COMMUNITY NEWS

SHELBYVILLE
# TIMES-GAZETTE

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## Sift, sift, sift: County bylaws still being reviewed

By DAWN HANKINS
dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net

A 2-hour study session Tuesday night about County government bylaws wasn't for the faint of heart. Within this tedious document, there are some new rules, some perhaps outdated, some state-driven, and others left at the discretion of County officials.

Bedford County Rules Committee, however, waded through every section Tuesday night.

The bylaws have been divided into 9 articles and according to Rules Committee Chair Biff Farrar-the way it has been for a number of years.

It's been years since the bylaws were updated. It is expected the rules will be reviewed each year going forward.

Rule I is always concerning the Board of Commissioners and Rule II is about the chairperson and so on down the line with County officials, standing committees, sub committees and appointed boards.

It is truly the document by which all things shall be governed in Bedford County. But it may still have some pretty fine points to be still worked out, based on Tuesday night's discussions.

Chairman Farrar said the original rules included 12 pages and now there's 16. "We knew the conflict of interest was going to be a big, big thing," said Farrar. "That added about 2 ½ pages."

Commissioners aren't reading a disclaimer anymore, instead, they declare a "conflict of interest."

It's still difficult, Farrar explained, to understand and apply the different commissioners in any scenario.

Commissioner Greg Vick, who is on the rules committee, said people need to understand that all rules begin with state statutes-those which can override the County Commission. This is considered the "preamble" to the bylaws.

In a nutshell, the purpose of bylaws is not to restate TCA regs or statutes but to define and clarify minor procedures.

Commissioner Linda Yockey, along with Rules Chair Farrar, worked on these bylaws, as they had done this in years past. And Yockey will tell you there has been a lot of time spent on re-typing this

See BYLAWS, 2A



Commissioner Eric Maddox, standing, discusses before the rules committee Tuesday night how he is against bundling capital outlay projects, that is, into one resolution. He wants to see each project separately debated and discussed in County committee before it heads on to financial. Seated behind Maddox is County Mayor Chad Graham.

## New Vanderbilt radiologist shares expertise with community



DR. RIFAT WAHAB

Vanderbilt Tullahoma Harton Hospital recently welcomed its newest radiologist, Dr. Rifat Wahib, who specializes in Women's Imaging. After her loved ones were affected by breast cancer, she became dedicated to sharing her expertise with the community.

Just because breast cancer awareness month is actually observed in a big way in October doesn't mean we can't talk about the importance of screenings and what to expect during exams-all year long.

Q&A with Tullahoma's newest radiologist, Dr. Rifat Wahab

Vanderbilt Tullahoma Harton-Hospital recently welcomed its newest radiologist, Dr. Rifat Wahab. Like many, Dr. Wahab has known family members and friends who have been affected by breast cancer.

That's one of the reasons why she chose to specialize in women's imaging. Dr. Wahab completed her Women's Imaging Fellowship at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville and has spent the better part of a decade as a breast radiologist at the University of Cincinnati, where she also served as the breast imaging fellowship director. She has extensive training reading breast images to identify signs of cancer.

Now she's bringing that expertise to patients in the Tullahoma area. Dr. Wahab is looking forward to getting to know her new patients one-on-one and empowering them with the knowledge to make informed breast health decisions.

She will read mammography images and consult with patients virtually to discusss their findings and the next steps. Beyond screening, Dr. Wahab is also passionate about educating women on how to manage their breast health throughout their life.

**What is a mammogram?**

Dr. Wahab: A mammogram is a specialized X-ray imaging technique used to look for and diagnose breast cancer. Although mammograms will not detect all breast cancers, it is one of the most effective tools to detect signs of breast cancer early when it is highly treatable.

About one in eight women in the U.S. will develop invasive breast cancer over the course of

See RADIOLOGIST, 2A



## Celebration judges selected for the 86th event

The 86th annual Celebration will be held August 21-31 in Cooper Steel and Celebration Arenas with five morning sessions and 11 evening performances.

The Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration has selected Derek Bonner, Jamie Bradshaw, Scotty Brooks, Leigh Stuart and Amy Trimble as the 2024 judges.

The Celebration affiliates with the SHOW HIO and selects its judges from those licensed by SHOW HIO. The Celebration only selects from those judges that hold a AAA or better license with SHOW.

Bradshaw, from Arab, Ala., will be judging The Celebration for the seventh time with his most recent appearance in 2022. Bradshaw has judged The Spring Fun Show on four occasions, including earlier this year. Bradshaw has judged most every major show in the industry during his career and will mark the cards one more time before The Celebration at the upcoming Marshall County Horseman's Association horse show in Lewisburg.

Bonner, from Mooresboro, N.C., will be making his fifth appearance on the judging panel. This will be a career first, judging back-to-back years. Bonner has also judged the most major venues outside of The Celebration in the industry and has worked for The Celebration at the 2014 and 2022 Spring Fun Shows.

Stuart, from Alvaton, Ky., will be making her sixth appearance at The Celebration with her first appearance happening in 1997. Stuart also judged The Celebration in 2013, 2016, 2018 and 2020. Stuart's span of 27 years from her first appearance to her current selection is one of the longest in recent Celebration history.

Brooks, from Smith's Grove, Ky., will be making his second appearance at The Celebration with his first in 2017. Brooks has judged the Spring Fun Show in 2006, 2010 and 2017 and judged the Celebration Fall Classic in 2023. Earlier this year, Brooks judged the Columbia Spring Jubilee and Money Tree Classic, two of the industry's premier venues.

Trimble, from Pulaski, Tn., will be marking the cards for the second time with her first appearance in 2022. Trimble most recently judged the Money Tree Classic over the 4th of July weekend. Previously, she judged the Celebration Fall Classic, Mississippi Charity, Columbia Spring Jubilee, North Carolina Championships and Walking in the Smokies.

"Along with Charles McDonald and our entire center ring staff, I look forward to working with the panel to have a great Celebration. Our ability to have a panel that represents four different states and has 20 years of past Celebration experience excites all of us about our upcoming show," said Warren Wells, TWHNC CEO.

## Grieving mom writes first book: Beyond the grief

### *Godly faith sustains Jamie Dickerson past pain*

By DAWN HANKINS
dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net

*Grief is not a sign of weakness; it's a sign of love. It's the price we pay for having deeply connected to someone or something. Dr. Thema Bryant, host of Homecoming podcast.*

While she is devastated at the tragic death of her 29-year-old daughter, author Jamie Dickerson of Bell Buckle has dealt with her grief by journaling her feelings into a new book, "Grieving Through Grace."

With all the strength she has and through Bible scripture, she wrote the book, just released by Dorrance Publishing, from her journals. It was a God-given process she started eight days after her daughter's passing.

It was her way of demonstrating her faith amidst a tragic time for her family. But she said know that it doesn't diminish her sadness, it only helps her to reach out to others who might be suffering. That is a Godly commandment, her family believes.

Her own grandchildren even have ideas of things they want to do to honor their mother's memory, like helping the homeless.

Jamie's book is a guide to the grief journey after the loss of a child or loved one. A wonderful read for anyone in this life, know that it truly is a heartbreaking memoir written through deeply personal journal entries.

The book chronicles from the day she was called to the hospital through the first month, following her daughter's sudden death.

"There was nobody looking back at me," she recalls in her book. "I have never experienced such a thing in my life."

She had to endure the Sunday meal times they always shared together. Then, there were the holidays and birthdays. And oh yes, they both loved to shop.

But Jamie has some ideas on how to develop that love between them into a ministry as well. Plans are underway.

She will always be a grieving mother, she realizes. Just Tuesday night, Jamie expressed how her heart hurt for her child. It's a journey she wouldn't want to wish on anyone but she wants to try to help those like herself grieving.

Jamie writes, "After the papers were signed, I knew leaving the hospital would be the last time I saw my daughter. As we slowly walked to the car, I slumped into the passenger seat. All I could do is cry out, "Why, Lord, why my baby?" I will never understand until I stand before God one day myself. I have no choice but to accept God calling her home."

Jamie notes that the tragic events surrounding April's death are still being investigated. Over the last year, she's had to move on with life as she's caring for April's two children.

She wants to leave them more of a legacy of strength, she says, rather than memories of her depression and heart-ache. But of course, the latter does exist, because they all miss April deeply.

See GRIEF, 4A



'Twenty-seven days have come and gone. My sunglasses have been a new fashion statement so that my puffy eyes from crying won't show.'

- Jamie Dickerson, grieving mom, author






Photos by Kaylie Bullington

**SCHOOL IS BACK IN SESSION!**
The Battle of Bedford Soccer tourney was held Friday night at The Webb School in Bell Buckle. See sports page for winners.

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**Tennessee and its walking horses**
A view into the Tennessee Walking Horse industry.

See Page 12A



**Confidence is Everything**
Cascade's head coach, Jared Carkuff, on takeaways from MTCS scrimmage.

See Page 10A

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## RADIOLOGIST

From page 1

their lifetime. The amount of radiation mammograms emit is incredibly low and less than the cumulative dose of radiation we receive in nature. Even a lifetime of radiation exposure from mammograms would not be enough to increase your cancer risk.

Vanderbilt Tullahoma-Harton Hospital offers both 2D and 3D mammography. The 3D imaging is the best type of screening that takes additional images of the breast tissue from different views. It can be done in combination with a 2D mammogram and is often recommended for all women, particularly those with dense breasts. Women with dense breasts have more breast tissue which increases the risk of breast cancer. Women are notified of their breast density on their mammogram report.

**What can I expect when I go in for a mammogram?**

Dr. Wahab: A typical mammogram appointment lasts about 20 minutes. But those 20 minutes are important and could save your life.

Before you arrive, make sure that you aren't wearing any deodorant, and take the time to talk through any apprehensions or concerns with your provider. We're here to help ensure you have a comfortable experience.

When you arrive for your appointment, an on-site technologist will be there to guide you through every step of the process. During the imaging, each breast will be placed between two plates and gently compressed. I like to describe it as a tight hug! This compression may cause some discomfort, but it is necessary to get the best possible view of the breast tissue and to detect any potential issues early. Each picture takes less than a minute. It is very important to stay still during your exam.

Then, a physician radiologist like myself will review the images to check for any signs of breast cancer. If we see anything abnormal, we may recommend some additional mammogram pictures and possibly an ultrasound to further evaluate the abnormality. A biopsy may be needed in some cases.

**When should I start screening?**

Dr. Wahab: It's recommended that women begin screening for breast cancer at the age of 40. Even if you aren't showing any symptoms or do not have a family history of breast cancer, it is important to get a mammogram each year.

For those with a family history of breast or ovarian cancer, especially through a first-degree relative such as a parent, sibling or child, you may need to start screening earlier. You may also be at higher risk if you're 60 years or older, are overweight or have dense breasts.

Cancer can do a lot within the course of a year. Even if your most recent mammogram came back negative for cancer, it's important that you don't skip your next appointment. One of the reasons why mammograms have helped so many women is because they are done consistently, year after year.

No matter your level of risk, it's crucial to be proactive and talk with your doctor about a screening plan that's right for you.

## BYLAWS

From page 1

document as the original was not able to be amended with Word, etc., so it was retyped from scratch.

"The goal was to place items under correct headings, the original had items scattered everywhere," explained Yockey. "And of course to insert changes, etc."

Commissioner Yockey said probably the two biggest changes are the addition of the public comment section - where anyone can speak on any item on the agenda and the other was the placement of Commissioners on a particular committee at the September meeting after the general election. This is preferred, rather than January, thus eliminating a "lame duck" period of time.

Yockey said most of the rest was just cleaning up and clarifying the bylaws.

It is expected that some of the minor changes will be presented at the next Rules committee meeting on Aug. 20. A vote is expected to forward the bylaws on to all 18 Commissioners for approval in September.

But that will be up to the Rules committee to decide if it's indeed ready to put this governmental document to bed for another year.

All changes to the bylaws were recently made with the approval of the County attorney's office plus that of Charlie Curtiss, Tennessee Commission Chair.

"He was great," said Yockey Tuesday night. "He sent us a list of items to be sure are included."

It was discussed during this meeting Tuesday that Commissioners need to come to the "well" with their resolutions at meetings and be ready to answer questions.

Chair Farrar said that he also believes there's some wording that needs to be formed within the section about standing committees.

