COMMUNITY NEWS

SHELBYVILLE TIMES-GAZETTE

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Is the '81 Act the best management system for the County?

State Comptroller Office representatives say 'yes'



By DAWN HANKINS
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Editor's note: This is the first installment of two articles about the advantages of the '81 Act. See the T-G website this week for part II (t-g.com.)

Bryan Burklin, assistant director of financial and compliance audits for local governments, spoke during the County Financial Management Committee meeting on Tuesday. He said while the '81 Act can be a little "long in the tooth" he believes it is still the best operating system for county governments.

Despite it possibly being around for a while now, Burklin still spoke positively about the '81 financial management system.

Questions have been raised within the County government and by constituents about financial management. Hence the reasoning behind the state visit, Mayor Chad Graham explained.

Burklin stated emphatically that the '81 Act is as solid as it was when Bedford County chose to operate under it a few years ago.

It should be explained that the County Financial Management System of 1981 (CFMS of 1981) is one of the two optional general law statutes of local application that a county may adopt to centralize the county's purchasing functions.

Traditional structure is another alternative. Under this type of financial management, counties may operate under a traditional structure with elected officials such as the county executive, sheriff, trustee, register of deeds, and others, independently managing their respective departments.

The '81 system is similar to the 1957 acts; however, under this act the county operates under one act rather than three separate acts. Furthermore, unlike the 1957 acts, school funds are managed under this system just like all other county funds.

The '81 Act provides for the consolidation of financial functions and establishment of a financial management system for all county funds operated through the county trustee. As well, it creates a department of finance to administer the finances of the county and all funds handled by the trustee, in conformance with generally accepted principles of governmental accounting and rules and regulations established by the state comptroller of the treasury, state commissioner of education and state law. T.C.A. § 5-21-103.

The Tennessee Comptroller's Office representative said Tuesday there are other options for local governments but this act is still pretty streamlined and works pretty efficiently.

Burklin was asked several questions that have been circulating through and outside the Commission. Also answering some questions was Jeff Bailey, legislative audit manager.

In attendance was also Katie Armstrong, assistant administrative director.

Mayor Chad Graham stated the state officials may be familiar with some of the specific challenges Bedford County had before adopting the '81 Act of financial management.

"The big advantage of the '81 over the '57 is that the schools are included as well," said Burklin.

Bottom line: There are a lot of efficiencies in accounting and purchasing when you have all your departments, education, solid waste, etc., under one financial department. He said for one, there are consistent financial statements for committees to utilize.

When there are fewer departments, this allows more competent people in a department, Burklin shared. So, the purchasing for the school department is consistent with the purchasing of the highway department.

"It's just common sense that three separate departments are not going to be as efficient as that one. I think that's the big advantage of '81 over '57."

He said the financial director, which in Bedford County's case is Robert Daniel, has to have minimum experience and education requirements under the '81 law. General law does not require those

See '81 ACT, 2A

> 'The big advantage of the '81 over the '57 is that the schools are included as well.'
> **- Bryan Burklin, state comptroller's office**

HOWDY FROM MANDY!

TWHNC Photo

Mandy Motes of Eagleville was selected as this year's "Best Dressed Cowgirl" during the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration contest. See additional winners inside today. The TWHNC continues through Saturday night when the 2024 World Grand Champion will be announced.



BREAKING NEWS OF INTEREST

Local entrepreneur wants to restore Carlton's Store

By DAWN HANKINS
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A local entrepreneur said today that he is interested in the restoration of the former Carlton General Store building and the former Carlton home off 41A Highway in Rover.

"My family is from around here and I felt a connection," he told the T-G Wednesday morning.

When his plans are more concrete, the business owner said he will be forthcoming with more information.

The Times-Gazette will continue to follow this uplift for the Rover community. Recently, concerned residents met to discuss how to deflate a possible Dollar General store going onto that property. Residents believed such a store is not suited for their rural, quiet neighborhood.

See CARLTON'S STORE, 2A



T-G Staff Photo

Shelbyville Central Head Coach John Dryden is interviewed by MYTV30 after their season opening win at Siegel, 34-22, with his star tailback, Robert Bailey (31) at his side. See story page 11A.

Merchant spotlight: Lowery Jewelers of Shelbyville

Billy Lowery marks 40+ years of TWHNC engraving

By DAWN HANKINS
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It's late and all Lowery Jewelers customers at 768 North Main Street are gone. The only sound that can be heard is a faint tick tock from a clock coming from the front of the store.

Billy Lowery is still in his business working at 9 p.m. He heads toward an antique machine in the back.

Most days, regular customers and visitors seek his knowledge as a long-time jewelry store owner.

But for over 40 Augusts, Lowery has also served as an engraver for the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration.

In fact, he just put the finishing touches on presentation trays for the 86th annual show. And so far, everything seems to be correctly engraved and ready to go into the center ring.

With only a few days left in the 2024 TWHNC, that's pretty certain, now.

Lowery explains how the Celebration sells sponsorships which go on presentation trophies. He still uses the antique engraver to make the beautiful, center ring presentations.

Lowery waits until the store closes to engrave so he can have quiet with no interruptions. That's a must when working with such valuable and intricate pieces.

"If you mess one up, you can't do anything about it on a tray. You have to start over."

But that rarely, if ever, has happened in the 25 years he's used this current engraving machine. When done right, with a steady hand, the antique machine, as Lowery demonstrated, is pretty flawless.

Wife, Sharon, is the one who organizes and lines up the metal, antique letters for him. This way, he can go right down the line, tracing over the letters and engraving that special name/sponsor for the Celebration.

And what else would this business owner use but a diamond point to do such work?

Lowery said he was blessed to be able to acquire this engraver, which is a New Hermes model from New York. This antique machine once belonged to Carolyn Simmons Matusek's father, owner of Simmons Jewelers on the public square for many years.

While he could invest in a computerized engraver-one which can cost upward of $20,000, Lowery says he will stick with this one.

He admitted there's one hitch with the antique machine: "I'm sort of fast-motion and this is kind of a slow process."

After a friend upgraded to a computerized engraver, Lowery inherited some extra letters. This has enabled him to be able to handle some significant, large-handled, trays like those given to triple winners.

Some of those trays might have 10 lines on them, he advised. "That's nervous when you have a $600 dollar tray . . . one at a time, doing each letter. This is one thing I've never taught anyone in my 40 years to do because, if you mess up one, you've lost the piece."

The jeweler said because it is hard to find those pretty silver-plated trays anymore, he's using more crystal pieces for memorial trophies.

So, each season, the engraving is all on his shoulders. He recently told the T-G that he's likely engraved thousands of pieces over the years.

Many in this community give of their time and help in various ways at the Celebration.

For Lowery, this engraving is just a small part of the way they can provide a service to the TWHNC and give back some time to their community.

We thank Lowery Jewelers for sponsoring today's Past, Present and Future TWHNC edition. See the store ad on page 12 today. Shop local!



T-G Photo by Dawn Hankins

Billy Lowery, who engraves for the Celebration, sets up the antique machine that's never failed him over the last 25 years. See more photos, 2A.

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MTSU plans campus hotel

MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee shared that news and other campus updates Thursday, Aug. 22

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Champs sputter in season opener

The Cascade Champions went on the road to open the season at Moore County

See Page 10A

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MTSU plans campus hotel Site for training hospitality students

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — Middle Tennessee State University is in the final stages of negotiations for a hotel to be built at Greenland Drive and Middle Tennessee Boulevard that would be used to train students in its Tourism and Hospitality Management Program.

MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee shared that news and other campus updates Thursday, Aug. 22, with hundreds of faculty, staff and special guests during his traditional State of the University address at the annual Fall Faculty and Staff Meeting inside Tucker Theatre in advance of the new academic year starting Monday.

While estimated cost, size and other details are being finalized, McPhee said the proposed public-private partnership would result in a facility "that will serve our campus community, bolster tourism in the area, and be a favorite destination for visitors to our campus as well as athletic facilities."

"Most importantly, it will be a learning laboratory and a place for practical experience for students in our newly accredited Tourism and Hospitality Management program," he said, noting that MTSU's program is the only accredited such program in the state.

McPhee praised the MTSU faculty and staff as "the lifeblood of the institution" and thanked them for their commitment to student learning and achievement, helping to graduate roughly 5,000 new alumni every academic year — with 60% of graduates living within an hour of Murfreesboro and alumni throughout the state pumping an estimated $9 billion annually in business revenue within the state, according to a recent study.

"MTSU is uniquely positioned to continue significantly impacting our students, community, region, and state," he told the audience. "We possess a wealth of advantages that, when leveraged effectively, will propel us to new heights of excellence and innovation."

In opening remarks, Provost Mark Byrnes, the university's chief academic officer, noted that "while we still have work to do," MTSU has improved its six-year graduation rate by 10 percentage points.

Governed by the Middle Tennessee State University Board of Trustees, MTSU is an equal opportunity, non-racially identifiable, educational institution that does not discriminate against individuals with disabilities.

"We should all be really proud of that. And this didn't happen by accident. It came after careful planning, the reallocation of resources, and it came through your hard work, so thank you," Byrnes said.

The future hotel proposal was in line with the overall theme of McPhee's remarks about how the university is charting a path toward a bright future, fresh off its sixth consecutive national academic ranking among top colleges and universities in The Princeton Review while awaiting the completion of a number of capital improvement projects already underway.

The $75 million Applied Engineering Building is set to open next summer, while $54 million in renovations to Kirksey Old Main and Rutledge Hall will result in state-of-the-art facilities for the University Studies Department and multiple departments College of Basic and Applied Sciences in the summer of 2026.

A year later, the $60 million Aerospace training hub is expected to be fully operational at the Shelbyville Airport.

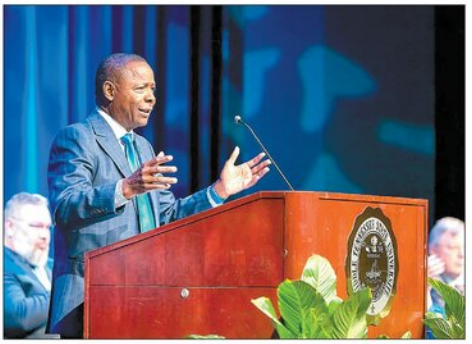
Meanwhile, work continues on the $66 million Student-Athlete Performance Center on the north end of Floyd Stadium that is set to be completed by next summer.

A highlight of the Fall Faculty and Staff Meeting is the presentation of the MTSU Foundation Awards for faculty, including the top award, the Career Achievement Award, accepted this year by longtime Aerospace Department professor and MTSU alumnus Paul Craig (Class of 1979, '80.)

