COMMUNITY NEWS

SHELBYVILLE TIMES-GAZETTE

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Three charter MRT graduates pay it forward

Women helping others struggling with addiction

This is the second of a three-part series about the Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT) program at Bedford County Jail. Today's article features another "original" MRT graduate.

By Dawn Hankins
dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net

Katie Ivey LovVorn said recently that when she became a Bedford County Jail inmate a few years ago, she was, well, pretty much "insane."

In hindsight, she believes the Lord sent her to Bedford County Corrections to be in the MRT program-something that would eventually change her life like she never knew it.

"The [MRT] program absolutely saved my life," she recently shared with the T-G.

Lt. Chris Cook, MRT program director at the jail, notes the women (and men in another group) lead the program, voting on whether participants have given 100%. Of course, as was stated in last week's installment, an inmate's childhood traumas will likely surface during those MRT presentations.

Katie says she had to grow up without her biological mother, which in turn subjected her to abuse by others. She adds how she knew little about love and protection when she was growing up.

Katie to this day still describes her young life as "hell."

"You should never be taught that you have to be good enough, to be loved."

So as a result, by age 18, she had her first child. She was soon on her own and raising a kid with very few life skills to fall back on, she says.

Addiction became her mental and physical support. She developed a long rap sheet in Murfreesboro.

Katie explains how at one point, she didn't care if she was going back to jail. That was bad, she now realizes.

In fact, she made her 15th entry into corrections with ease, she says. This would come at a high price.

Soon married and mom of several more children, her life continued to spiral out of control. She would eventually lose custody of her children, due to addictions.

Why would she risk it all?

She answers that bravely now in hindsight, "I had lost faith in people and didn't trust a single soul."

Katie notes that she lived in a dark world-a false reality-one might say. Because of that way of life, she became entangled with the law, endangering the life of a deputy sheriff once.

"I almost ran him over," she shared. "So, when I went to jail, I didn't think I was going to get out for a long time. I did stay for 3 years."

Consumed by her addiction, she says then she barely went 90 days without using drugs

See MRT, 2A

'The [MRT] program absolutely saved my life.'
Katie Ivey LovVorn, one of the 'original' MRT graduates





Katie Ivey LovVorn, charter MRT program graduate

County moves on with approval of $5 million bond sale

Guarantor: E-911 District

By Dawn Hankins

On Tuesday, Bedford County Commission approved (14-0) an initial resolution authorizing the issuance of $5 million of general obligation bonds for the emergency 911 communications district to use for a capital project.

This resolution was placed on the agenda by the County Financial Management Committee. The resolution (see page 9) plainly states the agreement is not to exceed $5 million.

Commissioners Mark Thomas and Scott Johnson, who serve on the 911 Board, abstained from the vote. Commissioners Drew Hooker and Adam Thomas were absent.

John Werner, vice president of Cumberland Securities and the County's financial advisor on bonds, spoke to the Commission Tuesday night about where they stand with this $5 million issuance.

Basically, Werner advised that the County is responsible for making provision for the issuance, public sale and payment of the bonds (debt securities.) However, E-911 District is listed as the guarantor.

District Communications had requested the County issue the bonds to aid in building a new facility. Werner advised how E-911 District actually has its own money saved up as well. (The 911 surcharge fee that appears on a phone is a user fee legislated and collected by the state and returned to the district. E-911 also earns interest on bank accounts and/or investments.)

This interlocal agreement, Werner explained, is legally between the emergency communications district and

See BOND SALE, 2A

Community High School Welcomes New Baseball Coach and Math Teacher

SHELBYVILLE, Tenn. – Community High School (CHS) is excited to announce the hiring of Parker Gunn as the new head baseball coach and mathematics teacher for the upcoming school year. A familiar face in Middle Tennessee baseball, Coach Gunn brings a strong background in player development, classroom instruction and a deep commitment to helping students grow as athletes and individuals.