Farrar made it clear that he's not in favor of individuals outside the Commission pushing resolutions through to the County Commission agenda. He made some strong comments Tuesday night regarding financial director Robert Daniel's position.

One of the newest County Commissioners, Drew Hooker, addressed the rules committee with some changes that he felt needed to be made. He said he's checked with friends who serve government in other areas, regarding how bylaws should be organized.

He said financial processes should not be bundled together. He also suggests the County use simple language.

Commissioner Eric Maddox said he also does not believe in bundling several capital outlay items within one resolution. He further stated he felt those decisions should go through proper committees, before they go to finance (if they require funding.)

"Each and every project should be discussed and debated on separately; and again, NOT bundled together for a resolution vote. Each project should have its own vote."

Maddox told the T-G Tuesday night, "As Commissioner Farrar mentioned in his statement; this was NOT how it was handled back in May; and I, along with many others, were highly disappointed. This includes many of the folks I represent as well as folks I received calls from outside of my district."

The May resolution to which Farrar and Maddox referred is the one which bundled five proposed capital outlay projects, as approved by the County finance committee. This resolution (capital outlay bundle) was also spoken out against by several constituents during the public comment portion at that May Commission meeting.

Resolution 24-16-Capital Outlay Note, which was approved by the Commission, included the following bundle:

Liberty School Wing, $3.36 million

Juvenile Detention Facility, $6.04 million

Surplus Facility, $600,000

Public Safety Training Range, $154,000

NCRS Office Expansion at AG Center, $25,000



BIFF FARRAR, CHAIR, RULES COMMITTEE




MAYOR CHAD GRAHAM AND COMMISSIONER LINDA YOCKEY ANSWER BYLAW QUESTIONS



THE RULES COMMITTEE REVIEWS DURING WORK SESSION TUESDAY REVISED BYLAWS. NOT PICTURED IS RULES COMMITTEE MEMBER BILL ANDERSON

## Signs your child might be experiencing bullying

Bullying continues to be a major problem across the country. The National Center for Education Statistics reports that one out of every five students report being bullied, although many people do not admit to it occurring, so bullying might be even more prevalent than statistics indicate. The primary reasons for being bullied include physical appearance, race/ethnicity, gender, disability, religion, and sexual orientation.

In the past, bullying may have ceased when students left school. But since the internet and digital devices provide round-the-clock exposure and access, bullying now takes places even after school hours through social media posts and texts. Students who experience bullying may be susceptible to anxiety, depression, sleep difficulties, lower academic achievement, and dropping out of school, says the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Discovering the signs of bullying early on may help students get the help they need. Parents and other adults may not be sure how to identify signs a child is being bullied. Here are seven signs that could indicate a child is being bullied.

1. Reluctance to go to school: Students being bullied may make excuses to stay home, such as saying they are sick. Frequent calls from the school nurse for early pickups also may occur.

2. Mood changes: Children may appear sad, moody, teary, or depressed more often than usual.

3. Changes in friendships: Loss or changes of friends could be signs of bullying. A reluctance to hang out in a once familiar social circle could signal bullying is taking place within that group.

4. Bad dreams or trouble sleeping: Bullying could cause worry at night or subconsciously while a child is dreaming, interrupting sleeping patterns.

5. Intense emotional reactions: Intense emotional reactions to school or social activities could be indicators that bullying is occurring. Although children may not always be able to articulate their feelings, excessive emotions concerning certain topics may be red flags.

6. Signs of physical abuse: By and large a majority of bullying tends to lean toward the verbal and emotional. However, RaisingChildren.net, an Australia-based parenting website, reports bruises, cuts, scratches, torn clothing, or missing property might be indicators of physical bullying.

7. Withdrawal from devices: Students being bullied online or over social media may decide not to use mobile phones or gaming systems as frequently as they once did.

Maintaining an open dialogue with a child may help him or her feel more comfortable, which can lead to the child sharing details of bullying at school or elsewhere.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR
TOWN HALL MEETING
AT THE FLY ARTS CENTER
MONDAY, AUGUST 19TH
BEGINNING @ 6:30 P.M.
Meet and speak with your newly elected officers
Open floor discussion for ideas and suggestions to help our Center grow and flourish
We are looking to build a strong team of
Volunteers
to fill different positions within the organization
WANTED: People who desire to be creative and talented
If you would like to be on the agenda please email your topic to presidentfyarts@gmail.com please submit your name, and short description of your agenda item by August 12th) time limit of 2-4 minutes

Family Resource Night
FREE FOOD
There will be over 50 vendors & free food
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!
THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2024
4:30-6:30 PM
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BEDFORD COUNTY SCHOOLS IS PARTNERING WITH THE BEDFORD COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT & COUNTY RESOURCES FOR A FREE NIGHT OF FUN! WE INVITE YOU TO AN EVENING DEDICATED TO CONNECTING FAMILIES WITH VALUABLE COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND SUPPORT SERVICES.



The Health Department will be providing TN required vaccines to PreK, Kindergarten, 7th grade and any others still needing the required vaccinations.
For vaccines, please bring the following:
- TennCare card or private insurance card
- Most updated immunization records
- Cost billed to insurance or FREE otherwise



Meet your Superintendent of Schools Dr. Tammy Garrett, & enjoy activities for children!




County resources will be present to share information about their services.

IF YOU ARE A COUNTY RESOURCE, AND ARE INTERESTED IN SETTING UP A BOOTH, SCAN THIS QR CODE TO REGISTER BY AUGUST 1.

For vaccine information statements & more visit
https://www.bedfordk12tn.com/VaccinationInformation/
Medical Exemption: Physicians (MD or DO) or Public Health Nurses are authorities to indicate specific vaccines medically exempted because of risk of harm on the certificate. Other vaccines remain required. The medical reason for the exemption does not need to be provided.
Religious Exemption: This exemption requires a signed statement from the parent/guardian that vaccine conflicts with their religious tenets or practices. If the child needs documentation of the health exemption for the school, it must be noted by the healthcare provider on the immunization certificate. In that case the provider should check the box in 7a that the parent has sought a religious exemption to explain why immunization information is absent or incomplete.

# Conservative values in local government: *The importance of citizen engagement*

**Submitted By Jon Hall, guest columnist**

***Editor's Note: Voter turnout in Bedford County was low for the recent election. John Hall was a poll worker at the Thomas Magnet School voting location this past week. During the election process he said many were making remarks such as, 'I asked my neighbor, friend or some family member if they had voted and were told, "No there's no sense in it. We can't change anything because those in charge will do things their way."***

***This article, Hall said, stresses the importance of the average citizen ensuring our government representatives follow our values and objectives for government.***

In today's ever-changing political landscape, conservative values should continue to play a crucial role in shaping the policies and decisions made at the local government level. These values, rooted in the belief in constitutional government, national sovereignty, fiscal responsibility, personal responsibility, and the rule of law, have always been and are the foundation of our republic. As such, these values must be upheld and championed by our local representatives and government officials.

As the Conservatives of Bedford County (CoBC), we believe that the best way to ensure these

conservative values are being enacted is through active citizen engagement in our local levels of

government. It is in our local city and county government where decisions are made that directly affect our communities, our schools, our roads, and our safety. By staying informed, involved, and vocal about the issues that matter most to us, we can make a significant impact on the direction our city and county government takes. From addressing critical issues that impact all citizens of Shelbyville or Bedford County to supporting candidates who align with conservative principles, there are numerous ways in which we can make a difference in our local community.

Our goal at CoBC is to be a voice for conservative values. We will no longer silently accept the idea, "There is nothing we can do." Based on facts and evidence, we aim to identify and address key issues within our county and city government, inform our fellow citizens on important matters, and support qualified individuals who embody conservative values to run for office. By recruiting and mobilizing conservative voters to get out and vote, we can ensure that our values are reflected in the decisions made by our elected representatives.

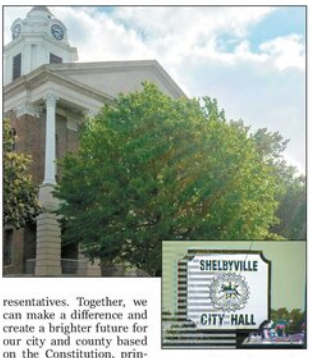
Furthermore, by engaging with other grassroots groups that share our goals and convictions, we

can amplify our impact and work together towards a common vision for our local government. By standing united in our commitment to conservative values, we can make a lasting and positive impact on the future of our community.

In conclusion, conservative values play a vital role in shaping the policies and decisions made at

the local government level. By staying informed, involved, and engaged in our local government, we can ensure that these values are upheld and championed by our elected representatives. Together, we can make a difference and create a brighter future for our city and county based on the Constitution, principles of fiscal responsibility, personal accountability, and the rule of law. Get involved, become informed, hold your representatives accountable and most importantly vote!

John Hall
Shelbyville






Submitted Photo

**THANKS TO THE BAND!**
Cascade Band played on at the 118th Wartrace Horse Show on Saturday. It takes a lot of strength to play in those kinds of temps. Thank you. All proceeds from the show support Cascade students.

## Recycling Center information from Bedford County Government

**Bedford County Recycling Centers will be making some changes to the acceptance of recyclable materials.**

PLASTIC: #1 and #2 plastic items such as milk jugs, plastic soda bottles, and plastic jugs for cooking ingredients, will now be accepted at the El Bethel, Unionville and Tollgate convenience centers.

NEWSPAPER: Newsprint recycling will now ONLY be available at those same three centers -- El Bethel, Unionville and Tollgate.

These three centers, which are open six days a week, will be the county's full-line recycling centers, said Highway Superintendent Mark Clanton. All eight centers will continue to collect cardboard and aluminum beverage cans for recycling.

***If you have further questions, contact the Highway Department / Solid Waste office at 931-684-4651.***

## THE FLY ARTS CENTER

### Upcoming events at the Fly Arts Center

**Volunteer Saturday (Saturday, August 10th, Beginning at 9am)**
https://www.flyartscenter.com/post/save-the-date-we-need-your-help-on-volunteer-saturday-at-the-fly

Volunteer Saturday will represent the newly elected leadership's first efforts to start reviving our historic building, The Fly Arts Center. Volunteers from the community will gather on this special day to work on a variety of repair and improvement projects. We would like to invite the Shelbyville Times-Gazette to come cover the event. Our leadership team and some volunteers will be on hand for interviews and there will be many wonderful photo opportunities.

**Daniel Lindvig Art Exhibition Opening and Reception (Monday, August 12th, 5:45pm)**
The Fly Art Gallery is celebrating our next featured artist, Daniel Lindvig. His work includes beautiful pencil illustrations and stunning sculptures carved from naturally shed antlers. Daniel and his wife, Kathy, are recent additions to Shelbyville, who are excited to make a positive contribution to our community. We would like to invite the Shelbyville Times-Gazette to attend the opening reception. Daniel will make himself available for interviews and photos during the opening.

**Thomas Heath Concert and Main Room Renovation Reveal (August 17th, 7pm)**
https://www.flyartscenter.com/post/thomas-heath-live-in-concert-at-the-fly-arts-center

We would like to invite the Shelbyville Times-Gazette to cover the reveal of our newly renovated main room (work to be done on Volunteer Saturday). Local musician Thomas Heath will also be performing.

**3rd Annual Fall Postcard and Paper Memorabilia Show (Saturday, September 14th)**
https://www.flyartscenter.com/post/3rd-annual-postcard-show-delivers-nostalgia-at-the-fly-arts-center-on-september-14th

This may be more a community calendar addition, rather than a full story. However, many of the vendors who will be displaying at this event possess a wealth of knowledge about this unique collecting hobby that combines art and history. We could help coordinate interviews and photos with both vendors and show participants the day of the show.

**Help Us Save the Big Red Truck (On-going)**
https://www.flyartscenter.com/post/help-us-save-the-big-red-truck

We recently launched a campaign to find a qualified individual or group who can restore the 1960s era red pickup truck that was once a part of The Fly Manufacturing Company. Ideally, we would like this historic vehicle to be fully restored back to running condition, but we are keeping the level of restoration open-ended.