Craig, who has authored 15 books on aviation safety and flight training and won numerous aviation awards, has been coordinator of the aerospace sciences master's degree program since 2016. Craig noted the profound impact his former professor and military veteran, the late Jean Jack, had on his life and career — and he encouraged the other faculty in attendance to reach out to former teachers or professors who impacted them as well.

"Make sure you make the time to contact that person what a difference they made, and following their lead, the difference you are now making on our current students," he said. "Will you do that for me? It will mean a lot to them."

For the full list of 2024-25 faculty and staff award recipients and photos, visit mtsunews.com.



Middle Tennessee State University President Sidney A. McPhee gives his State of the University Address at the 2024 Fall Faculty and Staff Meeting held Thursday, Aug. 22, inside Tucker Theatre on the MTSU campus in Murfreesboro, Tenn. MTSU's fall semester began Monday, Aug. 26, with the start of classes. (MTSU photo by Andy Heidt)

A year later (2027), the $60 million Aerospace training hub is expected to be fully operational at the Shelbyville Airport.
- MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee



Middle Tennessee State University aerospace professor Paul Craig, center, shakes hands with university President Sidney A. McPhee, left, after accepting the MTSU Foundation's Career Achievement Award at the 2024 Fall Faculty and Staff Meeting held Thursday, Aug. 22, inside Tucker Theatre on the MTSU campus in Murfreesboro, Tenn. At right is MTSU Foundation President Brian Kidd.

'81 ACT

From page 1

expectations.

Mayor Graham said if the County didn't operate under the '81 law, that would mean the County would operate under "general law." He questioned if without the '81 Act, would 100 percent of operation come under the mayor's office, which already has a lot of responsibilities.

Burklin said yes and basically the County has a bookkeeper instead of a financial director under general law.

Graham added, "So we struggle to meet all the latest expectations of documentation and lines in those things, even having the '81 Act, so I assume that you would say that it would even be more difficult if we were just trying to operate under general law to meet all the expectations and standards associated with the County principles?"

Burklin responded, "Absolutely it would."

He added not just that but every department, under general law, is responsible for its own operations from the highway superintendent on down the line, instead of a financial director. It is his belief that highway departments should take care of the roads and school systems should take care of the schools-not County fiscal operations.

"It's always contentious, even to this day, when we go out and talk to counties that are considering centralizing their operations," said Burklin. "A lot of times the schools are reluctant because they feel like they're giving up some control of operating the schools."

He told of one county school system and commission that was having some problems and a meeting they attended had gotten heated. Eventually that county adopted the '81 Act.

In the end, they were glad to have done that, he said. It freed up the school system to a great degree.

As they are generally the ones who do the annual financial audits for Bedford County, Bailey explained some audit findings history prior to Bedford County adopting the '81 Financial Management Act.

"In 1996, through 2006, 11 years, there were 128 findings, which averaged out to 11.6 findings per year. [From] 2007-2023, 17 years, we had 64 findings, with an average of 3.76 findings per year. And out of those 17 years, there's been 3 years with 0 findings, 3 years with one finding each and the findings went down, seemed to go down, after the first few years after implementing the '81 Act."

He added that's one of the other big advantages that he, personally, tells people when they ask him about centralizing their government process. He said people are hired, many come and go, but most finance offices remain consistent through all the ups and downs through a political environment.

Bailey said financial directors are under the authority of the financial management committee. Non-elected officials, they can be hired and fired at that committee's discretion.

"They [Commission] can rely on what that person tells them. If they can't rely on them, then they can find somebody else for that position."

He added, "The mayor, highway and school department, having their own bookkeepers . . . you may be able to trust what they tell you, you may not. That's what we see as practical matters."



T-G Photo by Dawn Hankins

For over 40 years, Billy Lowery has worked late at night, engraving trays and trophies for the August horse show.



Submitted Photo

Sharon Lowery has the job of lining up all the letters for the engraving machine. Husband, Billy, who does some of the engraving work for the Celebration, says this is just a big help to him. Sir Winston decided he would take a nap in the process.

CARLTON'S STORE

From page 1

One Rover resident said he believes this is a step in the right direction and will benefit his community. It will also preserve this historic site, which is really what most of the residents want.

Rover historian Bobbie Sue Shelton Lonas once wrote of the Carltons, "Their respect, friendliness and helpfulness were evident as soon as one walked in the door."

She added that Carlton's General Store wasn't "just a country store" but also served as a bank, a message and information center, a post office, a service station, a place to get a quick breakfast or lunch and a gathering place for the community whittlers and problem solvers."

Residents, their children and grandchildren haven't forgotten and say they'll do all they can to preserve this legacy.

While there is a contract on the property, the businessman is yet to go before the County Planning Commission. Even with this new owner, the procedure will be the same as it would have been for the proposed Dollar General-to the planning commission for a recommendation then to County Commission for rezoning to RVN, then to the Bedford Zoning Appeals board.

Rural Village Neighborhood (RVN) was envisioned as a way to re-enrich those communities with retail opportunities for locals so as to avoid driving into town for retail incidentals, just like it once would have been, without losing their cultural identity to modern development schemes.

One of its principal differences from traditional commercial zoning is that there is a 2nd tier of review that provides oversight on the development of building plans and facades. In the RVN zone, the County Board of Zoning Appeals is charged to review the site plan and building plans before the zoning office is authorized to issue its permits. This 2nd level review ensures that the building and site will meet the requirements set out in the context of the zoning classification, according to County Planning Director Chris White.



T-G Photo by Dawn Hankins

Steady is the hand who engraves for a special day. In a quiet room, it's all good.



THE ISSUE

It's election time, again

By DAWN HANKINS
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I wanted to write this column today due to some things I heard over the weekend regarding local politics.

First, let me ask the question of whether journalists or members of the media should run for public office? I have my own opinion but let's see what the old SPJ (Society of Professional Journalists) has to say.

I think I remember from journalism school the answer to that question. But in an effort not to be old school, let's not take my word for it.

According to vice chairman Fred Brown, who covered state and national politics and government for nearly 40 years for The Denver Post, The SPJ Ethics Committee gets a significant number of questions about whether journalists should engage in political activity.

Let's define who is considered a "journalist." A journalist is a person who gathers information in the form of text, audio or pictures and processes it into a newsworthy form and disseminates it to the public. That includes all mediums.

I've heard some online journalists say maybe they shouldn't run for office but it's their program and that's what they're going to do.

Perhaps.

But Fred Brown's simplest answer to journalists running for political offices is "No. Don't do it. Don't get involved. Don't contribute money. Don't work in a campaign. Don't lobby, and especially, don't run for office yourself."

So, in a nutshell, you give up a lot to work as an objective journalist. We, like a lot of people in the professional world, have to make a choice of what we want to do publicly.

We have chosen to serve the general public-everyone.

But here's the rub: "Newspapers, in particular, have a longstanding practice of endorsing candidates in competitive political races. Although some readers think these endorsements signal a bias in the publication's news coverage, SPJ encourages editorial pages to promote thoughtful debate on candidates and politics; letting readers know through endorsements which candidates share the newspaper's vision is part of that discussion. Part of an editorial page's responsibility, though, is to take every appropriate opportunity to explain the firewall between news and opinion," states Brown.

I remember in the past that the large Nashville newspapers would always get into bed with one particular party. That caused me concern as a young, budding journalist.

We at the T-G intend to cover elections fairly. So, no matter what party you represent or if you're independent, bring us your campaign announcements, platforms and pictures.

While we do accept advertising from all political candidates, we do not solicit.

Ironically, journalism is a profession protected by the same First Amendment that grants to all citizens the right to run for office or to support, by word, deed or cash, the people they would like to see elected. But journalists who want to be perceived as impartial must avoid any display of partisanship, says the SPJ.

And, of course, I agree with the old SPJ.

Now, when I go home, I can believe and support whichever party I like in the presence of my family. But on the streets, I'm as politically neutral as Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg is in this year's election.

Wait. Perhaps that's not the best example of being politically neutral. Or is it?

Next week, we will discuss PAC groups. Are they good or bad for a community?

We would love to hear from you. Send guest editorials to: dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net.



Jim Murrah of Unionville, age 98, received a much-deserved Quilt of Valor recently from seamstress and QOV representative Rhonda Styer. Joining him for the celebration was his daughter and caretaker, Melanie Murrah, his only living child, and grandson Evan Phelps.

Murrah, 98, wrapped in Quilt of Valor

By DAWN HANKINS
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Jim Murrah was born and raised in Mississippi. He finished high school in 1945.

Life would soon change.

He served his country in the U.S. Navy.

Jim moved to Nashville in the early 1950s for work. He has always been a talented carpenter and woodworker, notes his daughter and caretaker, Melanie Murrah.

"He built the house we live in now. He put the foundation up in the early 80s but my mother's health diverted the building of their retirement home . . . . He finished it when he turned 85. Momma had passed and never saw it finished."

Rhonda Styer, local QOV representative, was on hand at this very special home recently to make the presentation. At 98, she made sure this quilt got to this veteran soon.

The QOV quilts are presented to living military veterans and the national program continues to grow strong.

Bedford County gets opportunity to reach out to its veterans



Veteran Dave Rogers knows that many veterans leave service without knowing where to get resources or find a job.

"Because of this the American Job Center of Tennessee and Cooking with a Veteran, Inc., is teaming up to bring both of these together in Bedford County.

Dave is pretty well known now in Bedford County for his Cooking with a Veteran show and multiple cookbooks. Cooking with a Veteran is a 501c3 organization and all donations are tax deductible and help veterans in the local community.

As a supporter of veterans, he's asking the community for assistance for a Crawl, Walk, Run: Sept. 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Companies wishing to volunteer or needing information regarding sponsorship packages, should contact Dave Rogers at 631.838.8944 or at cookingwithaveteran@gmail.com.



HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT SWORN IN

Bedford County Government Photo

A swearing-in ceremony was held last Thursday afternoon for Bedford County Highway Superintendent Mark Clanton, who was re-elected to a new term Aug. 1. Circuit Judge Wyatt Burk administered the oath of office, and County Mayor Chad Graham, along with Clanton's family members, were on hand. New terms of office begin Sept. 1. Assessor of Property Ronda Clanton, who was also re-elected, will be sworn in along with her staff next week.

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FEATURES FROM THE BIBLE

TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE



What can one say about God that would help us to know who He is? The first verse in the bible says "In the Beginning God created....".

The bible writers used many words in an attempt to describe God. In John's gospel Jesus says, "God is Spirit." John 4:24

In the book of Exodus, God identifies himself as"I AM THAT I AM". Exodus 3:14.