A 2012 graduate of Shelbyville Central High School (SCHS) and a 2017 graduate of Middle Tennessee State University with a degree in mathematics and a concentration in secondary education, Gunn began his teaching and coaching career at Coffee County Central High School. Over a seven-year span, he served as an assistant varsity baseball coach and taught Algebra II. He also spent three of those years as the junior varsity head coach, where he played a pivotal role in developing freshmen and sophomores both on and off the field.

Known for instilling knowledge, discipline and character in his players, Coach Gunn collaborated closely with the head coach at Coffee County to build a robust player development system. His coaching responsibilities included strength training, outfield development at the varsity level and data analysis of player profiles—all aimed at enhancing baseball IQ and team performance.

Most recently, he returned to his alma mater, SCHS, to teach Algebra II and Senior Math during the 2024–2025 school year. Now, he brings his passion for education and athletics to the CHS family.

"We are excited Coach Gunn will be joining us next year as the new baseball head coach," said Community Principal Dr. Robert Ralston. "Parker has a passion for baseball that creates enthusiasm for players and parents. We look forward to him continuing the rich heritage of Vikings baseball and a new era of excellence both in the classroom and on the baseball Diamond."

See page 10 for more of this story and baseball tryout schedule.





JUNE IS OFFICIALLY DAIRY MONTH IN BEDFORD COUNTY

Bedford County Government Photo

Cascade High School Student Ansley O'Brien served up some cold glasses of milk during the annual proclamation signing, which officially recognizes June as Dairy Month. See additional photo of the presentation on page 3.

Long-standing BC Road Board no more

Once an active group, making some pretty important decisions over the years, Bedford County Road Board is no more, as of action taken Tuesday night by Bedford County Commission.

As part of a private act, the 16 Commissioners present at the regular monthly meeting on Tuesday voted to dissolve this now inactive group. Basically, no one was running any more for the road board during elections.

As a result, the state endorsed this action to dissolve but the County was responsible for ratification.

Absent from Tuesday's meeting were Commissioners Drew Hooker and Adam Thomas.





SKYDIVING PLANE CRASHES IN TULLAHOMA

People all over the country send prayers

THP Photos

Tennessee Highway Patrol assisted following a plane crash Sunday in neighboring Tullahoma at the airport off Old Shelbyville Road. There were 20 people on the skydiving plane. Officials said Sunday that there were apparently issues at take-off. Fire, emergency management and ambulance crews were all on site. Four were reportedly injured and sent to local hospitals, according to Tullahoma City officials. Three were transported to area hospitals via medical helicopters. During a press conference Sunday, Tullahoma City officials said there will be a thorough investigation by the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB.) FAA was on the scene Sunday speaking with witnesses and passengers.

• HAPPY •
FATHER'S Day
to all the amazing dads out there!

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Business Spotlight
The Artist's Hoard held its open house last weekend and is now officially open.
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Anna Clanton
Cascade's Anna Clanton is joining the Middle Tennessee Women's Golf program.
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MRT

From page 1A

and alcohol. It was the only thing, she believed at the time, that would numb the pain associated with her life.

Katie notes that the "game-changer" was when she developed in jail a one-on-one relationship with The Lord. She advises that the scripture says that those that seek God with their whole heart will find Him.

"The Lord had sent me to Bedford County, where I did not know a soul," she advises. "I was able to focus on myself, without having those influences around me."

She said with a laugh that it's something about lock down that makes you desperate. Katie says she was a seeker and she jumped in head first into MRT.

This time in her life, she was in a different kind of insanity, she says, reading the Bible 15 hours a day. She says after that, her relationship with the Lord Jesus "became very real." Spiritual renewal was something she had never in her life experienced.

"He changed my life. As I began to learn who He was, I began to tell people about Him."

Katie said it was a lonely journey down the mountain of addiction. She recalls telling the people at a parole hearing she "wasn't ready" to be released.