**Coming Soon...**
- "Lizzie Borden of Fall River" Performances at The Fly Community Theatre in October
- Fall Art Crawl (Organized by the Bedford Arts Collective) at The Fly in October
- New Featured Artist Opening Reception and Exhibition in October at The Fly Art Gallery
- The 28th Annual Festival of Trees and Holiday Craft Market Beginning in December
- "Sorry, Wrong Chimney" Dinner Theatre Performances at The Fly Community Theatre in December

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# Grief: Faith over fear

By DAWN HANKINS

*We read of a place*
*that's called heaven,*
*It's made for the*
*pure and the free;*
*These truths in God's*
*Word He hath given,*
*How beautiful*
*heaven must be.*
*(Bridgewater)*

For the last month, I've had personal and professional involvement relating to the grieving process. Some of it came as breaking stories from the national media.

I've listened to people's struggles following the passing of loved ones-some by natural death and others by accident or by circumstance.

I've been inspired through it all. You might ask how you can be inspired through grief?

Let me share.

A family member of mine had the most beautiful service which was reflective of how she loved her Lord. When you know those who've gone on to live eternally with Jesus, it is a true comfort. She journaled during her life, so it was only fitting the family put the words to music and play it during the service.

That is inspiring.

I've been inspired by reading the new book by Jamie Dickerson. (Story on the front page today.) As the mother of a young woman who died tragically one year ago. It's fresh. But she holds on to her faith; it's what really sustains her. Because folks, I can tell you, having had friends who outlived their children, there's likely no greater grief in this world.

Even through this tragedy, Jamie is striving to be an example to her grandchildren-as a woman of Christian faith and strength. She says she wants to leave a legacy.

Author Jamie said in her book that she hears people ask why God lets bad things happen to good people, especially those dedicated to faithfully serving The Lord. In her grief, Jamie knows, as a Christian, that "it is not God who is against me/you; it is the devil who lurks this earth looking for souls to devour."

Your grief will likely never go away. But like Jamie, rest on your faith.

Jesus who consoled a grieving Martha is our greatest inspiration and comfort in our grief, especially when we don't expect death. (John 11:19.) Through Him, you will always be loved. And to love him guarantees us eternal life in heaven with Him.

There was also a tragic accident over the weekend of a young woman. She died in an ATV accident off 64 East. She was a newlywed and leaves a grieving husband behind.

She had just started her career as an elementary teacher. The children, though they only knew her for a short time, will remember, no doubt, her smile. They will remember how caring she was on that first day of school.

Lastly, I watched the memorial service for the Nelons Gospel group. Members of the singing group were laid to rest Tuesday following that deadly plane crash in late July in Wyoming.

The group, along with their assistant, the plane pilot and the pilot's wife, were flying to the Gaither Homecoming Cruise to Alaska when the plane crashed nearly two weeks ago. With no survivors, the National Transportation Safety Board is investigating the accident. (One sister/daughter member, Autumn, of The Nelons, is pregnant and was not on the plane.)

Through these types of events, it can be very hard to move through the stages of grief. It's hard to get past when someone is famous through music, TV and social media, like the Nelons, and the world continues to replay the tragic events over and over.

But as Gloria Gaither said through all the grief, "Don't lose the song."

Greatest blessings to the families who have no doubt served The Lord with their beautiful music, presence and talents all across the globe.

Nathan Kissler's father, Dave, choking back tears, probably summed up the lives of those lost best when he said at the celebration of life on Tuesday that he prays, "Lord, would you let what the world calls a tragedy be the stimulus for the next great expansion of The Gospel and World missions."

There will be peace.



DAY 25 BY JAMIE
Author Jamie Dickerson notes in her book on day 25, following her daughter's death, that her advice for those grieving is to "listen to that small voice within you. Quiet the noises in your head and know that your loved one is in a place of peace, if he or she loved the Lord."




Submitted Photos

GRIEF THROUGH GRACE
In her book, "Grieving Through Grace," Jamie Dickerson of Bell Buckle expresses deeply the trauma associated with losing a child. Her daughter died last July but she lives on through her children-Jamie's grandchildren. But she also shares that God has her back-each and every day. Her book is based on the Biblical principles that assure her of this.



BEAUTIFUL APRIL
April Lynn Holt, age 29, of Antioch, passed away July 31, 2023. She was born July 6, 1994, in Altamonte Springs, Fla., to Darshann Hickes and Jamie Woods (Dickerson.) She was a self-employed lash technician. Survivors include her parents, Jeremiah and Jamie Dickerson and her children, Syrenity Dickerson and Denzel Collier.

## Don't allow your emotions to burden you:

***Jamie Dickerson,***
***author of "Grieving Through Grace"***

"We all have a stopwatch attached to our lives and we don't know when it will be up, so stay prepared spiritually.

Listen to the discernment given to you and seek out those who you know are struggling with having a relationship with The Lord and love them just as we are instructed to do.

"My heart breaks for those souls that do not know God. I pray deeply for them to turn to Him before their timeline on this earth is up. We only have till the last breath to accept Him, not a second longer.

How did 30 days pass without me being able to hear my daughter's voice? I have prayed for her to visit me in a dream or visit me in spirit. I continuously seek to find ways to connect with her and know she is OK. As parents, we always want to hear that our children are OK and happy."

Jamie says she can't help but have some anger in her heart, especially if foul play is to blame. But she knows that she must choose peace because holding on to anger in her heart will keep her from healing.

Jamie choses to live through her grandchildren and family. She knows and expresses in her book how her beloved April will never be forgotten.

She is working on developing a care center in her daughter's memory. People know how kind and good April always was here on earth, she reveals, and she wants to honor her giving spirit in this way.

This grieving Mom says she's a Christian woman who believes in the Holy Scriptures. This is the rock on which she stands these days.

She includes in her book, "For God shall bring ever work into judgement, with every secret thing, whether it be good or whether it be evil." Ecclesiastes 12:14.

## GRIEF

From page 1

Jamie notes she's raising funds to support a care clinic for those in need. She will soon be releasing more details about the project.

She said gathering her daughter's items out of her apartment was very difficult. But even so, she decided early on that she was going to make a quilt out of April's clothes for her grandchildren to snuggle themselves in when sad.

Jamie knows that as everyone else's life goes on as normal. Still, hers, as a mom very close to her daughter, seems to stand still. There were days she didn't think she could get out of bed.

April and Jamie shared a lot of life together and now, that closeness is gone.

Jamie appreciates her husband, who has been by their side all the way. She cherishes his love but even he knows he can't replace the love of a child.

"My walk in life has been very unique and challenging at times," said the Illinois native. "As a young mother at the age of 15, I began a journey that would develop me into the woman I am today."

She was raised in Bolingbrook, Ill., (south side of Chicago) until age 14 then she moved to central Florida. Having met the love of her life there, they now celebrate 25 years of marriage.

"God has always been the center of our marriage," notes Jamie, who knows what being a teen mother is all about.

They now face as a couple the most difficult challenge of their lives, losing April. She was a beautiful, vibrant, African American woman who loved life and all that was spiritual, Godly and good.

"Through God, we are standing firm on our faith to bring us through this life with peace and knowing her spirit is here with us. My career has been a ministry leader for many years, as well as a homeschool mom/Grammy for over 25 years. God, family and living life to its fullest are the main focus of my day-to-day life," says Jamie.

Jamie wrote at the end of her book how 30 days previous she was unable to fathom how she was going to live without April. She knows, she says, that God will win the battle. But she must be patient and wait upon The Lord's timing.

"How I walk through this event will determine my mental and physical well-being for my future. In knowing that God has a purpose for me and my daughter's children, I can live out each day."

Jamie expresses that anyone who would like to share their story or might be in need of prayer due to grief may reach out to her at grievingthroughgrace@gmail.com.

See page 4 for more photos and some plans that Jamie has to help her daughter' memory live on in the community.



T-G Photo by Dawn Hankins

FUMC SHELBYVILLE, THIS WEEK
This Sunday at Shelbyville First United Methodist Church on the historic square, Youth Director Korley Cannon will be preaching. Scripture text is from Luke 4:1-13, the Temptation of Jesus. Sunday School for all ages begins at 9 a.m., followed by the worship service at 10 a.m. For those unable to attend, FUMC-S offers a livestream on Facebook and a broadcast on WLIJ 1580 AM.

## Community CALENDAR

**AG Crime Unit**
Michael Whaley with the TN Ag Crimes Unit will be guest speaker at the Raus Community Club on Aug. 10 at 6:30 p.m. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. It's potluck at 6:30 p.m. with the program to follow. Whaley has been in ag law enforcement for many years and has been involved in local crime solving.

**Laity Club Meeting**
Bedford County Laity Club will meet 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 11, at Blankenship Community Church, 3602 Midland Road. The meal is to be furnished.

**Education Dates to Remember**
Aug. 15-6 p.m. Board of Education Meeting, Central Office
Aug. 26-Sept. 2 Horse Show (No School)

**DREMC Annual Membership Meeting**
Duck River Electric Membership Corporation will conduct its annual membership meeting on Saturday, Aug. 17, at Harris Middle School, 570 Eagle Blvd. Registration opens at 8:30 a.m. The meeting begins at 9:30 a.m. Door prizes and refreshments. Business meeting. Attendance gifts for first 300 members plus an opportunity to win a grand prize.

**Democratic Party Meeting**
Bedford County Democratic Party members will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 19, at their headquarters in the Executive Building (yellow brick building next to the Fly) at 210 South Main in Shelbyville.



**Let us help you spread the news!**

We welcome you to submit content for publication in The Times-Gazette and on our website www.t-g.com.

- Press Releases
- Announcements
- Letters to the Editor
- Obituaries
- Guest Column/Op/Ed

Shelbyville Times-Gazette




## What to know about buying a home in a low inventory market

People who have shopped for homes at any point over the last few years are undoubtedly aware that inventory is low. While low inventory has affected home prices and priced some buyers out of certain markets, the good news is the tide may have started to change.

In fact, a December 2023 report from the National Association of Realtors indicated home sales rose by nearly 1 percent in November, a month during which single-family home construction also rose by 18 percent compared to October.

Each of those figures could prove a harbinger of good things to come for buyers for the rest of 2024. But it can still pay dividends for such buyers to prepare themselves to buy in a low inventory real estate market.

• Prepare to offer more than asking price. Data from the NAR indicates nearly one-third of all homes (28 percent) purchased in October 2023 sold for above asking price. When buyers have fewer homes to choose from, the competition for homes on the market increases, and that typically means buyers will offer more than asking price for homes they truly want. It might not be necessary to offer more than asking price on a given home, but it's something buyers in a low inventory market must be ready to do.

• Prepare to find additional money, if necessary. Offering more than asking price can be tricky, particularly if a buyers offer exceeds the appraised value of the home. The real estate listing service Trulia notes that most lenders will not approve a mortgage for more than the appraised value of a home. Conventional wisdom may indicate it's never a good idea to offer more for a home than its appraised value, but that scenario has played out with greater frequency in the current low inventory market. Buyers who feel they need to offer more than the appraised value to get a home will have to come up with the extra funds to make up the difference that their mortgage won't cover.

• Flexibility can be your friend. A low inventory market is a sellers' market. Buyers who can be flexible in regard to sellers demands and requests might be getting the keys to a new home faster than those who are not as accommodating. Some sellers may request a quick closing, while others may need extra time in the home until they can move into their own new property. Entering the process with the intention of being flexible can be an advantage for buyers in a low inventory market.

• Patience can prevail. It might seem as though there will never again be ample inventory on the real estate market. However, the increase in single-family home construction and forecasts predicting mortgage rates will drop suggest the real estate market could feature more inventory in the months to come. Buyers concerned about going over-budget or making a hasty decision are urged to remain patient if they cannot find a home that works for them personally and financially.

A low inventory real estate market may not be normal. But savvy buyers can still navigate such a market and find a home they love.

## BEDFORD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE JAIL INTAKE

Connie Jean Banks, cruelty to animals

James Bradley Blair, domestic assault

Matthew Ray Clanton, domestic assault

Charles Jackson Dempsey, violation of probation

Alisha Mary Ann Edmondson, Murfreesboro, to serve time, General Sessions

Kevin Edwin Hastings, violation of probation

Crystal Renee Holland, Lexington, Ky., driving on revoked license, DUI

Jinglin Jiang, aggravated assault

Tia Nashea Love, identify theft

Esteban Perez, violation of probation

Santiago Rodriguez Lajuj, financial responsibility, light law, no driver's license exhibited on demand

Christopher Michael Sulls, possession of schedule II

Michael Patrick Thurman, Estill Springs, failure to appear

Florence Lou Walls, assault

Quintez Tzon Wilkerson, violation of probation

Veronica M. Williams, failure to appear

John David Wiser Sr., cruelty to animals

Jennifer Mae Young, Manchester, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of schedule II drug

Anthony Ivan Villanueva, Chapel Hill, simple assault

## MTSU center, Cedar Recovery partner put addiction treatment on the road

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — Mobile addiction treatment is accessible for Tennesseans in rural counties through a partnership between Middle Tennessee State University's Center for Health and Human Services and Mt. Juliet-based Cedar Recovery addiction treatment company.