Moses had asked God how he should answer the children of Israel when they asked him the name of the God who had sent him to lead them from slavery to freedom. God told Moses to say to them, "I AM hath sent me unto you."

Confusing? Maybe. Someone expressed it, "God is, while all others have been and shall be."

Creator, Spirit, THE I AM, THE ONE WHO IS! Holy, Love, Judge.

God.

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150 Fairfield Pike, 931-684-7676

EL BETHEL BAPTIST
1624 Hwy. 41A N., 931-684-0691

FAIR HAVEN BAPTIST
2726 Hwy. 231 N., 931-680-9803

FAITH BAPTIST
608 Neely Ave., 931-684-3764

FIRST BAPTIST
304 E. Depot St., 931-684-1634

FIRST BAPTIST
101 Webb Rd. E., Bell Buckle
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917 Sevier St., 931-684-9157

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689 Elbethel Rd., 931-684-4754

LONGVIEW BAPTIST
101 Cooper Rd., Unionville
931-294-2281

MIDLAND HEIGHTS BAPTIST
2706 Midland Rd., 931-680-0507

MOUNT ZION BAPTIST
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MT. ZION BAPTIST
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NORTH FORK BAPTIST
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931-294-5610

ROVER BAPTIST
202 Baptist Church Rd., Eagleville
931-294-5840

SEVIER STREET FIRST BAPTIST
921 Sevier St., 931-684-7460

SHELBYVILLE FIRST BAPTIST
304 E. Depot St., 931-773-0145

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900 Union St., 931-684-3625

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900 S. Cannon Blvd., 931-684-6138

THOMPSON GROVE BAPTIST
2966 Sims Rd., 931-685-0025

TRINITY BAPTIST
1331 Horse Mountain Rd., 931-492-5480

TWIN OAKS BAPTIST
1710 Mount Herman Rd., Petersburg
931-993-8286

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2200 N. Main St., 931-684-8114

CATHOLIC
ST. WILLIAM OF MONTEVERGINE CATHOLIC
500 S. Brittain St., 931-735-6004

ST. WILLIAMS CATHOLIC
719 N. Main St., 931-694-6154

CHRISTIAN
BETH SHAR SHALOM CHRISTIAN
207 April Lane, 931-680-9777

FIRST CHRISTIAN
309 Madison St., 931-684-7467

CHURCH OF CHRIST
BIRD STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST
428 Bird St., 931-684-3876

CHURCH OF CHRIST
116 Main St., Bell Buckle
931-389-9453

EASTSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST
1803 Madison St., 931-684-8521

FAIRFIELD CHURCH OF CHRIST
3521 Fairfield Pike, Wartrace
931-394-4090

FAIRLANE CHURCH OF CHRIST
101 Dow Dr., 931-684-1583

GREEN MEADOWS CHURCH OF CHRIST
355 Squire Hall Rd., 615-233-5420

RAUS CHURCH OF CHRIST
Smith Chapel Rd. Hwy. 13, 931-857-3362

SOUTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST
108 Narrows Rd., 931-684-1805

WARTRACE CHURCH OF CHRIST
107 Bridgeview Ave., Wartrace
931-389-9496

CHURCH OF GOD
FIRST CHURCH OF GOD
278 Anthony Lane, 931-684-4646

NEW HALEY CHURCH OF GOD
2220 Patricia Dr., 931-685-1159

SHELBYVILLE CHURCH OF GOD
1014 W. Lane St., 931-492-4747

WHITTAKER CHURCH OF GOD
1200 Bethlehem Church Rd.,
423-618-9920

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
BRIGHT TEMPLE COGIC
516 Elm St., 931-684-7356

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS
CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LDS
2508 Hwy. 231 N., 931-450-8848

EPISCOPAL
EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
203 Lane St., 931-684-5506

EVANGELICAL
EAST PARK EVANGELICAL
103 E. Pkwy., 256-278-8565

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CANNON UNITED METHODIST
1001 S. Cannon Blvd., 931-684-4767

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
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MULLINS CHAPEL AME
601 Ledbetter Rd., 931-685-4547

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1597 Hwy. 130 W., 931-294-5477

SCOTT UNITED METHODIST
940 Morton St., 931-684-2297

ST. JOHNS AME
1512 Raby Ave., 931-684-9931

WHITESIDE UNITED METHODIST
2400 Midland Rd., 615-828-8292

WOODFORK CHAPEL AME
1011 Lipscomb St., 931-684-4817

NAZARENE
FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
834 Union St., 931-684-3664

HILL TOP NAZARENE
1007 Smith Chapel Rd., 931-65-5234

HIMESVILLE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
1614 Hwy. 82 S., 931-694-6920

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EMMANUEL PENTECOSTAL
1005 Belmont Ave., 931-685-6999

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2216 Hwy. 61 W., 931-680-1539

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1900 Unionville Deason Rd., Bell Buckle
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FIRST SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
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INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF PRAYER
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931-389-6248

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MULLIN CHAPEL
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SHILOH OUTREACH CHURCH
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VICTORY CELEBRATION REVIVAL
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If you would like to update/change information, please email:
renee@richardsonmediagroup.net

Hilltop Antiques
Julie Beasley
Owner
32 Railroad Square E
Bell Buckle TN 37020
hilltopantiquesquare@yahoo.com
(931) 813-3091

This Devotional & Directory is made possible by these businesses who encourage all of us to attend worship services.

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www.bellprecisiontool.com

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Fax: 931-685-0047
rayspaintandbody@yahoo.com
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(F) 931-685-5088
(C) 931-581-2840
Manchester 931-954-5533
Rockvale 615-274-2661
sschultise@celebrationfeeds.com

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Licensed Funeral Director, Licensed Embalmer, Licensed Pre Need Insurance Agent, Certified Crematory Operator
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Voice 931-684-8356
Fax 931-684-0664
feldhausememorialchapel@gmail.com
web site - feldhausmemorial.com

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Email: bellbuckleembroidery@yahoo.com

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Celebrating the Past, Present and Future of the TWHNC

This week, there was a flurry of activity around the Celebration grounds, to say the least. One of the most fun was likely the annual dog show. Thanks to Cindy Griffy for her pictures.

We also would like to present some memories from TWHNC shows of the past. We honor those who have broken new ground in the industry.

From Ray Tenpenny, Betty Sain to the Brandon family, we thank you all for what you accomplished in this industry.

The future is always unpredictable but those who live here and appreciate the Celebration know that with a little fortitude and faith, the show will go on.

Thanks to all the local non profits, governments, the TWHNC, board and everyone who put on this great fun-filled show this week!

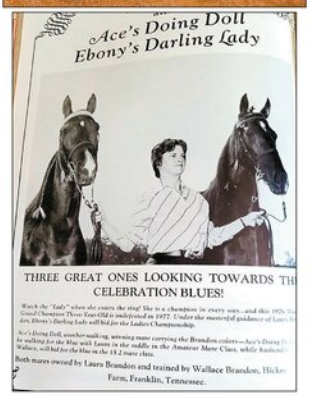
We trust all visitors have had a blessed week. Come back soon!



Best Dressed Cowboy:
Tim Brooks, Hot Springs, AR
Both Tim and Mandy (picture on front page) won a pair of Twisted X boots.





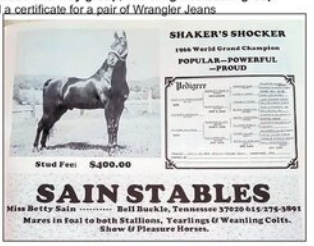


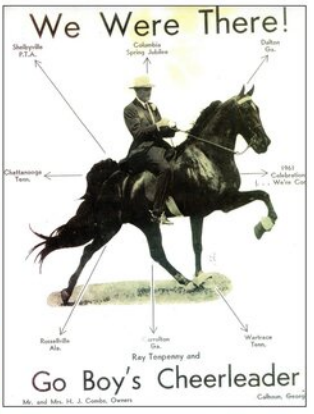
Bedford County is a farm-friendly place. We welcome visitors and their pets during the TWHNC and other times during the year. *T-G Photos by Dawn Hankins*



Best dressed Kids Group: There was a three-way tie!
The Jenne' group, The Bobo and Way group, The King and Baum group
All the kids will be awarded a certificate for a pair of Wrangler Jeans











Community CALENDAR

FUMC Worship Service

Join Shelbyville First United Methodist Church for a spiritually enriching worship service this Sunday. Pastor Abe Zimmerman is preaching "Bad Words: Part 1" from Proverbs 11:9-13. This series will explore Scriptures about the power of words and discover the real, God-honoring purposes of our words. During worship, FUMC will also have a special musical guest, singer Ben Gulley. Sunday School for all ages begins at 9 am, followed by the worship at 10 am. For those unable to attend, the church offers a livestream on Facebook and a broadcast on WLIJ 1580 AM.

County Government Dates to Remember

Aug. 26-Sept. 2: Bedford County Highway Department offices closed

September 2: All government offices, City and County, will be closed for Labor Day as well as Bedford County schools.

Retired Teachers' Meeting

Bedford County Retired Teachers will meet on Wednesday, Sept. 4, at 11:00 AM at Emmy's Restaurant (formerly Urban Plantation.) Guest speaker will be Lieutenant Chris Cook from Bedford County Sheriff's Department. Chris will be describing a new initiative, "A Pathway Back," an educational program that is showing success with female inmates. Looking forward to seeing everyone on September 4, 2024.

