate records

Record keeping is vital for any good landlord. If a person believes that this is beyond the scope of his or her skill set, hiring a bookkeeper or accountant can be a wise investment. In addition, keep track of tenant background checks and credit checks. Receipts and records are essential.

Becoming a landlord has its pros and cons. However, it can be a worthy endeavor for those with the time, money and work ethic.

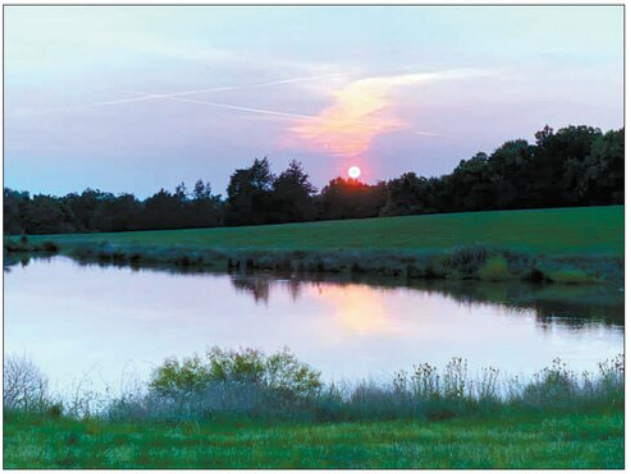
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Yentz Family Farm hosts first garden party

Event is set for Saturday, May 11



Mother's Day weekend will just have a little specialness to it upon visiting the Yentz Family Farm located at 1146 Highway 64 West in Shelbyville.

The family invites everyone to come on out for an afternoon of elegance and relaxation during the Garden Tea Party under the big white tent. It's all to celebrate Mom!

The event will be held on Saturday, May 11, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the farm.

Where else can you enjoy a tea party and greet baby goats too!

Go to wwwyentzfamily-farm.com or call 615-795-8142 about tickets.

The Yentz family is well known for serving up great charcuterie grazing tables, quiche, shrimp with cheesy grits and more. They're preparing a great menu selection for Mother's Day.

So how did this all start?

The farm is owned by Eric and Vanessa Yentz. The property was purchased in 2021 and has been transitioning into a working farm ever since, Vanessa notes.

Eric and Vanessa both grew up in Massachusetts but in two different worlds, so to speak.

Eric grew up in the small city of Fall River and Vanessa grew up in the same city but shared her time with her grandparents on a small dairy and vegetable farm in Somerset.

She believes this time planted the seed and grew into her love of animals, farming and the enjoyment of caring for a farm.

Eric and Vanessa say they both love being outdoors, sharing time with family, watching the farm grow, and serving the community and others. Their desire to return to a simpler life that provided the opportunity to slow down and enjoy God's blessings drove their decision to purchase the land and carry on Vanessa's family farming tradition.

The rest as they say is history.

"The farm has actually been my life-long dream," she explains.

And a dream farm it is. The sunsets alone in that part of the county are outstanding.

Vanessa is the resident farmer and baker; ensuring the care of the produce, livestock and day to day management of the farm, including the creation of their "yummy" canned and baked goods.

Eric spends his week supporting his community working at a local home improvement store. When not working his off-farm job, he helps with caring for the livestock and the projects that Vanessa "dreams up for him."

Eric is the resident project manager and works to bring Vanessa's vision to life.

Vanessa just feels she was always meant to own such a farm and share it with the community.

"My great grandparents raised dairy cows and row crops in Massachusetts," notes Vanessa. "They were homesteaders of sorts in that we had a family garden and a commercial garden. They traded milk, beef and produce for everything else that we needed. We raised our own chickens for both meat and eggs."

She learned from her great grandmother how to make bread from scratch; she did it every morning and those are the absolute sweetest memories she explains that she had as a child!

Vanessa's chickens Our chickens enjoy free-ranging from sunrise to sunset every day and are primarily pasture raised. They are only in their coop at night for their safety and to protect them from predators.

"Raising chickens following this process provides us with eggs that are both healthy and delicious," says Vanessa.

"My love for the farm started in my very earliest of memories!"

Vanessa hales from a long line of servitude; she is a hospital nurse of 30 years and is also a veteran of the United States Army. She advises the farm business is her "retirement job."

"The care and tending of the farm are all me. My daughters and I manage the animals and the vegetables and my husband is my projects man! He builds me what I ask for but is not in love with farming the way I am!"

So, Vanessa says it is fair to say that the farm is women owned and managed!

"I started baking as a way to offset farm costs and provide some income to feed the animals in the winter," says Vanessa. "Our future goal is to welcome guests to the farm and teach them about farming, let them enjoy the beautiful scenery and land that we have been blessed with, and serve our community on some of their most special days!"



Vanessa says they hope to build a barn in the next year or two as finances allow, but they have recently purchased a party tent, tables and chairs and supplies to host small events up to 80 people.

It's certainly taking all the family to work this farm and especially these events. Vanessa's oldest daughter, Corrinn, can be found helping out with chores on the farm and at Farmer's Market when she is not at work.

Corrinn enjoys being outdoors here on the farm, especially snuggling with the animals. She has also blessed them with their first granddaughter, Lillie.

Vanessa and Eric's youngest daughter, Taylor, can be found helping out with chores on the farm and at Farmer's Market when not at work or in school. She enjoys being outdoors here on the farm, and prefers snuggles with the animals to chores.

"Lillie, our granddaughter, can be found on the farm pretty regularly. Her favorite place to be is on the side by side or the big green tractor. Lillie loves the goats, chickens, our Shetland pony and barn kitties that live here on the farm. She will share with you her displeasure of having to go in the house instead of being outside. She is Grandma's best helper and loves to dig in the dirt with her."

After all, isn't that what farm life is all about? Truly loving the life?

"We will officially open to the public on May 11th and will be ready to start booking photo sessions, birthday parties, and small events," says Vanessa.

She notes the farm is still quite primitive in the sense that until the barn is built, they have portable potty's, generators for electric and manual wash stations.

"What we lack in amenities, we make up for in service and beauty!" Vanessa says with a smile.

She notes that following the Mother's Day event, it's only fair that they host a special day on the farm for the dads. "We'll have more events over the summer and hope to do a farm to table dinner in the fall!"



Yentz Family Farm

Established 2021