Housed inside a modified RV, the top-of-the-line medically equipped mobile clinic was funded by a $2.92 million federal grant MTSU garnered from the Health Resources and Services Administration, or HRSA, an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

"The 30-foot mobile health clinic features a waiting area that doubles as a space for group counseling, room for drug screening and an exam room where patients meet with medical professionals who can prescribe medication they need for treating their substance disorder," explained Paul Trivette, chief strategy officer of Cedar Recovery.

Founded in 2015, Cedar Recovery is an outpatient program with 13 locations throughout Tennessee and Virginia, as well as telehealth offerings.

Although the unit serves a medical purpose, creating an inviting space has been important to the program's success. It will serve Giles, Hickman, Lawrence, Franklin and Marshall counties.

"The clinic is outfitted to feel like a Cedar Recovery office — warm and welcoming," said Cynthia Chafin, director of the Center for Health and Human Services, or CHHS. "The inside looks homey and not medical in nature, with a welcoming and calm environment."

The grant, which will fund the mobile unit for three years, is part of the Rural Communities Opioid Response Program, or RCORP, a Health Resources and Services Administration initiative aimed at reducing the morbidity and mortality of substance use disorder, including opioid use disorder.

"We have an opioid crisis in this country — substance use in general — so we have a really good opportunity to change a whole lot of lives with this grant," Chafin said.

The primary purpose of the grant-funded mobile unit is to provide FDA-approved medication-assisted treatment for residents in rural areas of Middle Tennessee who are battling substance use disorders as well as mild to moderate mental health issues.

"Using medications to treat opioid and alcohol use disorder is the gold standard and the first line of entry for individuals. We combine that treatment with counseling and therapy," Trivette explained.

A portion of the grant will also fund staffing for the mobile health clinic.

"Our staff will travel to five rural counties ... to increase access to substance use treatment to these areas that are designated as high need," Trivette said.

All insurance companies, including Medicare and TennCare, cover the treatment and medications.

"But the cool thing is, we're not turning anyone away for their inability to pay," Trivette said. "We've received grant funding from HRSA to pay for indigent care."

The new grant is an expansion of the successful completion of an 18-month HRSA-funded Rural Communities Opioid Response Program planning grant, as well as a subsequent three-year implementation grant to address the opioid epidemic in Wilson County communities.

"We've been able to demonstrate success with what we've done, so we'll be able to expand these services into six new rural counties, which means every person who lives in those counties who has substance use problems will have access to treatment," Chafin said.

About MTSU's Center for Health and Human Services

The Center for Health and Human Services, through collaborative affiliations and partnerships, facilitates projects, programs, and research activities in public health issues of importance to Tennessee and to that of the nation, consistent with the mission and purpose of MTSU.

The center has conducted research and programming in all 95 counties throughout its 30-year history. Through collaboration and partnerships, CHHS supports efforts to initiate and strengthen academic programs in health and human services to support workforce development and promote healthy communities.

For more information, contact Cynthia Chafin at Cynthia.Chafin@mtsu.edu or visit the center's website at http://www.mtsu.edu/chhs/. CHHS relies primarily on external funding for its operations and actively seeks internal and external partners to fulfill its vision and mission for a healthier Tennessee.




# Shelbyville Police Department

## Monthly Statistics – July 2024

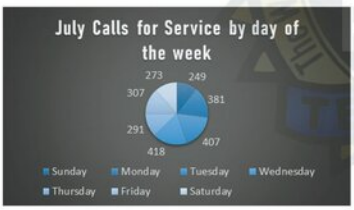


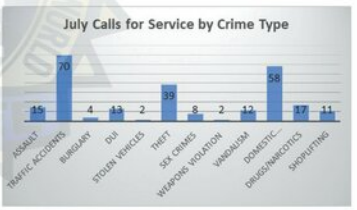

**Total Calls for Service**
**2,326**

These statistics provide a snapshot of the activities of the Shelbyville Police Department in July 2024. The Shelbyville Police Department remains committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of our community. We appreciate the ongoing support and cooperation of our residents.

**Average call response time**
**< 3 minutes**



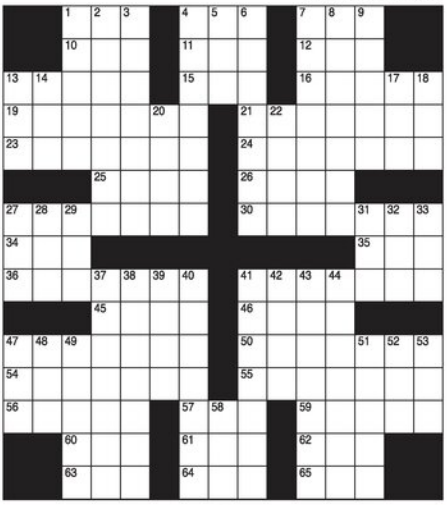



# Crossword

CLUES ACROSS
1. Major American automaker (abbr.)
4. Pressure measurement
7. Two-year-old sheep
10. Indigenous person from Laos or Thailand
11. Up in the air (abbr.)
12. Actress de Armas
13. Not moving
15. Cool!
16. Bog arum genus
19. Perceptible by touch
21. Type of test
23. Monetary units
24. Collection of various things
25. Sum of five and one
26. Type of sword
27. Hates
30. Immobile
34. Pie __ mode
35. Moved quickly
36. Passenger's place on a motorbike
41. A way through
45. Former US Secretary of Education Duncan
46. Leader
47. Flowing
50. Greetings
54. Remedy
55. Soft lightweight fabric
56. Building material
57. Sea bream
59. A way to cause to be swollen
60. One and only
61. People get one in summer
62. Wreath
63. Thus far
64. They __
65. Sea eagle

CLUES DOWN
1. Policemen (French)
2. Toy dog
3. Inflamed colon disease
4. Can't move
5. Helps little firms
6. Lists of names, subjects, etc.
7. Takes down
8. Makes possible
9. Wife of Julius Constantius
13. Engine additive
14. Arctic explorers (abbr.)
17. Written account
18. Consumed
20. Something the first shall be
22. No (slang)
27. Gov't lawyers
28. Peyton's little brother
29. Small amount
31. Investment vehicle
32. Fall behind
33. Midway between northeast and east
37. Head pain
38. Popular sport in England and India
39. King Charles's sister
40. Boat race
41. About fish
42. Maidservant
43. Able to be marketed
44. Tinier
47. Parts per billion (abbr.)
48. Paddle



4.9 Oneness
51. Bitter chemical
52. Not around
53. Very fast airplane
58. Swiss river

# DOWN TO BIZ WORD SEARCH

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

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

## WORDS

ACCOUNTING
ALLOCATION
ASSETS
BALANCE
BOND
CAPITAL
CASHFLOW
COST
EARNINGS
ECONOMICS
EMPLOYEE
ENTREPRENEUR
EQUITY
EXPENSE
FINANCE
INPUT
LIABILITIES
LOAN
MANAGEMENT
MARGIN
NET
OUTPUT
PAYROLL

# 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!

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

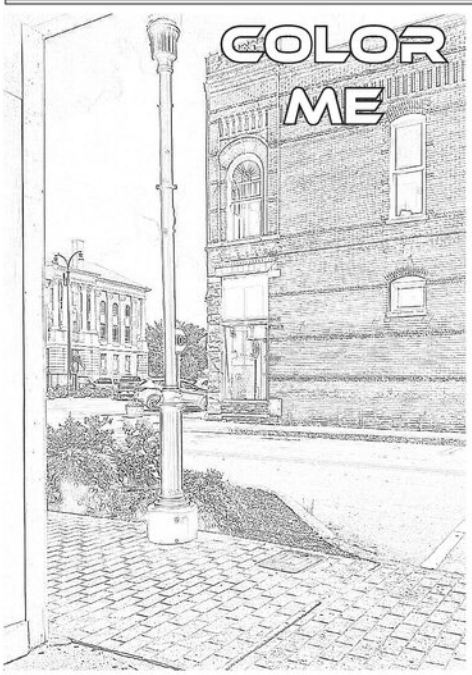
Level: Beginner

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

Level: Intermediate

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

Level: Advanced




# Horoscopes

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, you hold the key to success right now, so everyone wants to be in your corner. Take things in stride and maintain your focus while accepting all the support.
TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, it is important that you streamline your workflow this week; otherwise, you may not meet the deadlines imposed upon you. Start implementing a new strategy.
GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21
This is the week to take the road less traveled, Gemini. Blaze your own trail, get out into the wilderness and possibly expand your horizons. A spontaneous idea like this can pay dividends.
CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, someone in your social circle could be shielding the truth and it may frustrate you. But you can't come out and accuse this person without proof. Step back for the time being.
LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23
An important relationship could be coming to an end for you, Leo. You could try to salvage things, but you have to look at the bigger picture and determine if it is good to move on.
VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, you have been coasting along without a firm direction for too long at this point. While it may have been working for you, you will soon fare better with a more concrete plan.
LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23
Be mindful of other people's situations before you engage with them, Libra. What may be a good time for you will not necessarily be ideal for those around you.
SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, someone in your life has proven worthy of more attention. Give this person a little extra love in the days to come, and direct your focus to having a good time.
SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21
Social activities seemingly bloom around you this week, Sagittarius. There could be so much going on that you don't know where to get started. Perhaps let friends lead the festivities.
CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20
Remember, Capricorn, others are not just listening to what you say, they are reading into your actions. Make sure you are genuine in both your words and gestures this week.
AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18
This week you may have to take the first step in rekindling an important relationship, Aquarius. Are you ready to be the catalyst?
PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20
There is not much you can do about financial issues, Pisces. Make an effort to start spending less, which may be the catalyst for a real examination of your budget.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS
AUGUST 11
Chris Hemsworth, Actor (41)
AUGUST 12
Tyson Fury, Boxer (36)
AUGUST 13
Sebastian Stan, Actor (42)
AUGUST 14
Steve Martin, Actor (79)
AUGUST 15
Joe Jonas, Singer (35)
AUGUST 16
Madonna, Singer (66)
AUGUST 17
Austin Butler, Actor (33)

## 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)

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. Plus 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-389-3904 (TnScan)

## 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)

## Opportunities

YOUR LOW COST ADVERTISING Solution! One call & your 25 word ad will appear in 98 Tennessee newspapers for $275/wk or 27 West TN newspapers for $100/wk. Call this newspaper's classified advertising dept. or go to www.tnpress.com/newspaper-networks (TnScan)

## Services

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-855-281-6212 (TnScan)

Get DISH Satellite TV + Internet! Free Install, Free HD-DVR Upgrade, 80,000 On-Demand Movies, Plus Limited Time Up To $600 In Gift Cards. Call Today! 1-844-274-6074 (TnScan)

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## Property

For Sale by Owner
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Both 3 bedrooms, 1 and 1/2 bathrooms
823 and 824 Union Street
931-684-4956
$385,000



*T-G Photo by Dawn Hankins*

Corn production in Tennessee is estimated at 140 million bushels, up 4% from the November forecast and down 13% from the previous crop, according to the 2020 Tennessee Annual Crop Production Summary

## Tennessee corn promotion board meeting

NASHVILLE – Public meeting notice from the Tennessee Department of Agriculture
Board: Tennessee Corn Promotion Board
Location: West Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center
605 Airways Blvd.
Jackson, Tenn.
Date:August 14, 2024
Time: 11 a.m. CDT

The agenda includes approval of the previous meeting minutes, approval of the
2024-2025 budget, and election of officers.

The meeting is open to the public to attend. A portion of the meeting will be reserved for public comment, which may be submitted either orally or in writing regarding business before the board.

The Tennessee Corn Promotion Board was created in 2018 by state law to oversee the collection and use of assessments paid by producers to promote the increased production, consumption, use, and sale of Tennessee corn products.

For more information, contact Evan Boyd at the Tennessee Department of Agriculture at 731-514-5708.