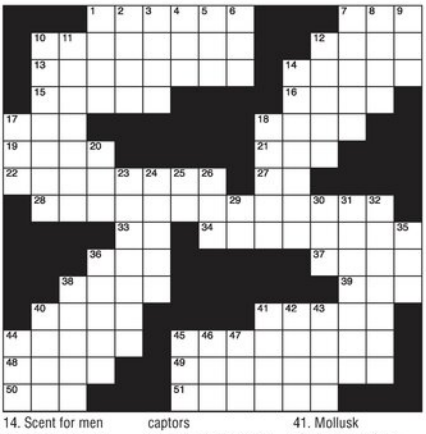
Crossword

CLUES ACROSS

1. Current unit
7. Reciprocal of an ohm
10. God of the sea
12. A way to disfigure
13. Positioned
14. Tall tropical American tree
15. Large deciduous trees
16. __ and ends
17. Part of a machine
18. Brews
19. One who leads prayers in a mosque
21. Indian state
22. Partisans
27. Top lawyer in the land
28. Former Dodgers MVP
33. Title for women
34. Heated and allowed to slowly cool
36. Copycat
37. Sounds
38. One-time Israeli diplomat Abba
39. Part of (abbr.)
40. Hateful
41. Collide
44. European football heavyweight
45. One who works for you
48. Song
49. Ancient marvels
50. Bridge building degree
51. Delivery boys

CLUES DOWN

1. Continent
2. Submissive
3. There's a lot in a bowling alley
4. Sun up in New York
5. Court decision __ v. Wade
6. Finish line
7. Young women
8. Hives of activity
9. Hyman Roth's right-hand man Johnny
10. Eastern U.S. river
11. Popular cooking ingredient
12. Greek mythological princess



14. Scent for men
17. Cost, insurance and freight (abbr.)
18. Once more
20. Irate
23. Triangular spaces above a door
24. Norwegian playwright and poet Henrik
25. Atomic #58
26. Patti Hearst's captors
29. Natural logarithm
30. Talk incessantly
31. Went by
32. Strives
35. Fall back
36. Manila hemp
38. Not easily explained
40. Former "Double Dare" host Summers
41. Mollusk
42. Capital of Togo
43. Letter of Semitic scripts
44. Founder of Babism
45. Indicates near
46. Family of regulator genes
47. Indicates before

Horoscopes

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

It's easy to lose perspective when it comes to the important friends and family in your life, Aries. Start rethinking where to devote your attention and energy.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, if you feel adventure is calling you, you can always take a break and get out there and answer that call. Take a road trip this week or even explore a new neighborhood nearby.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21

Gemini, be sure to get off to an early start regarding plans this week. Let others involved know that you'll probably be picking them up bright and early.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, if you are not up for a night out on the town or much socializing the next few days, it's perfectly fine to stay close to home. Everyone needs a break from time to time.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, when you are in a good mood, it's hard for people around you to keep up with your level of energy. Don't be surprised if some people in your posse tire out before you.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, you've never been good about asking for help. This week you'll be pleasantly surprised by how quickly a family member jumps in to give you the boost you need.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

Typically you are very easy to get along with, Libra. But this week others may describe you as uncompromising and uncooperative. Think about what is prompting this change of tune.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Scorpio, you aren't about to settle without getting what you want. When road blocks come up this week, you may be frustrated when things don't go your way. Stay the course.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

Try to fill your days with the arts and music this week, Sagittarius. They are what you need right now to put you in a positive mood and turn things around.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Things have been busy in your life, Capricorn. That mile-long list doesn't seem to be getting any shorter. You might need to call in some help to get through all of the tasks.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, someone has been keeping tabs on what you have been doing from afar. You don't know whether to be flattered or concerned about this attention. You'll learn soon enough.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, it is time for loved ones to get together and have a serious conversation about something that involves the whole family. You just don't know if you're ready to deal with it.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

SEPTEMBER 1
Zendaya, Actress (28)
SEPTEMBER 2
Keanu Reeves, Actor (60)
SEPTEMBER 3
Kaia Gerber, Model (23)
SEPTEMBER 4
Beyonce, Singer (43)
SEPTEMBER 5
Anabelle Wallis, Actress (40)
SEPTEMBER 6
Idris Elba, Actor (52)
SEPTEMBER 7
Gracie Abrams, Singer (25)

HEALTHY AGING WORD SEARCH

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

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

WORDS

ACHES
ACTION
AGING
BODY
BONE
CARDIOVASCULAR
COGNITIVE
DOCTOR
EXAMINATION
EYESIGHT
FLEXIBILITY
HEALTH
LONGEVITY
MEMORY
MIND
MOBILITY
PAINS
PHYSICAL
PREVENTION
PROACTIVE
REFERRAL
STAMINA
VACCINE
WELLNESS

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!

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

Level: Advanced

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

Level: Intermediate

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

Level: Beginner

CRYPTO FUN

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

Solve the code to discover words related to healthy aging. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 2 = I)

Answers: A. wellness B. activity C. cognition D. exam

A. **22 19 9 9 23 19 24 24**
Clue: Well-being

B. **17 18 16 2 7 2 16 11**
Clue: Doing something

C. **18 13 8 23 2 16 2 13 23**
Clue: Mental action

D. **19 20 17 4**
Clue: Medical test

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to healthy aging.

NIESROS

Answer: Seniors

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

There are four differences between Picture A and Picture B.



A



B

Answers:
1. Ball of yarn 2. Missing nail clippers 3. Extra bottle on shelf
4. Vet symbol on unicorn

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)

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Wanted

PAYING CASH For vintage sports, comics, antiques and card collections. Unopened boxes, cases and sets 931-492-4304

Yard Sales

Garage Sale: 213 Keenan Lane, Saturday & Monday, 7-?, Sunday, 1-5. Sale INSIDE GARAGE.

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

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the debts and obligations secured to be paid in a certain Deed of Trust, Assignment of Leases and Rents, Security Agreement and Fixture Filing executed on May 21, 2021, by Boulevard Terrace SNF Realty LLC, Glen Oaks SNF Realty LLC, Boulevard Terrace Healthcare LLC, Glen Oaks Healthcare, LLC, each a Tennessee limited liability company, individually and collectively as Grantor, to Old Republic Title Company of Tennessee, Trustee as same appears of record in the Office of the Register of Bedford County, Tennessee, recorded June 1, 2021, under instrument number 21004879, Record Book TD1009, Pages 494-531, the beneficiary being Sterling National Bank. Subsequently, the Deed of Trust, Assignment of Leases and Rents, Security Agreement and Fixture Filing was assigned by an Assignment of Mortgage executed on May 22, 2024 assigned the Deed of Trust from Webster Bank, N.A. as successor in interest to Sterling National Bank to Momentum III LLC, which was recorded May 24, 2024, under instrument number 24003451, Record Book TD1119, Pages 101-106 in the Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee. Subsequently STONE, HIGGS & DREXLER, P.C. was appointed substitute trustee by appointment recorded July 31, 2024, under instrument number 24005061, Record Book TD1125, Page 475 in the Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee;

and the owner of the debt secured having requested the undersigned to advertise and sell the property described in and conveyed by said Deed of Trust, all of said indebtedness having matured by default in the payment of a part thereof, at the option of the owner, this is to give notice that Stone, Higgs & Drexler, P.C., as Substitute Trustee, will on Thursday, September 19, 2024 commencing twelve o'clock, noon, local time, at the usual and customary location at the Main Entrance, Bedford County Courthouse, 1 Public Square, Shelbyville, Tennessee 37160, and proceed to sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash or certified funds ONLY, paid at the conclusion of the sale, the following described property to wit:

Situated in the City of Shelbyville, County of Bedford and State of Tennessee:

Beginning at an iron pipe, the northwest corner of the William M. Pietkewicz and Miriam K. Pietkewicz property of record in Deed Book 777, page 450, the northeast corner of the Pamela Brasher property of record in Deed Book 178, page 12 and the southwest corner of the property described. Thence N04°06'16"E 509.40 feet to an iron rod in a fence corner, the northwest corner of the property described; thence S78°50'44"E 340.83 feet to an iron rod; thence S77°05'44"E 16.26 feet to an iron rod 25.00 feet west of the approximate center of Glen Oaks Road, the northeast corner of the property described; thence along said road, S24°07'44"E 428.75 feet to an iron rod; thence S15°05'44"E 49.75 feet to an iron rod; thence S15°18'03"E 83.07 feet to an iron rod 25.00 feet west of the approximate center of said road, the southeast corner of the property described; thence leaving said road N79°33'07"W 131.78 feet to an iron rod; thence N84°03'22"W 202.14 feet to an iron pipe; thence N82°38'43"W 89.55 feet to an iron rod; thence N82°10'00"W 90.12 feet to an iron pipe; thence N82°01'27"W 88.96 feet to the point of beginning.

This being the same property conveyed to GLEN OAKS SNF REALTY LLC by deed from GSJ LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP of record in Instrument No. 19008153, Book D354, Page 219, Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee.

Property address: 1101 Glenoaks Road, Shelbyville, Tennessee 37160-2529
Parcel No. 078G-D-010.01 and 078G-D-010.00

This sale is subject to 2022 and 2023 Shelbyville city taxes, and 2021, 2022 and 2023 Bedford County taxes. This sale is subject to 2015, 2021, 2022, and 2023 Shelbyville city personal property taxes and 2021, 2022 and 2023 Bedford County personal property taxes. This sale is also subject to 2024 City and County taxes, both real and personal property, not yet due and payable.

The sale is subject to a permanent Public Drainage Easement in favor of the City of Shelbyville, a Municipal Corporation of the State of Tennessee, recorded July 14, 2004, in Book D263, Page 498, in the Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee/.

This sale will erase the UCC Financing Statement in favor of Sterling National Bank recorded on June 1, 2021, under instrument number 21004881, Book TD1009, Pages 543-550, in the Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee. The UCC Financing Statement was subsequently amended on October 12, 2021 and recorded under instrument number 21009166, Book TD1027, Pages 640-643. The UCC Financing Statement was subsequently amended on September 20, 2023, and recorded under instrument number 23006322, Book TD1097, Pages 546-549. The UCC Financing Statement was subsequently amended on September 25, 2023, under instrument number 2514978, Record Book 2379, Pages 2615-2618.

This sale will erase the junior Notice of Judgment Lien lien in favor of Dixon Management Group, LLC d/b/a SERVPRO of Belle Meade / West Nashville, recorded August 2, 2023, under instrument number 23005212, Book L30, Pages 146-150, in the Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee. The holder of the lien has been given notice of the sale.

This sale will erase the junior Notice of Lien Claim in favor of Dixon Management Group, LLC d/b/a SERVPRO of Bell Meade/ West Nashville, recorded April 6, 2023, under instrument number 23002319, Record Book L29, Pages 584-586 in the Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee. The holder of the lien has been given notice of the sale.

This sale will erase the junior judgment lien in favor of AllPro Staffnet, LLC, recorded September 1, 2022, under instrument number 22007278, Record Book L28, Page 567, in the Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee. The holder of the lien has been given notice of the sale

All right and equity of redemption, Statutory and otherwise, homestead and dower are expressly waived in said Deed of Trust, and the title is believed to be good, but will sell and convey only as substitute trustee.

The sale date and time may be adjourned and rescheduled, without additional newspaper publication, within one year from the originally scheduled date, by announcement at the date, time and place of the new postponement date and time in accordance with T.C.A. 35-5-101.

This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

STONE, HIGGS & DREXLER, P.C.
Substitute Trustee
By: Brittan W. Robinson, Attorney at Law

Bedford County property transfers

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

File date: August 20

Location: 126 South Cannon Blvd; Seller, BDT LLC; Buyer, Daka Investments LLC; Price, $1,160,000 (Deed).