That's a good thing, because fellow MRT graduate and friend, Amy Merlo, notes it was Katie who would give her that first Bible.

COVID eventually shut down any group gatherings. It was lonely but a time that she wouldn't change because it made a difference in her future.

Katie explains how she began to pray for a good program-one where she could share what she had experienced. Along came MRT, she recalls.

"They didn't know it but they had answered my prayers."

With the help of those working with the MRT program, she began to climb down a treacherous slope she had maneuvered all her life. Katie says she entered into the MRT program and gave it her whole heart.

"I learned how to take responsibility for things I had done. I learned how to face my fears . . . the things I believed about people."

She said darkness creates paranoia. She explains that through the MRT program, Lt. Cook, and others, opened her eyes to what life could really be like-free from addiction's hold.

She also credits Marissa, who works with the program, for supporting her through the program steps and on to graduation. She said she was a big part of showing her that people can be trusted.

In 2025, she happily reveals how she is out of corrections and remains 4 years clean. She admits some feelings, once on the outside, made her want to use again.

"I called Lt. Cook," she reveals, stating they were always there for her during MRT.

Katie now returns to the jail to conduct what she refers to as discipleship studies. She tells people how Jesus delivered her from her drug addiction.

"Now it's not just that I'm clean and I'm doing what I can to stay clean, I don't have the desire. So, to me, I'm delivered."

Out of jail a year now, Katie has her own cleaning business. She quickly departs this interview in order to get to her work.

As for MRT, or Moral Reconation Therapy, this is a program the jail piloted here in April 2022. It consists of 16 steps and participants must complete the first 12 in order to graduate.

The MRT program is comprised of testimonials and questions that require participants to recount trauma in their lives then come to terms with their feelings.

Developed originally in 1985, by Dr. Gregory Little and Dr. Kenneth Robinson, research has shown over the years that MRT contributes significantly to lower rates of recidivism for periods as long as 20 years after treatment.

It may all sound simple, perhaps, but Lt. Cook says the real success rests in the hands of the participants. Basically, it's their program and what they make of it.

Katie's MRT recovery story is just one of many, he says. Having worked years in the jail, Lt. Cook says he knows those incarcerated can change their lives for the better; he's witnessed the changes.

"People will tell you once you're an alcoholic, or an addict, you're always an addict," says Lt. Cook. "I tell them that I believe it is truly possible to move to a place in your life, where you don't have to feel like an addict anymore."

Next week will be our last installment in this series.

BOND SALE

From page 1A

Bedford County Government.

"At the end, you will be responsible for it," he told the Commission. "But after looking at the financial statements of the district and their present cash position, I am confident they will not have any problem in meeting these obligations, going forward on the amortization."

Rates will be locked in until the bonds are retired, he explained. If 911 was to negotiate with a financial institution, Werner said rates would certainly be higher.

He said there is an 8-year call period on the bonds. At that time, Communications can refinance bonds or retire the said bonds, using any available cash flow.

Mayor Chad Graham stated that the County has a vested interest here as it operates its dispatch out of that district Communications Center.

Commissioner Mark Thomas asked Werner to explain that this resolution does not affect the County's bond rating.

Werner advised while it does show up on the County's debt service and the County is listed the day of the sale, and in preliminary and official statements, the primary source of reimbursement comes from the 911 District.

It was also stated during the meeting that the state comptroller's office has been consulted in this financial matter.

Robert Daniel, County finance director, was also present at last night's meeting. He explained to the T-G how the County pays for 911 dispatchers. However, any borrowings fall under the following code section.

TCA 7-86-114. Bond issues

(a) Subject to the approval of the legislative body of a county or municipality in which a district is established, each district has the power and is hereby authorized, from time to time, to issue negotiable bonds, notes and debt obligations for lease or lease purchases in anticipation of the collection of revenues for the purpose of constructing, acquiring, reconstructing, improving, bettering or expanding any facility or service authorized by this part, or any combination of facility or service, and to pledge to the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds, notes or debt obligations all or any part of the revenues derived from the operation of such facility, service or combination of facility or service.