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF WINSTON COUNTY, ALABAMA**
CASE NO: DR-2024-900005
JUSTIN TYLER MARTIN V. KANSAS MICHELLE HARRIS
NOTICE OF COMPLAINT FOR DIVORCE, AND
NOTICE TO: KANSAS MICHELLE HARRIS, Whereabouts Unknown

Please take notice that Complaint for Divorce in the above-styled matter has been filed in said Court by Justin Tyler Martin, Petitioner. Please be advised that if you intend to contest this Complaint for Divorce, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days hereof with counsel for said Petitioner, whose name and address is shown below, and with the Clerk of the said Circuit Court.

MICHELLE MAULDIN
Attorney for Petitioner
1509 11th Avenue, Unit A
Haleyville, Alabama 35565
205-269-8484

## TENNESSEE FORESTRY COMMISSION TO MEET

NASHVILLE – Public meeting notice from the Tennessee Department of Agriculture
Commission: Tennessee Forestry Commission
Location: Ellington Agricultural Center
Bruer Building
406 Hogan Road
Nashville, Tenn. 37220
Date: August 12, 2024
Time: 10:30 a.m. CDT

The agenda includes approval of previous meeting minutes, report on Franklin State Forest (has been the subject of recent vandalism), vacancy report, and review and approval of the Forestry Division budget.

The meeting is open to the public to attend in person and via an internet-based teleconferencing system. There is no cost to participants. Instructions and alternative methods of communication are below.

Commission member participation will be allowed by electronic means.

A portion of the meeting will be reserved for public comment, which may be submitted either orally or in writing regarding business before the commission.

The Tennessee Forestry Commission comprises seven members representing the public's interests as they relate to forest resources in the state. The Commission advises the Tennessee Department of Agriculture on forest issues. For more information, contact the Division of Forestry at 615-837-5520 or visit the Commission's webpage at www.tn.gov/agriculture/forests/commission.html.

Microsoft Teams meeting instructions:
Join on your computer, mobile app or room device
Meeting ID: 227 824 380 345
Passcode: RVCPhL
To make a comment, click the Raise Hand button to be recognized by the Chairman.
Or call in (audio only)
+1 629-209-4396,,916827961# 
Phone Conference ID: 916 827 96#

## Bedford County property transfers

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

File date: July 30

Location: 720 Alton Ave; Seller, Clint Kenneth Jones, Clint K Jones, Carol A Jones; Buyer, Joseph D Bohanan; Price, $267,500 (Deed).

Location: 129 Enden Ave; Seller, Lisa Curl, Emily Curl; Buyer, Maricela Moreno, Ethan Sebastian Moreno; Price, $329,000 (Deed).

Location: 107 Keyustone Rd; Seller, SDH Nashville LLC; Buyer, Clayton Whitmore, Rebekah Whitmore; Price, $363,230 (Deed).

Location: Thompson Creek Rd; Seller, Delsie P Hill, Delsie Johnson Prince Hill; Buyer, Delsie P Hill Revocable Management Trust; Price, $0 (Deed).

Location: Troupe Rd; Seller, Andrew Paul Lane Jr, Melanie Lane Casson, Lane Family Trust; Buyer, John Thomas Lasater, Mallory Casson Lasater; Price, $36,900 (Deed).

Seller, Kristy Mooneyhan; Buyer, Mike Rich Mooneyhan; Price, $0 (QD).

File date: July 31

Seller, Sharon E Moore; Buyer, Brandy L Moore; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: West Side Square; Seller, It's a Wonderful Life LLC; Buyer, Michael Curtis, Kathleen Curtis, Parick Michael Curtis; Price, $2,150,000 (Deed).

Location: 211 Chevelle Ct; Seller, Ole South Properties Inc; Buyer, Clayton David Smith, Timothy M Page II; Price, $320,990 (Deed).

Location: Haley Rd; Seller, James E Farrar Sr; Buyer, Stacy Billig, Forrest Mills; Price, $185,000 (Deed).

Location: 102 Keystone Rd; Seller, SDH Nashville LLC; Buyer, Luis Geraldo Bautista, Jonnathan Ernesto Aquino Cornielle; Price, $361,415 (Deed).

Location: 105 Keystone Rd; Seller, SDH Nashville LLC; Buyer, Jose Antonio Armenta, Lara Ann Hill; Price, $315,640 (Deed).

Location: 117 Bethany Lane; Seller, DCC Strategic Realty Partners LLC; Buyer, Shawn Roberts; Price, $25,000 (QD).

Location: 111 Blain Circle; Seller, Ray Brown, Stacy Brown; Buyer, Brandon P Deckert, Melissa J Deckert; Price, $580,000 (Deed).

File date: August 1

Location: 104 Daughters Ct; Seller, Elizabeth Yates; Buyer, Parker Gunn; Price, $293,000 (Deed).

Location: New Hope; Seller, Andy E Harris, Pam S Harris; Buyer, Jamie More, Glenn Dipietro; Price, $180,000 (Deed).

Location: 402 Lyncrest Dr Unionville; Seller, Jeffrey L Skinner; Buyer, Abel A Rodriguez Matute; Price, $205,000 (Deed).

Location: 118 Tanner Circle; Seller, Gilbert Crawley Jr; Buyer, Isiah Bowen; Price, $170,000 (Deed).

Location: 623 Wall St; Seller, HP Realty Co LLC; Buyer, Shelbi Marie McClure, Christal Lillian McClure; Price, $275,000 (Deed).

Location: 112 Elizabeth St; Seller, Carolyn Lanell Hill; Buyer, Shane Vanshaick; Price, $189,500 (Deed).

File date: August 2

Location: 212 Meadowlark Dr; Seller, JC Builders LLC; Buyer, Eli Nathaniel Schweitzer, Katie Lynne Schweitzer; Price, $353,900 (Deed).

Seller, Lynice Hatch Hightower; Buyer, Butch G Hatch; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Virgil Beasley Rd; Seller, Kathy Beasley Clark, Kathy B Clark; Buyer, James Wilson Clark, Kathy Beasley Clark; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Virgil Beasley Rd; Seller, James Wilson Clark, Kathy Beasley Clark; Buyer, Clark Family Revocable Trust, James Wilson Clark, Kathy Beasley Clark; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Virgil Beasley Rd; Seller, Kathy Beasley Clark, Kathy B Clark; Buyer, James Wilson Clark, Kathy Beasley Clark; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Virgil Beasley Rd; Seller, James Wilson Clark, Kathy Beasley Clark; Buyer, Clark Family Revocable Trust, James Wilson Clark, Kathy Beasley Clark; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Warners Bridge Rd; Seller, Holly A Stringer; Buyer, Patrick Dunn, Rebecca Dunn; Price, $120,000 (Deed).

Location: Hwy 64; Seller, Karen A Douglas; Buyer, Scott L Barker; Price, $350,000 (Deed).

Seller, Jason Carter; Buyer, Amanda Carter; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 1064 Unionville Deason Rd; Seller, Lowena Kathryn Demouey McComb; Buyer, Lowena Kathryn McComb, Robert Lee McComb; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 161 Bryant Rd Chapel Hill; Seller, Tanner H L Brewer, Marica L Thomas; Buyer, Kaylee Allyssa Sibert, Peyton Alexander Sibert; Price, $372,000 (Deed).

Seller, Aaron H S Williams Jr, Joseph Christopher Fishback, James P Fishback, Leanna E Buchanan, Leanna E Fishback; Buyer, Vance D Clay Jr; Price, $150,000 (Deed).

File date: August 5

Location: 326 Durum St Shelbyville; Seller, Ole South Properties Inc; Buyer, Ivory Elijah Jr; Price, $320,990 (Deed).

Location: 357 Burns Rd Shelbyville; Seller, James Property Investments LLC, James Bromley; Buyer, Carl Hardel, Sara Hardel; Price, $707,500 (Deed).

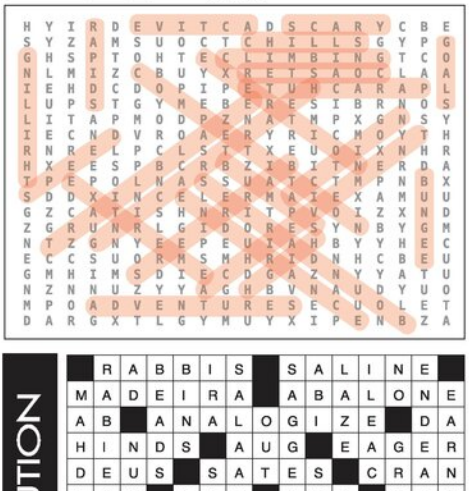
Location: 520 Rabbit Branch Rd; Seller, Ole South Properties Inc; Buyer, Richard Benkovich, Barbara Benkovich; Price, $322,990 (Deed).

Location: Cortner Rd; Seller, Anna Z Hall Trust, Charles Leon Hall, Barbara Jan Hall; Buyer, Charles Leon Hall, Barbara Jan Hall; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Cortner Rd; Seller, Barbara Jan Hall; Buyer, Charles Leon Hall; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 107 Archery Ln Shelbyville; Seller, Jean Pedone Jones; Buyer, Vidal Velazquez Hernandez; Price, $145,000 (Deed).

Seller, James E Farrar Sr; Buyer, Rebecca Ruth Hill, Joseph Blake Hill; Price, $359,000 (Deed).




## PUZZLE SOLUTION



### Jennifer Renea Beene



Jennifer Renea Brewer Beene, age 54, of Shelbyville, passed from this life Wednesday, July 31, 2024, at Vanderbilt Bedford Hospital.

A native of Shelbyville, Jennifer was born on April 26, 1970, to the late Harold Brewer and Geneva Powell Brewer.

She worked as a convenience store manager for 15+ years with Circle K, and The Pantry. She was an amazing, wonderful, and strong-willed individual that enjoyed cooking, baking, and using her green thumb to plant flower and vegetable gardens. Her family will miss her very much.

She is survived by her son, Alex Beene; sister, Tippi Brewer; and loving companion of 10 years, Timmothy McConnell, all of Shelbyville.

Per her request, she chose cremation and no public services held.

Doak-Howell Funeral Home is serving the family.

### Bettye Jean Wigley



Bettye Jean Hasty Wigley, age 85, of Shelbyville, passed from this life on Thursday, August 1, 2024, at Ascension St. Thomas Rutherford Hospital after an extended illness.

Born on October 19, 1938, in Princeton, Ky., Bettye was the daughter of the late James H. Hardrick and Virginia Simpson Hardrick. Along with her parents she was preceded in death by her husbands, Bobby Joe Hasty and John Walter Wigley; son, Anthony Wayne Lee; granddaughter, Chasity Chantee Lamb; brother, James Hardrick; and sister, Margaret Allen.

She survived by daughter, Kathy Lamb and husband Jerry Stephenson; grandson, Bo Justin Lamb and wife Katie; great grandsons, Theophylis Zane Lamb, and Phineus Wayne Lamb; step children, Johnny Wigley, David Wigley, Priscilla Wigley, and Walter Wigley; sister, Vicki Lynn Hardison and husband Jimmy.

Bettye retired from Empire Pencil Company and was a co-owner of the Omni Center. She was loving and caring and would do anything for anyone. Even though her battle with Parkinson's progressed, she still tried to take care of others. She was always forgiving and was a member of Calvary Baptist Church.

Funeral services were held 1:00 p.m. Saturday, August 3, 2024, in the chapel of Doak-Howell Funeral Home with Pastors Tyler Shoemaker and Jimmy Gray officiating. Burial followed at Willow Mount Cemetery. Visitation with the family was held prior to funeral services from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Saturday, at the funeral home.

Memorial donations may be made to the Parkinson's Foundation or to Calvary Baptist Church.

Doak-Howell Funeral Home is serving the family.

### Peyton Lanae Hart



Funeral services for Peyton Lanae Allison Hart, age 27 of, Shelbyville, were held 4:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 7, 2024, in the chapel of Doak-Howell Funeral Home with Brother Jimmy Gray officiating. Burial followed in Willow Mount Cemetery.

Peyton passed from this life Saturday, August 3, 2024, in Wartrace.

Visitation with the family was held prior to the service on Wednesday from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the funeral home.

Peyton was born on June 6, 1997, in Murfreesboro, TN to Ricky Allison and Angela McClintock Hardison, who survives.