Location: 122 Scotland Heights; Seller, James E Foster; Buyer, Adam and Jacobson Investments LLC; Price, $35,000 (Deed).

Location: Meadow Dr; Seller, Shiane Marie Degennaro; Buyer, Elaura Yisrael Degennaro; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 120 Tara Dr Unionville; Seller, Brenda Parker, Brenda Jill Blanton, Alvin Parker; Buyer, Brenda Parker, Alvin Parker; Price, $0 (QD).

File date: August 21

Location: Normandy Wartrace Rd; Seller, Jeremy W Polston; Buyer, Jesus Ramirez Ordaz, Elora Ramirez Abercrombie; Price, $110,000 (Deed).

Location: 598 Cedar Grove Rd; Seller, Cedar Grove General Partnership, Steve Nash; Buyer, James L Vivrette Jr, Stacy L Vivrette, James P Vivrette; Price, $391,320 (Deed).

Location: 417 Fairground Heights; Seller, Maria D Cruces Luna; Buyer, Bobby Michael Arnold, Patsy Joanne Arnold; Price, $209,000 (Deed).

Seller, Matthew David Rueff, Matt Rueff; Buyer, Tonya Shawn Rueff, Shawn Rueff; Price, $0 (QD).

File date: August 22

Location: 211 Madison St Shelbyville; Seller, Evaco Property Management LLC; Buyer, MCJL Ventures LLC; Price, $550,000 (Deed).

Seller, Terry R Bradford, Iris B Bradford, Connie B Floyd; Buyer, Patricia Dean Armstrong Estate; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Old Columbia Rd; Seller, Kenny McFarland, Kristi McFarland; Buyer, Kessler McCoy, Randall W McCoy; Price, $275,000 (Deed).

Location: 2821 Sims Rd Shelbyville; Seller, Cirilo Gonzalez Aguilar; Buyer, Angel Amaro Amaro; Price, $65,000 (Deed).

Location: 63 Sarvis Ridge Rd; Seller, Steve T Sanders, Stephen T Sanders; Buyer, Stephen T Sanders Oath Trust; Price, $10 (Deed).

File date: August 23

Location: 430 Fairground Heights; Seller, Jose R Ferreira; Buyer, Jose R Ferreira, Silvia M Liebmann; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 619 North Jefferson St; Seller, Jeff Ross Construction LLC, Jeff Ross; Buyer, Claude L Timbs, Juanita Timbs; Price, $349,900 (Deed).

Location: 113 Scenic View Ln Shelbyville; Seller, Claude L Timbs, Juanita Timbs; Buyer, Antonio Amaro Amaro, Karen G Grajales Vazquez; Price, $519,862 (Deed).

Location: 1113 Winners Circle S; Seller, SDH Nashville LLC; Buyer, Austin Grimes, Amanda J Grimes; Price, $371,075 (Deed).

Seller, Heritage Land Venture III LLC; Buyer, SDH Nashville LLC; Price, $1405,000 (Deed).

Location: 115 August Way Shelbyville; Seller, Vivian Marlene Ostafy Revocable Living Trust; Buyer, James A Leetham, Susan K Leetham; Price, $328,000 (Deed).

Location: 107 Meadowbrook Dr; Seller, JC Builders LLC, Jeffrey B Jones; Buyer, Stephen L Fuchcar, Heidi C Fuchcar; Price, $316,558.22 (Deed).

Location: 309 Stardust Dr; Seller, Vivian C Thorpe; Buyer, Steven Peeler, Sherrie Peeler; Price, $300,000 (Deed).

Seller, Sulphur Springs LLC; Buyer, Pineda Alex; Price, $470,000 (Deed).

File date: August 26

Location: 2320 USA Hwy 41A Shelbyville; Seller, Shane Fogle, Colleen Fogle; Buyer, David Frederick Nix, Sharon Elizabeth Nix; Price, $460,000 (Deed).

Seller, Chris Heath; Buyer, Anis Hamidi Hesari; Price, $328,000 (Deed).

Location: 426 Gant Rd; Seller, Larry Milton Perryman; Buyer, John Paul Perryman; Price, $0 (QD).

Seller, Jennifer Haman; Buyer, Sherry King, Karyn Crabtree; Price, $610,000 (Deed).

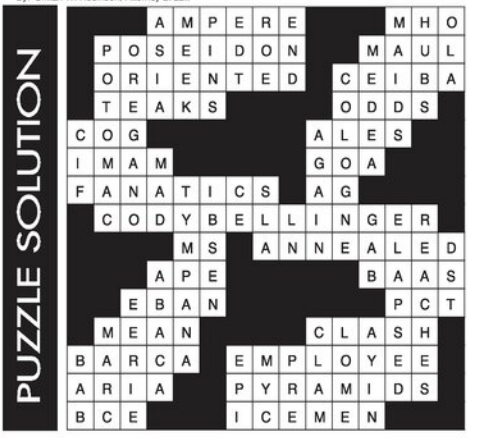
Location: 109 Lexington Cove Blvd; Seller, Rachel Thigpen, Dylan D Thigpen, Rachel L White; Buyer, Gisela Ramirez Herrera; Price, $289,900 (Deed).

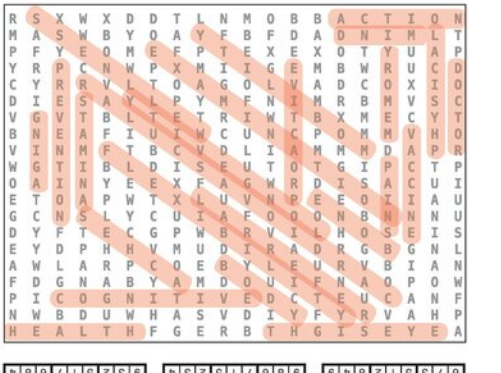
Location: 1126 Horse Mountain Rd; Seller, Loyd Warren, Emily Warren, Bobbye G Hodges Revocable Trust; Buyer, Sherry Y Lowe; Price, $250,000 (Deed).

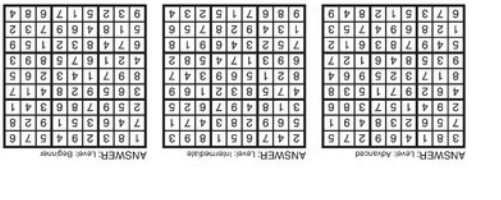
Location: Hwy 64 E Wartrace; Seller, John Garrett Winnette; Buyer, Bedford County Tennessee; Price, $0 (Deed).

Location: 103 Fairway Green Dr; Seller, Justin Cutler; Buyer, Oscar Ramirez Hernandez, Roman Ramirez Hernandez; Price, $265,000 (Deed).

Location: 103 Comstock Rd; Seller, Henry Wayne Sanders, Henrey W Sanders, Kristie Renee Dickerson, Leonard Keithly Sanders Jr, Mattie Odean Sanders Estate, Mattie O Sanders; Buyer, Shieann Elaine Sanders, Tyler Leonard Sanders; Price, $20,000 (Deed).







Boyd Wayne Jones



Boyd Wayne Jones, 81, of Normandy died August 20, 2024. Funeral Services were held 1:00 p.m. Saturday, August 24th, at Hillcrest Funeral Home Herschel Frazier and Darryl Lewis officiating. Burial followed at Stones Cemetery in Normandy. Visitation was Friday evening from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

He was born June 25, 1943 in Decatur, Alabama; was a retired lineman for Duck River Electric after 42 years; and a member of Roberts Chapel Baptist Church. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather who lived to serve his whole life.

Boyd was preceded in death by his parents, Kenneth Leon and Ollie Mae Lewis Jones and a brother, Bruce Jones.

He is survived by his wife of 25 years, Dorothy Medley Jones; three sons, Boyd Wayne Jones II (Patricia), William Scott Jones, Randall Dean Jones (Sherry); step-children, Jeffrey Sullivan (Rebekah), Mark Sullivan, Chris Sullivan (Colleen), Jason Medley (Ashlee), Cody Medley (Christy), Angela Cates (Robert); 14 grandchildren, 14 step-grandchildren, several great-grandchildren and a great great-grandchild; his sister, Leona (Grady) Vassar and his stepmother, Sarah June Lewis Jones.

Alice Jensen



Alice Jensen of Fishers, Indiana, and Shelbyville, passed away on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12, 2024. She was 88.

She was predeceased by her husband Axel C. Jensen Sr. and leaves behind son Hans Peter (Mary) Jensen of Fishers, Indiana and grandchildren Clare Jensen of Tucson, Arizona and Peter Jensen of Fishers Indiana, along with countless friends she made through her many interests.

Alice is one of the remaining children of World War II. She was born and raised in Berlin, Germany. Alice's father Alwin perished at the end of the war when every male who had not been drafted yet was being sent to the front, even though her family didn't support the German regime. Her father was a tremendous influence on her life and anyone who has spoken to her for long has realized how much she adored him. Not only did he nurture her love of nature but also her love of photography, woodworking, and sharing her knowledge with others.

Less often, Alice would tell people about how brave her mother Lydia was by hiding her from the Russian soldiers post-World War II, how they burned their furniture to keep warm, or how they shared their apartment with strangers who lost their home during the war. Alice was always very matter-of-fact and she often said that she never felt sad about her past, it was the only childhood she knew.

At 17, she was the youngest person who worked at the Berlin Botanical Gardens. It was there that her love of orchids began. She had a choice between working with orchids and cacti, but because she didn't want to work for the "grouchy cacti boss," we remember her for her orchids, not prickly cacti. It is no surprise that Alice taught herself the Latin names of the plants during that time. "Languages are different all over the world but the Latin names for plants are the same" is what Alice liked to say.

Alice traveled the US in 1958, married Axel Jensen in 1959 and she and her mother moved to Shelbyville, Tennessee to make a home on her beloved Horse Mountain. Alice and Axel lived in India for a year shortly after marrying and sent home orchids for their first greenhouse. Some of those orchids are still alive today. Over the years one greenhouse grew into 9 and Horse Mountain Orchids was Alice's dream come true. Her orchids won countless awards as she exhibited them in shows near and far.

Hans was born in 1964 and grew up on "the farm" helping his parents with the green houses, tending the property, and playing in the woods. After he moved away, anyone who stopped by would be asked to help with "one simple thing" that often turned into a few hours of farm chores, including lots of educational tidbits and very thorough instructions. Alice knew how to get things done!