She was a graduate of Cascade High School class of 2015 and earned her bachelor's degree in marketing from MTSU. During school, she worked for Sonic, Bell Buckle Cafe, Bocelli, First Community Bank and D&R Contractors. She worked hard for her education and was just beginning her career as an elementary teacher at Eakin Elementary in Shelbyville.

Peyton was an avid Tennessee Volunteers fan; she was a true VOL for Life. She was adored by all her family and friends and will be deeply missed.

Peyton is survived by her husband, Justin Matthew Hart of Shelbyville; parents, Ricky and Laura Allison of Wartrace, and Angie McClintock Hardison of Unionville; in-laws, Matt and Rachel Hart of Flat Creek; brother, Alex Allison of Wartrace; sister, Alyssa Allison of Lewisburg; grandparents, Larry McClintock, Sandra and Mike Burgess, and Faye Sudberry; along with nephews; Mason, Jackson, Carson.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Paul Allison, Jr. & Nancy Louise Wright Allison, and Ronnie Sudberry.

The family requests memorials be made to Rachel Hart for the benefit of Bedford County, TN - Adopt a Teacher Program.

Doak-Howell Funeral Home is serving the family.

### Rosey Allen Burks



Graveside services for Rosey Allen Burks, age 59, of Lewisburg, will be held 11 AM Thursday, August 8, 2024 at Hazel Cemetery with Brother Mike Hannah officiating. Ms. Burks passed from this life Monday, August 5, 2024, following an extended illness.

A native of Shelbyville, Ms. Burks was daughter of the late Howard Burks and Margaret McCord Burks. Before becoming disabled she was a line worker at Musgrave Pencil for many years.

Survivors include her children; Amanda (Bryan) Welch, Doyle West, Mathew West, grandson; Dakota West, siblings; Donald (Cindy) Burks, Howard (Angela) Burks Jr., Larry Burks, Debra Burks, nieces & nephews; Dylan Burks, Blake Burks, and Katelynn Burks.

Along with her parents, Ms. Burks is preceded in death by her sister in-law, Sherry Burks.

Doak-Howell Funeral Home is serving the family.

### Robert Hilton Gregory



Mr. Robert Hilton Gregory, age 85, of Wartrace, passed away August 5, 2024, under the loving care and comfort of his family, Gentiva Hospice, and the dedicated and caring staff of Lynchburg Nursing Center.

Funeral services were 2 PM Wednesday, August 7, 2024, at Feldhaus Memorial Chapel. Reverend Jimmy West officiated with burial in Willow Mount Cemetery.

The family received visitors 12 noon until service time Wednesday at the funeral home.

He was born January 28, 1939, in Shelbyville, to the late Johnie and Sybil Robinson Gregory. He was retired from Eaton Corporation and was a farmer. He enjoyed watching old western movies and was known to go Harbor Freight almost every day. He held membership at North Fork Baptist Church.

He enjoyed traveling with his wife, tending to his farming, and the company of close friends and family.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, of 47 years, Donna Gregory; brothers James Gregory and his wife Barbara; sister, Christine Gregory; stepson, Tom Gerschel.

Survivors include a brother, Bill Gregory and his wife Barbara, of Shelbyville; step children, Rebecca (Winston) Brown, of Lewisburg, Pam Gerschel, Jo Ann (Mike) Beech; nephews, Brent (Janice) Gregory, of Shelbyville, Vance (LaBronya) Gregory, of Lebanon; a niece, Monica (P.J.) Salcedo, of Mt. Juliet; nine step grandchildren,, Jeremy Kidder, Eric Kidder, Jennifer Greschel, Amanda Brown, Kelly Crowden, Andy Burk, Phil Phillips, Joseph Brady, and Blake Matthews, and 20 step great grandchildren.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.

### Katie Syler Eden



Katie Syler Eden, 58, of Wartrace died July 27, 2024.

Funeral Services were held 2:00 p.m. Saturday, August 3, at Hillcrest Funeral Home Rev. Doug Watt officiating. Burial followed at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens. Visitation was at 11:00 A.M.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jack Eden Jr.; her parents, Joseph Franklin "Jody" Syler and James Margaret Clark Syler; three brothers, Danny Dewayne Syler, Robert Earl "Ricky" Syler and Tony Van Syler Sr.

Katie is survived by her son, Jake (Samantha) Eden of Mattoon, Ill., sisters, Jo Ann Ewing (Paul) Helton of Wartrace, Tina (Danny) Taylor of Petersburg, brother, Jesse (Patricia Bates) Syler of Shelbyville; 3 grandchildren, Kyleigh, Kayden, Grace; and her special friend, Doyle Nelson of Wartrace.

### Eddie Lee Nelson



Private graveside services for Eddie Lee Nelson of Woodbury were held Feb. 27, 2024 at Smyrna Cemetery in McMinnville. Mr. Nelson died on Feb. 25, 2024

Born Dec. 2, 1942, Eddie was the son of the late Claude E. Nelson and Veta Hazel Mason Nelson of Bell Buckle. He was preceded in death also by granddaughter, Keley Roller, of McMinnville.

Surviving are children: Jeannie (Tim) Jones of Bell Buckle, Tammie Baker of Shelbyville and Yvonnda (Alon) Hutchins of McMinnville; grandchildren, Nathan (Laura) Mangrum of Muscle Shoal, Ala., Amanda (Luke) Pike of Connersville, Brandy (Chris) Blackwell of Shelbyville, Asbely (John) Leach of Shelbyville; great-grandchildren, Gracie Mangrum, Nolan Mangrum, Brayden Blackwell, Alyssa Stephens and Maysee Leach.

### Rickey Howard Cooper



Rickey Howard Cooper of Hermitage, brother of Roger Cooper of Shelbyville, went to be with the Lord on July 25, 2024, at the age of 69. He was born in Shelbyville on June 19, 1955, to the late William Howard and Mary Aileen Cooper.

He was a graduate of Shelbyville High School. Rick loved his grandchildren and UT; (GO VOLS!)

In addition to his parents, Rickey is proceeded in death by his sister, Carolyn Sanders.

He is survived by his loving wife of 42 years, Kelly Jo; sons, Chip Watson (Danielle), Tyler Cooper (Sonia), William Casey Cooper (Rachael); daughters, Brittany Cooper, Christina Cooper (Zachary), Priscilla Cooper, Amanda Cooper; 8 grandchildren as well as many nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life was held on Saturday Aug. 3, 2024, at St. John's Lutheran Church at 3259 McGavock Pike, Nashville, from 1-4 p.m. Pastor Rick Roberts officiated.

### Natalie Stone Spalding



Natalie Stone Spalding passed away peacefully on July 26, 2024, at St. Joseph's Hospital in Atlanta, after a two-and-a-half-year battle with cancer. Natalie was pre-deceased by her parents, John William (Bill) Stone, Jr. and Lily Pierce Cornelius Stone. She is survived by her brother, John William Stone, III (Mary) of Nashville; her three nieces, Tippins Stone Kitchin (Leggett) of Norfolk, VA, Mary Katherine Stone Bouldin (Andrew) of Nashville, and Elizabeth Stone Gerding (Chris) of Nashville; and nine great nieces and nephews.

Natalie was born in Nashville and grew up on Chanticleer Farm in Shelbyville. As a young child, Natalie developed a love of horses that she never outgrew. She started riding when she was five years old on a pony named Dixie Dan. As a teenager, Natalie rode Chantilly Lace and Mr. Mischief, both Tennessee Walking Horses. When she moved to Atlanta, she began riding hunter-jumper horses with Shakerag Hounds, a fox hunting club where she made many dear friends. Her last horse was aptly named "Last Waltz", barn name Walter. Natalie, being the courageous, feisty soul she always was, rode Walter up to one month before she died.

She loved her many pets over the years, especially her Jack Russell Terriers, Gatsby and Wesley. Natalie had many close lifelong friends in Atlanta and from her hometown of Shelbyville. She would get together with the "Tennessee Girls" for a yearly trip. Their friendship was so wonderful that it seemed like they were never apart.

After graduation from Shelbyville Central High School, Natalie attended Stephens College, a women's junior college in Missouri, which was renowned for its academics and riding program. Following graduation from Stephens, Natalie attended Louisiana State University, where she was a member of Delta Delta Delta Sorority. After receiving her BS degree from LSU, Natalie moved to Atlanta, where she initially worked as a buyer for Rich's Department Store. In the early 1970's, she began what would be a long and successful career in Atlanta as a residential real estate agent with Harry Norman Realtors.

Natalie was a woman of deep faith and a devoted member of Peachtree Presbyterian Church. Her memorial service will be held at Kellett Chapel at Peachtree Presbyterian at 2:00 PM on Thursday, August 8th, followed by a reception at the church.

In keeping with the spirt of Natalie's philanthropy and love for animals, contributions may be made to your local animal shelter or horse rescue.

## In Memory of Peyton Allison Hart





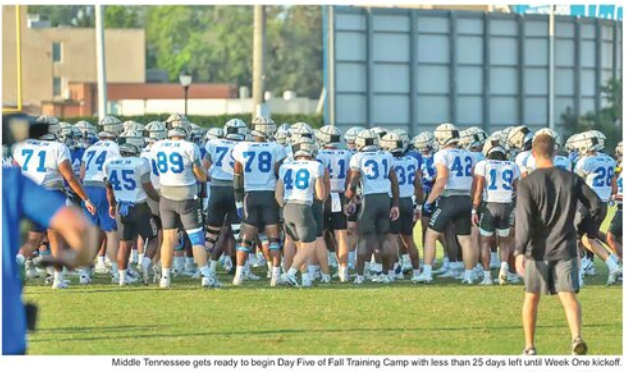
Eakin Elementary educators visited children at their homes prior to school reopening. It was a fun evening, including a bus ride, just like their students take home. Among teachers were Peyton Allison Hart, 27, who died suddenly on Saturday in Wartrace. This was Peyton's first year of teaching. Counselors were at the school this week.



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259-4283

# ‘We Have As Good Of A Chance As Anybody’ – Derek Mason After Day Five of Fall Camp

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com



Middle Tennessee gets ready to begin Day Five of Fall Training Camp with less than 25 days left until Week One kickoff. *Photo from MT Athletics.*

The Middle Tennessee Blue Raiders held a post-practice media session on Tuesday morning, and with less than 25 days left until Week One kicks off at home against Tennessee Tech, the excitement was palpable on the practice field all the way through the final whistle.

With 59 new faces to incorporate into the program, first-year head coach Derek Mason has avoided all the excuses possible to ensure that his team is focused and prepared on attacking every day to get ready to compete in Conference-USA this upcoming season. It’s also been pretty easy for Mason to incorporate all 59 players because according to him, they all have “been pure additions” as opposed to having to weed through a few bad apples.

“When you have 59 new players, you have to make sure you don’t leave anybody behind,” Mason started off the media availability period by saying. “They’ve added so much value to our team.”



Head Coach Derek Mason is excited about the direction his team is headed in the preseason. *Photo courtesy of MT Athletics.*

Mason also has stressed to his team that even though this is not a rebuild at MTSU – everyone that talked to the media made sure to reiterate that very point – it is a team working on building towards something bigger than just themselves.

“We as a team are under construction right now, but like I tell the guys, this is not a rebuild. MTSU is not a rebuild,” he said as he pointed to the construction actively taking place at Floyd Stadium. “They picked us to finish fourth [in C-USA]; why finish second when first is available? The guys know every day is a job interview.”

“We have as good a chance as anybody, so let’s get to work.”

Sophomore transfer wideout from Auburn, Omari Kelly, expressed the exact same sentiment almost verbatim, and this vibe was backed up by both coordinators and both Nick Vattiato and Abdul Muhammad when it was their turn to speak to the media as well.

Of course, that’s a good thing to say, but the team has backed up that sentiment with the work they have put in on the field. That starts with returning starting quarterback and member of the Preseason Wuerffel Tropy Watchlist, Nick Vattiato.

“Nick [Vattiato], [Devyn] Curtis and BH [Brendon Harris] have been paramount to this football team,” Mason said after a loud chuckle when asked about what his quarterback has meant in the leadership department. “They assured me we were going to be a player-led, coach-led football team, and that is how it’s been every day.”

“This group has shown up every day in camp.”

The 2024 Blue Raiders becoming a player-led team is never more paramount and on display than at the very end of practice where up until and past the final whistle, the players are hooting and hollering in reaction to some portion of the end-of-practice competition period.

“That’s not a coach thing, that’s a player thing,” Mason said when asked about the abundant energy from his players even at the very end of practice in the extreme humidity. “This group has a different type of bounce to it, and you can’t fake that. I think they understand the importance of moments.”

Nick Vattiato was gracious enough to expound a bit more on what exactly being a “player-led” team means to this iteration of Blue Raiders.

“A lot of those player-led practices in the summer were really key to building that chemistry,” he said. “Out on this field, we compete and make each other better, but off the field we’re all best friends.”

“We’re a brotherhood.”

That brotherhood feeling is conveyed by seemingly every player that is available to the media to talk, and it seems genuine every single time. Both Kelly and JUCO transfer Abdul Muhammad talked about that aspect of Middle Tennessee in their short time in Murfreesboro so far.

“I got here in the summer,” Muhammad said, “but I have to say that out of any team I’ve been on, this one has had the quickest bonding ever. It’s like a family feeling, nobody is above, people helping you out and reaching out to hang out, so it’s like a family feeling immediately.”

This is exactly the kind of vibe that a coach could only hope for in any one year, but to get this in year one? That is a testament to not just the staff that Mason has built around him, but the players that stayed away from the transfer portal to trust the process in Murfreesboro like Vattiato.

“Nick [Vattiato] has made probably one of the best impressions since I have been here,” said Omari Kelly. “From welcoming me in, because I didn’t know anybody here on the team, but he was one of the first people I met, and the way he kind of brought me in, I think it’s helped me get a better connection.”

“Me and Nick actually hang out outside of football; I consider Nick a friend. It’s not just a quarterback-wide receiver relationship.”

As a whole, Kelly believes the wide receiver room this year has the potential to be extremely dangerous along with the offense as a whole, calling it “very dynamic”.

Of course the dynamism of an offense starts and ends with the quarterback position, and fortunately for the Blue Raiders and first-year Offensive Coordinator, Bodie Reeder, they have a good one.

“[The leadership] definitely comes with the position,” said Vattiato. “Obviously you have to be a team leader and be accountable to set an example on and off the field, and you’ve got to show guys the correct way for things to be done.”

Reeder comes over to Murfreesboro after two seasons as the OC at Northern Iowa where he led a Top-15 passing offense both seasons. Reeder is optimistic about the prospects of his passing attack succeeding at Middle Tennessee as well.

“In passing games it takes trust and timing and there’s some relationships that have to be built,” Reeder said. “In the spring, our passing game was not very good, but we challenged the guys in the summer to gain trust and create that timing, and they did a great job of that. What we have to improve upon going forward is we have to string together plays in which we are protecting at a high rate, and that will too come with reps.”

Reeder also touched on how important it is that Vattiato is such a great leader, and how he can unite an entire locker room, not just the offense. That’s the biggest sign.

Defensively, the Blue Raiders struggled last season. After forcing 30 or more turnovers in 2021 and 2022, MTSU took a step back last season by only forcing 16. Thus, new Defensive Coordinator, Brian Stewart, is focusing on, among other things, getting back to forcing turnovers.

“We point it out every day,” Stewart said, referring to film sessions stressing moments during a play when the defense needs to focus on trying to strip the ball away or come away with an interception.

However, everything starts and stops with the ability to stop the running game.

“Teams run to control the tempo of the game,” Stewart explained, “so if we can stop them from running, and the only opportunity they have to move the ball is by the pass, then we can let loose in our pass rush and coverage. We want to stop the run first so they can’t control the game, but we can control the game and set the tempo and bring pressure.”



Omari Kelly (1) after practice. *Photo courtesy of MT Athletics.*

The Blue Raiders’ first game is at home on Saturday, August 31, against Tennessee Tech with kickoff slated for 6:00 p.m. That’s immediately followed up with a road trip to Oxford, Mississippi, to take on the preseason Top-10 Ole Miss Rebels, before returning home to play rival Western Kentucky and Duke back-to-back weeks. After taking on the Blue Devils, MTSU then travels out west to take on the Memphis Tigers in the Liberty Bowl.

It’s an absolutely brutal opening month-plus for a first-year head coach incorporating 59 new players into a program, but nobody in Murfreesboro is shying away from the challenge. They know the tough non-conference schedule will get them ready for C-USA play with all their goals still out in front of them.



Nick Vattiato (11) is ready for what should be an interesting 2024 season. *Photo courtesy of MT Athletics..*



Defensive Coordinator Bryan Stewart is focused on stopping the other team’s ability to run the ball. *Photo courtesy of MT Athletics.*

# 'Confidence Is Everything' – Cascade's Jared Carkuff On Takeaways From MTCS Scrimmage

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com

The Cascade Champions kicked off their preseason scrimmage schedule against reigning Class DII-A State Champions, the MTCS Cougars, at The Stable on Monday night with an impressive showing.

MTCS lost the majority of their production from a year ago, but so did Cascade. Both teams showed flashes of talent at certain positions – most notably at WR and RB – but a freshman quarterback for Cascade has impressed first-year head coach, Jared Carkuff, throughout the offseason.

"He's [Peyton Wireman] just getting better every week, and that's all we can ask for," said Carkuff postgame. "Timing is the biggest thing, and he's on time with everything. He understands the game, and he is a very confident kid, but he doesn't want to come off like that. Whenever we can get him to believe that he is the best player on the field, he is going to take off because he is already really talented."

With Carkuff implementing a completely different offensive system than what previous coach Jake Tyre oversaw, the emphasis on high-level and intelligent quarterback play is much higher. Quick decisions are imperative, and Wireman is already looking the part standing behind his offensive line.

Of course, the quarterback is not the only position with a new starter taking its place. After going 5-6 in Tyre's final season last year, Cascade graduated the vast majority of their production on both offense and defense. Sawyer Lovvorn, Damien Byford, Hayden Dowell, Isaac Chapa, Lantz Peoples, and others are no longer in the program, so playmaking responsibilities will fall on some younger shoulders.

Against MTCS, Cascade came out a bit flat to start the game with the Cougars marching right down the field on their first offensive drive. However, the Champs' defense seemed to wake up afterwards, playing with an extremely feisty edge for the remainder of the scrimmage. In general, Carkuff seemed pleased with the showing his team put forth on Monday.

"Biggest takeaway from tonight is that we got better," he explained. "We came out flat, and that's been an issue, I've been told, that has always been a problem where they come out flat and it takes something big happening for them. I challenged them before the game, we need to start fast, and then I challenged them again which you probably heard, and it worked. The biggest takeaway is to come out with energy."

"We are actually a good football team when we come out and believe it."

Comparing how this team looked in the spring against Wayne County, it's a night and day difference. The offense looked like they had a grasp on what they were trying to do, and the defense looked more confident which allowed them to fly around and make plays instinctually.

"Defensively, we are trying to be physical, fly around, and be aggressive," Carkuff said, which checks out with the eye test at least against MTCS. There were some assignment mistakes as there always will be in the preseason, but they are progressively getting much better.

This upcoming season, the longest road trips on the regular season schedule is to Watertown in a non-region matchup, and then a trip down to Huntland for the same reason. Compared to last year where Cascade had to make treks out to both Monterey and Marion County, this is a huge plus. Both of those teams come to The Stable this season, so Cascade will not have to drive more than two hours to any game until potentially the postseason.

The season kicks off on August 23, at Moore County in a long-time rivalry matchup between the two schools. The Raiders also lost quite a bit of production from a season ago, most notably the TSSAA Class 1A Mr. Football winner, Dawson White. With White gone, the Raiders have a massive hole to fill, and it will be tough to have that covered up by Week One.

Carkuff does have one final message after Monday's scrimmage to the rest of his team as they prepare to kick off the regular season in less than 20 days.



Coach Jared Carkuff is set to start his first season at his alma mater in less than three weeks.
*Photo from David Smith.*

"Confidence is everything. If you know you can do it, it makes everything different."

Cascade holds their Black and Orange game early on Friday afternoon before going to the Webb School the following Friday, August 16, in their final preseason scrimmage before the season opener at Moore County on August 23.

## Bedford County's Girls' Soccer Programs' Preseason Competition

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com

On Friday night, Bedford County held a celebration of Girls' Soccer with Cascade, Webb School, Shelbyville Central, and Community all taking on one another on the turf field of the Webb School.

Cascade beat Webb, 2-0.

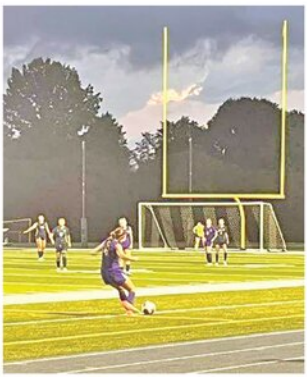
Shelbyville Central beat Community, 1-0.

Shelbyville Central beat Webb, 2-0.

Community beat Cascade, 1-0.

Shelbyville Central played against Cascade (score unavailable).

Webb beat Community, 1-0.



Community, Webb, Cascade, and Shelbyville Central held a playday of sorts last week as part of their preseason training.
*Submitted Photo.*

As part of the preseason, all four Girls' Soccer programs in Bedford County took part in a playday last Friday evening to get ready for the upcoming regular season.

Of course, Cascade and Community are the only two teams that will play each other in the regular season as they are in the same district.

## MTSU Men's Basketball To Compete In 2024 Myrtle Beach Invitational

MT ATHLETICS

The Middle Tennessee men's basketball program will travel to South Carolina to take part in the sixth annual Myrtle Beach Invitational this fall as part of the squad's 2024-25 non-conference slate.

"We are excited to once again be competing in the Myrtle Beach Invitational," said head coach Nick McDevitt. "This allows us to continue to showcase our program and our university on a national stage as we participate in one of ESPN's tournaments. We are happy to be a part of this competitive field."

The Blue Raiders will be joined by Bradley, Princeton, South Florida, Texas State, Ohio, Portland and Wright State in the three-day tournament played November 21, 22 and 24 at the HTC Center in Conway, S.C. All games will be presented across the ESPN platforms.



MTSU Men's Basketball is headed to South Carolina in November.
*Photo courtesy of Coastal Carolina Athletics.*

2024 marks the second appearance at the Myrtle Beach Invitational for the Blue Raiders in the Nick McDevitt era, with the squad previously taking part in the 2019 edition of the tournament. During the 2023-24 season, Middle Tennessee traveled to the Bahamas to take part in the Baha Mar Hoops Nassau Championship in-season tournament. The Blue Raiders have taken part in a regular season each season during McDevitt's tenure

Past Myrtle Beach Invitational champions include UCF (2018), Baylor (2019), Utah State (2021), UMass (2022) and Liberty (2023). The 2024 field includes three schools that participated in the 2024 National Invitational Tournament – Bradley, Princeton and South Florida.

# MTSU Men's, Women's Tennis Announce 2024 Fall Schedule

MT ATHLETICS

Middle Tennessee men's tennis head coach Jimmy Borendame has announced a 10-tournament schedule for the upcoming 2024 fall campaign.

The Blue Raiders will kick off the new season with two home events, beginning with the Wally Tidwell Tennis Pro-Am on Sept. 6-7, followed by the Blue Raider Invite on Sept. 13-15 at the Outdoor Tennis Facility, where they will welcome Tennessee, Indiana, Vanderbilt and Lipscomb.

Following the opening homestand, the schedule features three consecutive road events leading into the month of October, including the ITA All-Americans Championships in Tulsa, Okla. on Sept. 22-29, as well as the Belmont Invite in Nashville, Tenn. on Sept. 27-29 and the ITA Ohio Valley Regionals on Oct. 10-14 in West Lafayette, Ind.

Coach Borendame's group will return to Murfreesboro on the weekend of Oct. 18-20 to host the Coach Buck Bouldin Fall Classic at the Outdoor Tennis Facility where they will host East Tennessee State, Tennessee Tech and Virginia Tech.

The Blue Raiders will follow up the final home event of the fall with their third and fourth ITA events, opening with the ITA Conference Masters Championships on Nov. 7-10 and the ITA Sectionals at Florida State in Tallahassee, Fla. on Nov. 8-10.

Middle Tennessee will close out the 2024 calendar with a pair of road tournaments, starting with the Battle at the Beach in Miramar Beach, Fla. on Nov. 8-10, and concluding with the NCAA Individual Championships in Waco, Texas on Nov. 21-24.

"The 2024 fall schedule will be unique with the new ability to qualify for the NCAA Championships individually," Borendame said. "Our goals with our fall schedule will not change much, but to focus on player and team development. These events will only make us stronger for the spring season."