Alice's love of plants was not limited to orchids. She loved nature from the smallest fungi to the largest tree. She cataloged rare species on her own farm as well as hiking to see them in isolated valleys in Tennessee, Georgia, and beyond (even Costa Rica only a few years ago!) Her camera went with her wherever she went, and she captured thousands of moments in the natural world. "Nature changes every second, so pay attention please!" was something she would often tell those she was instructing. An ever-changing collection of photos also went with her wherever she went. Before you knew it, you would be looking through a stack of pictures with detailed explanations of each one.

Besides a strong accent (which Hans cannot detect!) her German origins came through in other ways. There was a right way to do things and a wrong way. She would teach you the right way! For example, The Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee learned many times during her active membership from the 1960's onward that clay pots are THE right way to pot orchids. In addition to the Orchid Society, she was also a member of the Tennessee Native Plant Society, Georgia Botanical Society, the local fiber club, local garden club and woodturners club. Alice quickly filled the greenhouse and was an active part of the community at her most recent residence, Independence Village in Fishers Indiana.

Alice was a remarkable woman who lived a full and active life. What she wanted most of all was to share that with others. A dear friend of hers was able to describe her so well: "Alice was teeming with enthusiasm and knowledge, which she would gladly share with those around her willing to listen." Rest in peace dear Alice. You have taught us more than you know.

A celebration of life will be held at the pavilion at the Horse Mountain Cemetery, behind the Trinity Baptist Church in Shelbyville, on Alice's birthday Saturday, August 31st, at 1:00 PM.

The family requests that donations be made to The Webb School, Bell Buckle



THE BEAUTY OF THE CELEBRATION

Photos by M&L Greenhouse

M&L Greenhouse did another outstanding job this year decorating TWHNC barns and center ring. Winner was Baucom Stables for "Best Barn."





Peggy Avetissian (Adgent)



Peggy Jean Avetissian (nee Adgent) passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on Sunday, August 18th, 2024, at home in Oak Park CA.

Peggy was born on January 12, 1941 in Shelbyville, TN to Willie Bell and Edgar Adgent. She graduated from Central High School in 1959.

She moved to Washington DC after graduation where she was a secretary at the Department of the Navy. In Washington, DC she met and married her devoted husband of 63 years Vahan (Vic) Avetissian.

Peggy was a much beloved wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother and had successful careers with Northrop, Litton and State Farm after raising her family.

Peggy is survived by her loving husband Vic, her son and daughter-in-law Mark and Pam Avetissian (The Villages, FL), her son Ivan Avetissian (Tucson, AZ), her granddaughter Alyssa Hankins (nee Avetissian) husband Brent and their son Eli (Berlin, Germany), her grandson Steven Avetissian and his fiancé Jess Griffith (Denver CO), Katie Parrish (daughter of Pam Avetissian) her husband Wes and family, Cassidy Howard (daughter of Pam Avetissian) her husband JT and family, and brother-in-law Varooj (Joe) Avitsian and family.

Memorial Services will be conducted on Saturday, September 7th at 2:00pm at Pierce Brothers Memorial Park, 5600 Lindero Canyon Road, Westlake Village CA 91362-4012. The family asks that you consider making a donation in Peggy's name to The Alzheimer's Association.

Betty June Jennings Riddle



Betty June Jennings Riddle, age 93, of Huntland, passed away on Friday, August 23, 2024, at the Hospice Care Center of Huntsville, Alabama.

She was born on November 13, 1930, in Kress, Texas to the late Bert Lee Jennings Jr. and Sally Junia Franklin Jennings.

In her early years, she was a member of Champ Cumberland Presbyterian Church and was baptized at age 11. She was a 1949 graduate of Central High School in Fayetteville, and a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Huntland. Betty June was a homemaker and enjoyed gardening, baking bread, sewing, and arranging cut flowers from her rose garden for worship services.

In 2005, Betty was honored as a Golden Patron member to the Cumberland Presbyterian Board of Missions reflecting 50 years of service to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. She was a member of the Tennessee Association for Family and Community Education clubs for over 70 years.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 50 years, William Morton Riddle; son, Ronald David Riddle; sister; Alberta Mae Mitchell and Helen Stovall; and brother, Hubert Cecil Jennings.

Betty is survived by daughters, Janice Gayle Riddle Womble of Shelbyville and Belinda June Riddle of Tullahoma; daughter-in-law, Lynn Windle Riddle of Shelbyville; grandchildren, David Riddle, Sarah (James) Caperton, Natalie Womble, and Katie (Benjamin) Cobb; great-grandchildren, Addison Riddle, Ashton Riddle, Isaac Caperton, Grant Caperton, and Henry Cobb; and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at 10 AM on Tuesday, August 27, 2024, at Higgins Funeral Home with Jeff Stovall and Annette King officiating. Burial followed in Riverview Memorial Gardens. Visitation with the family will be from 6 PM until 8 PM on Monday at Higgins Funeral Home.

The family requests that memorials be made to the Copeland-Jennings Cemetery Fund, c/o Wesley Stovall at 509 Lee Avenue, Fayetteville, TN 37334.

Higgins Funeral Home is serving the family.

Patricia Ann Sundeen-Stottler



Patricia Ann Sundeen-Stottler, née Ryan, affectionately known as Patty, passed away on August 19, 2024, in Petersburg. Born on November 7, 1941, in Geneseo, IL, to Harold and Margaret (Henry) Ryan, Patty led a fulfilling life marked by love, family, and service.

Patty graduated from Geneseo High School in 1959 and soon after married Paul Penrod Sundeen in April 1960. The couple was blessed with four daughters: Pamela, Paula, Peggy, and Penny. They shared a beautiful life together until Paul's passing in 1999. Patty found love again and married her high school classmate, Robert Stottler, in 2007, embracing a new chapter filled with joy and companionship.

Professionally, Patty was a dedicated employee at Northside Rexall Drug Store, where she worked until her retirement. Known for her vibrant personality and impeccable style, Patty earned the nickname "Classy Lassy." She never missed an opportunity to accessorize with her favorite earrings and lipstick, bringing a touch of elegance wherever she went.

Patty's passion for the outdoors was evident in her love for camping and fishing. She cherished these moments, especially when shared with her family. Patty also enjoyed shopping and had a special affinity for jewelry, which was more than just adornment; it was a reflection of her spirited character.

Patty is survived by her husband, Robert Stottler; daughters, Pam Sundeen of Geneseo, Paula Sundeen Blunk of Shelbyville and Penny Sundeen Morrow (Bill) of Petersburg; grandchildren, Wesley Newell, Evan (Kayla) Blunk, and Emily Blunk; 2 great-grandchildren; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Paul Penrod Sundeen; daughter, Peggy Louise Sundeen; grandson, Ryan Blunk; her parents; and several aunts and uncles.

Visitation was be held on Monday, August 26, from 10:00 am until Noon at Vandemore Funeral Home in Geneseo, followed by a short service and burial at Oakwood Cemetery. A luncheon at the VFW upstairs in Geneseo followed the services, celebrating Patty's remarkable life and the joy she brought to so many.

Alzheimer's Tennessee

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259-4283

Warning signs a bathroom needs work

Homeowners know that the work involved to maintain a home is never done. The end of one project has a tendency to roll into the planning of another, and so it goes for years on end.

Fortunate are the homeowners who get to choose when to begin a renovation project, but its far more common that homeowners spot an issue and then realize it's time to renovate. When it comes to bathrooms, which can be among the more expensive spaces to renovate in a home, homeowners can keep an eye out for various signs suggesting the room needs a remodel.

• **Mold and mildew**: Mold and mildew is perhaps the most glaring sign a bathroom needs to be renovated or remodeled. Mold and mildew pose a notable threat to human health, as the United States Environmental Protection Agency reports that molds can cause allergic reactions. Individuals sensitive to mold may develop symptoms that mimic reactions to outdoor allergens like pollen, including sneezing, runny nose, red eyes, and dermatitis (skin rash). Mold also can trigger asthma attacks in people allergic to mold who have the condition. Mold can grow in poorly ventilated bathrooms, such as those without a fan or ones in which fans are not working properly. Mold and mildew will return if it's merely scrubbed away, so the underlying cause of mold must be addressed to prevent its return.



• **Small signs of fading**: Stains, peeling paint, cracked paint, and gaps in grout are small signs of fading that indicate a bathroom is in need of renovation if not a complete remodel. These issues also can serve as warning signs of larger issues, such as water issues and structural problems, so they should not be merely written off as minor problems or eyesores.

• **Rising water bills**: Some signs a bathroom could use a little TLC are not necessarily confined to the room itself. If water bills are rising significantly and do not align with price increases or an uptick in water consumption, homeowners may have leaking pipes. Such pipes might be beneath a bathroom sink or behind tiled walls. Discoloration on the walls, peeling paint or wallpaper and/or a musty odor may indicate leaks inside a bathroom wall. If coupled with rising water bills, these signs could be indicative of a significant issue that requires immediate attention.

• **Issues with tiles**: Cracked or damaged tiles in the shower and bathtub or even on the floor are unsightly and also pose a safety hazard. Cracked floor tiles can lead to slips and falls, which can be especially harmful to older residents. And cracked tiles within the shower and tub area can indicate water problems behind the walls or general disrepair. Such issues should be addressed before they escalate into something larger.

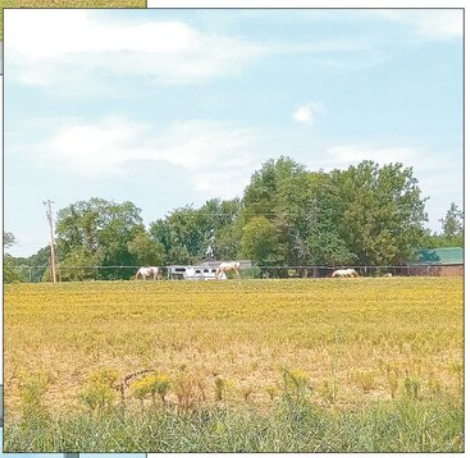
• **A dated vibe**: Of course, some issues affecting a bathroom are not necessarily health or safety hazards but more an affront to homeowners grasp of current styles and trends. If walking into a bathroom unintentionally feels like stepping backward into a bygone era, then it's probably time to consider a renovation or remodeling job.

Various signs can indicate to homeowners it's time to consider a bathroom renovation.

Farm Living in Bedford County













BAD DAY FOR DRIVER

Submitted Photo

A car wreck occurred earlier Wednesday in front of Landers Tires on South Cannon Boulevard. No report available at press time.

Champs Sputter In Season Opening Loss At Moore County

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com

The Cascade Champions went on the road to open the season at Moore County on Friday night for the first game in Jared Carkuff era, but the hometown Raiders were simply too much to handle, pulling away with 26 unanswered points to win comfortably, 33-7.

The Raiders, coming off of a 12-1 season that ended in heartbreaking fashion in the third round of the state playoffs, still showed that they are a force to be reckoned with in Class 1A.

Cascade's freshman quarterback, Peyton Wireman, showed positive flashes throughout the evening, finishing 14/24 for 143 yards with no touchdowns or interceptions. Junior wideout Christian Casey was Wireman's favorite target, leading all receivers with nine catches for 112 yards.

Moore County's damage was primarily done on the ground, as out of their 426 total yards on offense, 256 of those yards came in the run game. Despite losing Dawson White, last year's TSSAA Class 1A Mr. Football, at quarterback, Gavin Wise didn't seem to miss a beat. Wise created more than a few chunk plays in both the pass and run game by extending plays with his legs outside of the pocket. He only completed six passes on 16 attempts, but he made those six completions count, tallying 143 yards and one touchdown. Cole Taylor led the hosts with two catches for 79 yards, including a 37 yard touchdown in the final minute of the first half to put Moore County ahead for good, 14-7.

On the ground, Cascade's sophomore tailback Max Smith scurried for 78 yards on 11 carries. For Moore County, Isaac Petty, Chris Merical, and Gavin Wise all rumbled for at least 69 yards. Petty led all rushers with 99 yards and one touchdown on just 15 carries, Merical tallied 74 yards and one touchdown on 13 carries, and Wise added 69 yards on 11 carries.

Despite the high yardage numbers, neither team managed to puncture the scoreboard in the first quarter. Cascade's defense forced a turnover on downs after stuffing Petty on 4th and 1 in the red zone, but Moore County's defense was even more stifling against Jared Carkuff's new-look Champions' offense.

As the first half wore on, the Raiders started to create some plays against Cascade's defense with Gavin Wise escaping the pocket and scrambling for key first downs to keep drives alive. Despite Cain Harden and others making plays in the front seven at times, Wise was able to overcome that more times than not. The hosts also decided to force feed Petty on their second-to-last drive of the first half, marching down the field for the first score of the game on a one-yard plunge from Petty with less than five minutes to go.

With the deadlock broken, Cascade began a scoring drive of their own. After an incredible 42-yard catch-and-run screen from Christian Casey on 3rd and 11 got the ball down inside the red zone for the first time, Max Smith ran it in from six yards out for Cascade's first and only score of the game with 2:31 left in the first half.

Perhaps invigorated by their touchdown drive the previous possession, Wise led the hometown Raiders right down the field, breaking the Champs' back on 4th and 6 with a 37-yard touchdown pass to a wide open Cole Taylor down the middle of the field with 33 seconds to go.

In the second half, Moore County looked like they finally found their rhythm on both sides of the ball. Wise orchestrated another touchdown drive in the third quarter, capping it off with a 10-yard touchdown run of his own with 4:51 left in the period. Although the extra point doinked off of the upright, the Raiders still held a 20-7 lead. Cascade just could not find any consistency offensively in the second half, finishing with just 194 total yards and finishing 4/14 on third downs.

Meanwhile, Moore County continued to pound the rock, and their experienced offensive line continued to open up holes as the fourth quarter wore on. Chris Merical scored a pair of touchdowns in the final frame. His first came from 16 yards out with 9:51 left, and his second came with 3:29 to go on a three-yard plunge for the final exclamation point on a season-opening 33-7 victory.

Moore County improves to 1-0, and is scheduled to hit the road to play at Fayetteville in a non-region matchup on Friday night.

Cascade falls to 0-1, but will play their home opener against non-region foe Richland on Friday night, live on WZNG The Zinger 100.9.

New Look MTSU Defense Builds For 2024 Season 1/11th at a Time

MT ATHLETICS

The messaging from the coaching staff had clearly sunk in for Brandon Buckner and De'Arre McDonald coming off the field from the team's scrimmage this past Saturday.

"We all play as one," Buckner said when asked about how the defensive front got pressure early in the scrimmage. "Everybody's doing their 1/11th and that's all you need. Everybody just do their job and them the rush and the coverage works together."

His fellow returning Blue Raider, McDonald, echoed those statements independently.

"The plan that they have for us from the start of camp is do your job, do your 1/11th," McDonald said. "It came in full motion today, do your job from the D-Line, to the DBs to the secondary."

And those two statements, of course, matched exactly what their head coach, Derek Mason, said at the start of media availability.

"This is going to be a defense that has to stand up," Mason said. "It starts up front and then our backers to our secondary, guys have got to make the one-on-ones, whether it's the tackles or defending and getting the ball out of the air, everybody's got to do their 1/11th."

In a year of transition everywhere for Blue Raider football, but particularly on defense, where MTSU returns just two starters from the 2023 season, it's clear the defense has found a purpose in ensuring each individual player does their job, thus ensuring the collective unit's success. It's a formula that should pay dividends given the depth that's been developed at all three levels — in the defensive line, the linebackers and the secondary — since camp started this August.

Philosophically, defensive coordinator Brain Stewart wants to stop the run first. And his scheme, which one could consider a base 3-4 with perhaps more of a 4-3 look in personnel given who is on the roster, does that in variety of ways, from bringing pressure from multiple angles to being able to disguise coverages.

"You realize that teams run to control the tempo of the game," Stewart said. "If we can stop them from running and the only opportunity they have to advance the ball is the pass, now we can let loose. Now I can blitz, now I can do a four-man rush and do flood coverages."

With so much newness, both in experience level and in chemistry, Stewart is pleased with how his team has picked up the playbook through camp. The final practices before the start of the season, he said, would be focused on refining the little details in how to execute those plays that the staff wants, a much easier task to be said than done.

"We're at the point where we know what to do," Stewart said. "We're still, as a defensive staff, trying to push them the way that we want to do it, the way we ask them to do it...I'm happy where we are as far as being able to handle the install and knowing what to do. How to do it exactly, that's where we're a little behind."

"Until you go out there and feel that football for the first time, there's nothing like it."

Like nearly every defense, things will start up front for the Blue Raiders, who return some rotational pieces from a season ago, but also welcomed a plethora of new faces into the defensive line room for the 2024 season. What returners like Damonte Smith and Brandon Buckner have in common with newcomers like James Gillespie and Felix Hixon, defensive line coach Vernon Hargreaves noted, is that everyone is looking to get their first bit of major playing time in 2024.

"They've bought in, now they're trying to do it the way we want it to get it done," Hargreaves said. "We come from different types of techniques and fundamentals and different schemes, so sometimes it takes a little while for guys to kind of get acclimated to what you're trying to do."

That acclimation process has gone well, Hargreaves said, with each player bringing something to the table from their past stops. While one of the edge positions in the defensive front is being treated a bit more like an outside linebacker in Stewart's scheme, Hargreaves said their responsibility isn't so different from the more typical defensive end the scheme will use as well. It's more a difference in body type and stature than how the edges will work together to rush the passer or stop the run.

The veteran assistant hopes to play as many as six guys in the rotation on the defensive line, particularly given the youth of the room. Smith brings veteran experience, but the South Carolina transfer Hixon and the junior college transfer Gillespie have stepped up in the interior defensive line as well, while redshirt freshman Shakai Woods has taken big steps that the coaching staff is pleased with and looks to contribute early at defensive tackle.

Off the edge, Buckner has looked strong in addition to Stony Brook transfer Andy Nwaoko, forming a nice one-two punch at one end that can both rush and drop coverage as a change-up to confuse opposing offenses. Hargreaves also highlighted Anthony Bynum as a young player who will play a lot early, particularly with Vanderbilt transfer Alex Williams, the biggest guy in the room at 6-7, 291 pounds, still reacclimating to college football after getting his seventh year of eligibility approved well into fall camp. Hargreaves also hopes to work in some of the talented freshmen the staff have brought in this recruiting class as needed throughout the year.

Mostly, however, Hargreaves was ready for the games to kickoff so his green room could understand the nuances one can only learn from getting on the field in a real game at the FBS level.

"I've coached 1000 games, I can talk about it for hours on end," Hargreaves said. "But until you go out there and feel that football for the first time, there's nothing like it. There's no substitute for you going out there and doing it. I'm trying to prepare them mentally as much as I can, but the physical part is what we're going to need."

"We've got a very old crew and a very young crew."

The linebackers for the Blue Raiders in 2024, linebacker coach A.J. Reisig noted, has two groups with polar opposite experience. On one hand, you have a very veteran group with players like Devyn Curtis, Parker Hughes, Drew Francis and Jalen Davis that all have multiple varsity letters to their names and over two dozen starts between them during their time in Murfreesboro. On the other hand, it's also a room with a lot of freshmen beside those backers that are looking to get experience and make their mark.

"We've got a very old crew and a very young crew," Reisig said. "We don't really have any sophomores and juniors. The seniors who have come back, they've done a good job teaching up the young guys, making sure we're ready to go when we get out there."

The veteran reps have been limited in camp this August, an acknowledgment that the team needs them in Week 1 and Week 2 more than they need them to take reps in camp, Reisig said, which has allowed younger guys to get an extended look in practice this fall, something Curtis echoed.

"The experience speaks volumes not only on the field, but off the field as well, being able to help the young guys learn and progress," Curtis said. "We've got a good group of young guys as well, which makes it even better."

Korey Smith, who was just put on scholarship after walking on as a true freshman, and Amarrien Bailey have flashed early as young guys that will contribute, but redshirt freshman Jordan Thompson has made the strongest impression on the staff.

"Jordan Thompson should be a starter, depending on how everything plays out," Reisig said. "He's earned the right to take the field and play a lot of snaps on Saturday. He's been a leader, on and off the field, in and out of the meeting rooms. He communicates well on the field, and he loves to run and hit."

At outside backer, a position group Reisig thanks analyst and former Vanderbilt OLB Joshua Smith for taking the lead on, James Stewart has found some early success, with Muaaz Byard also playing his way into the rotation for the start of the season at press time.

"We always say competitive, never combative."

At corner, cornerbacks coach Bryce Lewis has been impressed with the level of competition his guys have had this fall, which was the goal when putting together a room that's again a mix of old and new.

"I needed guys to push other guys," Lewis said. "Right now, it's very, very competitive. We always say competitive, never combative. They play up to the line, but there's also support in the room."

Returning corner Tyrell Raby is one of the two starters back in 2024 from a season ago, but De'Arre McDonald got a ton of reps a season ago as the team's primary nickel corner as well. The former Oakland High School standout has been moved back outside this fall and, after a brief adjustment period, has flashed nearly every day on tape.