The women's tennis head coach Tayo Bailey-Duvall has also announced the fall schedule for the upcoming 2024 season.

This year's fall slate features five tournaments, three of which the Blue Raiders will host and play at the Outdoor Tennis Facility.

The new season will begin on Sept. 6 with the Wally Tidwell Pro Am at the Outdoor Tennis Facility.

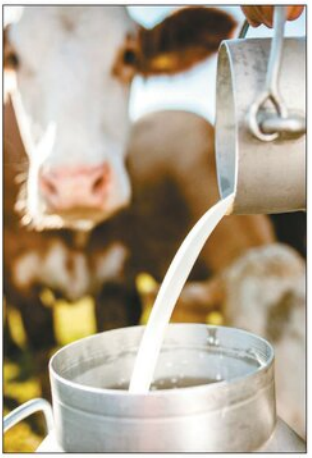
The Blue Raiders will remain local, as they begin competition on Sept. 13 at the Belmont-Lipscomb Invite in Nashville, Tenn., concluding on Sept. 15.

Following the season opener, Bailey-Duvall's group will head north to Oxford, Ohio, where they are scheduled to participate in the Miami (Ohio) Invite on Sept. 20-22.

The Blue Raiders will close out their 2024 fall schedule with a pair of home events, including the ITA Regionals at MTSU on Oct. 10-14, competing against teams from the Ohio Valley Region, and the Middle Tennessee Invite on Oct. 25-27, where they will host Western Kentucky, Eastern Kentucky, North Alabama and Lipscomb.

"We are excited to get geared up for our fall season," Duvall said in preparation of the new season. "With the addition of our new assistant and new players, I believe we will have a very successful and fun fall season. We are hosting the fall regionals and a fall invite. There will be a lot of teams visiting us this fall, and that is great because it is always good to be able to compete at our home courts."

# Dairy Alliance promotes Adopt a Cow



Attention teachers and other education professionals! Did you know the Adopt a Cow program impacted over a million students last school year around the world? Sign-ups are open now, giving your class another chance to join in on the fun in the coming school year.

Next school year, forget the guinea pig or tank full of fish as a class pet. How about adopting a 1,500-pound dairy cow for your classroom mascot instead? The kids will love her and you won't have to worry about finding a pen big enough to hold her. The photos and stories we'll send you about her life on the farm will bring her right to your students' desks, minus the commitment of a class pet!

Each year, the Dairy Alliance promotes the Adopt a Cow program available to various educational programs like schools, afterschool programs, and even adult community groups due to the opportunity for participants to receive an exclusive look at dairy farming. It is a popular program that more and more students are taking part in.

So, what is the Adopt a Cow program?

The Discover Dairy Adopt a Cow program is an exciting, year-long (and FREE) experience for your classroom to connect with the local agriculture industry. Throughout the program's run, you'll get an inside look at local dairy farming practices and be paired with a calf from a working dairy farm in your state.

You'll find out what her name is, when her birthday is, where she lives, and how the farmer takes care of her. You'll also receive progress updates, photos of the cow, live chats from the farm, activity sheets for your students, suggested lessons that follow Common CORE standards, and even opportunities to write letters to your calf! Other opportunities like naming the calf or additional may be available at the farmer's discretion. All updates are easily accessible via the online portal and mobile app, so your cow is always one click away.

It is an opportunity for participants to see the daily work done on a dairy farm. For those interested in agriculture, animal care, sustainability practices, food production, and more, Adopt a Cow provides unique insights into local industry.

Register for this school year between May 1 and September 15, 2024, and join the moo-vement that has impacted 1+ million students across the globe! Visit www.discoverdairy.com/ adopt to learn more about the free program. You will receive confirmation and further information about Adopt a Cow after registration closes and once your classroom's calf is born, around October 2024.

Discover Dairy is an educational series managed by the Dairy Excellence Foundation in partnership with The Dairy Alliance. Local dairy farmers in the Southeast participate in the program, providing students plenty of opportunities to connect with their cow as she grows. Information about participating farms within The Dairy Alliance region, typically one farm per state, will be available once the 2024-2025 school year begins.

Until then, explore virtual farm tours and meet local dairy farmers available through The Dairy Alliance resources.

# How to make a home more cozy

The meaning of the term "cozy" varies as it pertains to home decor. For some, cozy may mean intimate spaces with lots of quilts and throws. For others, cozy could indicate bright and airy spaces enhanced by plenty of fresh foliage.

Regardless of how they define cozy, homeowners typically want their homes to be inviting and comfortable. With that in mind, the following are some ways to impart a cozy vibe to any living space.

• Make use of a fireplace. Flames lapping wood (or faux wood in the event of gas-powered fireplaces) can put anyone in a tranquil state of mind. Fireplaces add instant ambiance and make great places for people to congregate and engage in conversation. During warmer months when the fire isn't blazing, decorative candles can be lit to mimic the same feel.

• Add texture in the design. Texture can be anything from a raised pattern on wallpaper to a knotty area rug to a mosaic piece of artwork. A home with texture tends to create cozier impressions than one with all sleek and smooth surfaces.

• Enjoy a soft rug. Although many design experts say hardwood floors or laminate options are easier for allergies and keeping a home clean, a soft rug underfoot can be welcoming. Rather than wall-to-wall carpeting, place area rugs in spots that can use some cozying up, such as beneath beds and even under the dining table.

• Light candles. The warm, flickering light of candles adds cozy vibes in spades. According to The Spruce and Paula Boston, a visual merchandiser for Festive Lights, candles can be used throughout a home to create instant atmosphere. Exercise caution with candles and fully extinguish them before retiring for the evening.

• Update bedding for the season. Crisp and light cotton and linen are cozy materials when the weather is warm. But when the temperature starts to dip, flannel or jersey bedding makes a bed that much more inviting, says Real Simple.

• Invest in lots of pillows. Pillows can instantly make a spot cozier, whether it's the living room sofa or an outdoor lounging nook. Look for materials that are durable for the space in which they're being used.

• Think about warm lighting. The transition from incandescent light bulbs to halogen and LED is beneficial from an environmental standpoint. However, LEDs illuminate with a more stark, blue light that can seem clinical in-home spaces. Look for bulbs where the Temperature can be customized. The more the color spectrum leans toward warm light, the cozier a space will feel. This can be enhanced by putting some lights on dimmer switches, and toning down the brightness as needed.

• Install a bookshelf. Even for those who are strict devotees of e-readers, a shelf full of actual books interspersed with some well-placed knick-knacks can make a room feel cozier. Books add texture, the feel of hallowed halls and libraries, and visual appeal.

Making a home cozier doesn't have to be complicated. A few easy modifications can improve interior spaces.



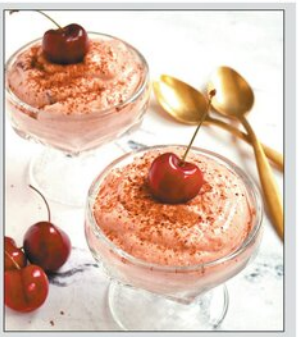
## Mandarin Orange No-Bake Tarts



Recipe courtesy of Healthy Family Project
Prep time: 10 minutes
Freeze time: 1 hour

- 1 cup graham cracker crumbs
- 2 tablespoons butter, melted
- 1 cup plain nonfat Greek yogurt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 tablespoons honey or maple syrup
- 4 mandarin oranges, peeled and segmented

1. In bowl, mix graham cracker crumbs with melted butter.
2. Press mixture into bottom of individual mini tart pans or mini muffin tin. Refrigerate crusts to set while preparing filling.
3. In bowl, combine Greek yogurt, vanilla and honey or maple syrup. Mix well.
4. Spoon yogurt mixture into chilled crusts.
5. Freeze tarts at least 1 hour. Top with mandarin segments.



This quick dessert makes an excellent after school snack or an after-dinner dessert treat for your student.

**Chocolate Cherry Delight**

*Makes 2 servings*

1 cup 2% milkfat cottage cheese
½ cup frozen pitted dark sweet cherries, thawed
2 teaspoons agave nectar
½ teaspoon cocoa powder
½ teaspoon cinnamon
½ teaspoon vanilla
Topping Options
Cocoa powder, fresh cherries, mini chocolate chips

Place all ingredients (except toppings) into a food processor. Blend until cottage cheese looks smooth.

Divide between two serving bowls and if desired, add toppings. Serve immediately. Will keep in the refrigerator for up to 24 hours.






TWHNC photo

**NEW MURAL ON CELEBRATION GROUNDS**
The Celebration recently announced the addition of a commissioned new mural on the TWHNC property to enhance the fan experience. Artist is Kristen Seibold. The portrait is located on the brick wall near the Sir Pizza booth.

# Leighanne Tibbs: 'Hooked' on Tennessee and its walking horses



I'm Modelo, WC model gelding in 2023 Celebration

**By DAWN HANKINS**
dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net

She may have only lived in Tennessee a few years, but Leighanne Tibbs of Petersburg quickly established her name within the Tennessee Walking Horse industry.

Leighanne says her husband was the one who introduced her to the walking horse and now they also own and show spotted horses and quarter horses.

"We moved here in 2005 . . . I am originally from New Jersey and met my husband who is from West Virginia. He is the one who introduced me to the fabulous Tennessee Walking Horse and I've been hooked ever since."

Hooked indeed. Leighanne won the open model class at the Wartrace show last Saturday with a 5-year-old named Mr. Fahrenheit.

The Tibbs regularly show Tennessee Walking and Spotted Saddle Horses. But there's more to this Bedford County couple's business. They also have a sale at Wiser Farm on both Saturdays during the Walking Horse Celebration at the old Wiser farm on 64 East.

"We are also a licensed and bonded full care buy/sell/trade facility. We have and enjoy all breeds, including American Quarter Horses we use for cutting competition.

Her motto: "cowgirls don't cry, ride baby ride."

"Last year was exciting, I won my first walking horse World Championship in the model gelding class with a horse named I'm Modelo."

She knows this industry has tough competition. But she's always up for the challenge.

Look for Leighanne at this year's Celebration; she will be showing Splash of Blue in class 113 during the Monday a.m. show in the weanling filly class. Splash of Blue was sired by WGC Mr. True Blue and is owned by Tom and Sarah Insell of Shelbyville.



Mr. Fahrenheit: winner in this year's Wartrace show in the open model class.



Does he know he's a winner? Splash of Blue to compete in the weanling filly class at the 2024 Celebration with Leighanne Tibbs of Petersburg.




Just rewards-I'm Modelo-for a job well done in last year's Celebration.

## SHARE YOUR PHOTOS!

It's almost Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration time again! This year, we would like to feature as many of your photos as possible-past and 2024.

We welcome photos of contenders for this years' Celebration. Tell us the name of the horse, riders, owners, etc. Let us know which show.

We'd love to have pictures of your walking horses from your farms as well.

We look forward to sharing these with the readers now and throughout the Celebration.

***Please email to*** *dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net.*

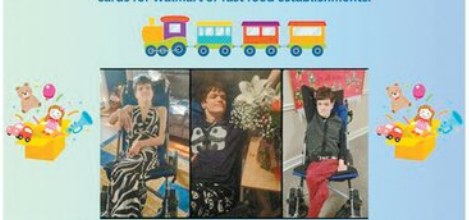
**We are also now accepting ads for the TWHNC season.**
***Let's make this the best ever in support of our Celebration!***




Photo submitted by Elaine Butner

## 1st Annual MANDY JEAN MEMORIAL TOY DRIVE

**Shelbyville Police Department Detective Carol Jean lost her daughter, Mandy Jean, on 12/12/2023. In honor of Mandy's 31st birthday (which would have been on 08/18/2024), we are collecting toys and gift cards for Junior's house. We are accepting donations at the Shelbyville Police Department until August 19th. Please drop off items between 8 am and 4 pm Monday through Friday. If you cannot come during those times, contact Detective Carol Jean at 931-684-5811 to make other arrangements. Some items needed are new stuffed animals, blankets, small games, Play-Doh, art supplies, grooming kits, and $5 or $10 gift cards for Walmart or fast food establishments.**



**Junior's House Child Advocacy Center provides free services to child victims of abuse in Bedford County, including Trauma Counseling and Forensic Interviews. The CAC staff collaborates with the Child Protective Investigative Team to ensure thorough investigations and appropriate services are provided to the children.**