MTSU's defense looks to mesh plenty of new faces together along the defensive line in preperation for Week One. *Photo from MT Athletics.*

"I tell De'Arre all the time, he probably has the most God-given talent out of a kid that I've seen in a long time," Lewis said. "The biggest thing I'm trying to hone in with him is you have the league body, the league makeup. You just have to have the league mentality and the league mindset as far as our process goes, repeatability."

Behind those two veterans, junior college transfer Abdul Muhammad has made securing a starting spot for either player not easy, with his length (6-2, 175) giving Blue Raider wideouts trouble in one-on-one drills all fall. Jalen Jackson, who missed nearly all of last season due to injury but has 14 starts in his MTSU career, is another option with length for Lewis on the outside.

At nickel, Indiana transfer James Monds has been as advertised since coming into the team with a quick twitch and good instincts, but the fastest riser has been redshirt sophomore Trevon Ferrell, who switched over to cornerback from wide receiver midway through last season. He was still picking up the nuances of the position in the spring, Lewis said, but has attacked the job with a dogmatic mentality that helped him earn a scholarship late in camp and is expected to be a big part of both the team's nickel and dime packages this fall.

"I think we'll be really dominant on the back end."

Perhaps the room with the most depth anywhere on the field this fall for the Blue Raiders is the safeties, where competition for the starting jobs has been intense all August. With returning players like Rickey Smith and Marvae Myers impressing alongside incoming transfers like John Howse IV (Vanderbilt), Jared Douglas (El Camino) and Brendon Harris (Wake Forest), picking just two to start hasn't been easy for Brian Stewart, who leads the safeties room in addition to being the defensive coordinator.

"We're a pretty veteran group and I think we'll be really dominant on the back end," Harris said. "We're able to communicate well, get aligned really well. I think we'll be able to make some plays this season."

Harris, having been recruited by Mason to Vanderbilt at the start of his career, has earned a lot of trust early as one might expect, while Howse maybe has the slightest edge for the other safety spot opposite Harris come August 31 against Tennessee Tech. Blue Raider fans should also know the name of freshman Jordan Beasley, who's been an active force in practice from the safety position and will likely see the field sooner rather than later in the MTSU secondary.

One added area of coaching for this group has come with the addition of coach-to-player radio communication this offseason, which resides with the safeties in the Blue Raider defense. Stewart said he picked this group because they're likely to never leave the field regardless of personnel, while a linebacker might need to leave the field for a nickel or dime look depending on the situation. Stewart said making best use of the radio is a process of communication between the player and coach on the sideline before the games start.

"I can't give him too much information, and he has to know what's too much information for him," Stewart said. "He's going to have to communicate so I know what he can handle. In a game, if it's third and long, I want to say 'hey, it's third and long, alert the corner on the under route'. Or is it just better to say, 'alert the corner on the under'?"

Bailey Stars In Golden Eagles' Season Opening Win At Siegel

BY NOAH MADDOX
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It was a performance to remember for Shelbyville Central's Robert Bailey, and it came in front of a statewide audience in Thursday night's season-opening wire-to-wire 34-22 win at the Siegel Stars.

Bailey was a superstar workhorse for the entire night, tallying 37 carries for 296 yards and a trio of touchdowns, but the second half is when he really took over.

With a sophomore quarterback in Stephen Bobo under center, most knew coming into this one that the Golden Eagles would try to lean on a young but talented offensive line in the running game to try and ease the young quarterback into his role. For John Dryden, the offensive line personified the message he attempts to ingrain in his team as a whole every day.

"They showed a continual improvement every snap," Dryden explained. "They would make mistakes, we would go to the bench, get 'em fixed, come back out, fix those, make a few different mistakes because those were fixed and then we'd go back, it was just a full process. We get into halftime and we get even more things fixed, and you can't be more proud of them for just following the process, learning through everything, and having that growth mindset. You just can't say enough about it."

They weren't making too many mistakes on the Golden Eagles' opening offensive drive though. The visitors took the opening kickoff and marched right down the field into the end zone after Bobo's eight-yard scamper punctuated a drive that took 7:23 off the clock before Siegel even ran their first offensive snap.

Siegel would go three-and-out in response, but the visitors would turn the ball over on downs in the Stars' territory on the ensuing drive.

Siegel only found themselves on Shelbyville's side of the field with about nine minutes to go in the second quarter after a rolled snap to the punter on fourth down ended with Siegel getting the ball at the four yard line. To no surprise, the hosts would punch it in on the next play with Corey Jennifer finding the end zone. However, Siegel muffed the ensuing extra point snap, and the score stayed 7-6 with 8:45 left in the first half.

The Golden Eagles got all the way down to the Siegel 27 yard-line on their next drive where they faced a fourth and two. To everyone's surprise, Bobo dropped back to pass and aired it out to the end zone where it was intercepted at the one yard line. After discussion, it was ruled a touchback instead, but Shelbyville's defense shut down Siegel's offense and forced another punt after a three-and-out.

The visitors started their final drive of the first half with great field position at midfield, and this time they found the end zone, although they benefited from a very fortunate deflection in the process. With about 90 seconds to go in the first half, Stephen Bobo seemingly airmailed a quick screen out to his left intended for his older brother, William Bobo. A Siegel defender jumped up to make a play on the ball, but it was thrown so high that it deflected off of his fingers even higher into the air and nestled in the waiting arms of Bobo who was escorted to the end zone with 1:24 left in the second quarter to take a 14-6 lead into the halftime locker room.



Golden Eagles' sophomore QB Stephen Bobo (15) opens the scoring on an 8-yard TD run in the 1st quarter. *T-G Staff Photo.*



Robert Bailey (31) gets ready to lower the pads and deliver a big hit on SCHS' opening drive against Siegel on Thursday. *T-G Staff Photo.*

Siegel would receive the ball to begin the second half, but once again, the Shelbyville Central defense imposed its will on the Stars' offense, forcing another three-and-out. The Golden Eagles then went on a 70-yard touchdown march that was capped off with a 31-yard touchdown scamper by Bailey to extend the visitors' lead to 21-6 with 8:02 left in the third quarter.

Unfortunately for Shelbyville, after celebrating the touchdown run, they were hit with not one, but two unsportsmanlike conduct penalties, pushing the kickoff all the way back to their own seven yard line.

"It's kind of a balance, if they do that over here on our sideline it never gets called, it's just because it's over there in that corner," Dryden explained. "We want them to celebrate with their brothers, and that's what they were doing, but it was just the wrong place. Something we'll have to talk about and deal with."

After the return, Siegel began their drive at the visitors' 22-yard line, and on the very first play, wide receiver Jadyn Willis found the end zone with 7:44 left in the third quarter to make it a 21-13 game and inject some belief into the hosts' sideline.

The Stars' defense certainly played like it, as they forced a three-and-out on the ensuing possession. After yet another bad snap to the punter, Siegel had the ball on the plus-28 yard line. Facing a fourth and seven, the Stars threw short of the sticks for a six-yard completion, and the Shelbyville Central defense celebrated on the sideline.

Unfortunately for them, the offense fumbled the ball right back to Siegel on the very next play. The hosts would take advantage of their second chance, capping off the 17-yard drive with a 13-yard touchdown pass to Drew Hostetler. After the Golden Eagles stuffed the two-point conversion attempt, they held onto a slim 21-19 lead with 3:36 left in the third quarter and needed a response from their offense.

They got just that after Bailey broke one down the right sideline for 53 yards to Siegel's 17-yard line. Facing a 4th-and-4 at the 11-yard line, Stephen Bobo kept the ball on a read option and pounded his way to the one-yard line. After Bailey punched it home on the very next play, the Golden Eagles went back up by two scores, 28-19, to end the third quarter.

After trading possessions, Siegel finally found a chunk play offensively after a 46-yard completion to Hostetler moved the Stars down to the visitor's 30-yard line. A few plays later, the Shelbyville defense forced a chip shot field goal with the Stars facing a 4th-and-6 at the seven-yard line, cutting their lead to 28-22 with 7:03 to go.

Needing one long drive to put the game away, the Golden Eagles got just that after Bailey broke free through a massive hole created by the offensive line for a 53-yard touchdown down the left sideline for what would be the final points of the game with 5:59 to go.

Siegel would go three-and-out once again, and after another punt, the Golden Eagles were able to lean on their offensive line to run out the final 4:52 and secure the 12-point road win, sparking a rather enthusiastic and jubilant celebration along the sidelines.

"We're a family," Dryden said with a huge smile. "We preach it, we do things to try and make it happen, we bring them together, we're constantly working on them, and truly believe in servant leadership and a brotherhood where all I do is for you and not necessarily for me. That's been a big thing for us since we took over, and it's really starting to pay dividends even in tough moments."

"I'm proud of them."

While the performance of Bailey was nothing short of impressive, Dryden acknowledged that this is only the beginning of their journey as a team, but also offensively for the games ahead.

"We'll have to continue to look to expand a little bit offensively," he concluded. "Marshall and Coffee County are both going to get this film, so we'll have to continue to expand, but the nice thing is this is the beginning."

We haven't topped out yet because we are so young," Dryden emphasized, "so that's really a positive in this case that we're looking forward to."

Siegel starts the year 0-1 and will travel to LaVergne on Friday.

Shelbyville Central gets their first win of the season to move to 1-0, and will host Marshall County in their home opener on Thursday night where they will honor the historic Bedford County Training School.



SCHS' John Dryden (left) and Robert Bailey (31) on the sideline after Bailey's second TD of the night. *T-G Staff Photo.*



MOST CREATIVE TWHNC HAT

TWHNC Photos

Every year, the TWHNC sponsors its "Hat Night." This year's entries were just as stunning. Check out the most creative for 2024.





Most Creative: Holly and Hailey Puckett

Coming up this weekend at the Celebration

- **Thursday, Aug. 29-**Celebrate After the Show, featuring Tupelo Honey, located outside the practice arena (old warm up ring.)
- Throwback Thursday. Oldies music and Celebration history
- **Friday and Saturday, Aug. 30 and 31,** "Stars of the Future" Prestige Horse Sale, Pleasant Valley Farm, 10 a.m.
- Friday is Red, White and Blue Night. Military and First Responders Appreciation, honoring Gold Star familes and exhibitors ride in honor of fallen heroes. Woody Williams Foundation and Tribute to the Flag Ceremony. "Celebrate After the Shoe" featuring Entice in the Blue Ribbon Circle Club
- **Saturday, Aug. 31-**Stick Horse Championship Class. Crowning of the 2024 World Grand Champion and special owners ceremony.

TWHNC Photo