Ted Cox of Shelbyville named to EMT prestigious group

Submitted Photo

Ted Cox of Bedford County, second from left, poses with U.S. Rep. Scott Desjarlais and other EMS personnel during a recent visit to Washington, D.C. Cox has been named Advocacy Coordinator for Tennessee by the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT.)

SUMMER MEALS

Breakfast: 7:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.
Lunch: 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

These dates **ONLY**:
- June 2 - June 5
- June 9 - June 12
- June 16 - 18
- June 20
- June 23 - 26

Locations:
- Cascade Elementary
- Community Elementary
- Eakin
- East Side
- Harris Middle
- Learning Way
- Liberty
- Southside
- Thomas

These schools will be offering on-site breakfast & lunch to school-age, Bedford County children.

NOTE: All meals must be consumed on site!

Ad Veritas: The Bible in the Drawer

By DANIEL RICHARDSON
Shelbyville Times-Gazette publisher
Owner of Richardson Media

Last weekend on a trip home from vacation, my family pulled off I-65 in Cullman, Ala., ready for a quick swim before bed, only to discover that the hotel pool was "temporarily out of order." That was a deal breaker. We tried again, this time guaranteed pool access, but found it packed wall-to-wall with a travel-ball team of ten-year-old boys doing cannonballs in unison. We surrendered, checked in, and split up: Lena, Evelyn (15 months), and Emmalyn (12) in one room; Benjamin (3), Elizabeth (10), Ella (7), and me in the other. They don't let you cram a family of seven into one room anymore.

Both phones were dead—long story about not being able to charge on the drive—and a storm earlier that day had knocked out local power and while power had been restored, the televisions were still dark. For once, technology took the evening off. Ben, tired of rolling toy trucks across the carpet, started opening drawers. Out came a slim, navy-blue Gideon Bible. We own plenty of Bibles, but they were buried in the van. Ben climbed onto the bed, book in hand, and asked, "Daddy, will you read?"

So we did. We started in 1 Peter and read until eyelids drooped and little bodies went still. At some point I realized all three kids were asleep, but I kept reading anyway, the glow from a single bedside lamp tracing words I've known for years yet somehow needed to hear again.

I've seen those Gideon Bibles in hotel rooms my whole life and rarely given them a second thought. Now I see their quiet purpose. Most guests never crack the cover, but some do—maybe after a hard day, a job loss, a funeral, or just a storm-dark evening when the Wi-Fi is out and the silence feels heavier than usual. For someone somewhere, that drawer-bound Bible is the first step back toward God.

The Gideons didn't introduce my family to Scripture, yet their patient ministry added thirty extra minutes of reading that night—thirty minutes of calm after a day of chaos, thirty minutes that settled restless hearts and reminded me that faith still lives in the spaces where screens go blank.

I'm grateful for those unseen volunteers who trust small seeds to take root. And I'm reminded that the best moments with our children often arrive when the power goes out and the battery dies. Maybe we should pull the plug more often—open a drawer, open a Bible, and let God do the talking.



Happy Father's Day, Daniel, from the T-G Staff!!



BEDFORD'S 86TH CELEBRATION OF JUNE AS DAIRY MONTH

Bedford County Government Photo

Bedford County Mayor Chad Graham signed a proclamation Monday, recognizing June as Dairy Month. Dairy Month (from left) chair Ansley O'Brien, a Cascade High student and 4-H agent, Emily Wooten, provided glasses of milk to toast the occasion -- the options were chocolate milk and a Minecraft-themed green milk. The local proclamation recognizes that dairy farmers have contributed to the development and well-being of Bedford County since the early years. Ansley O'Brien, Mayor Graham, Emily Wooten



MAYOR GRAHAM SPEAKS AT CHAMBER LUNCHEON

Bedford County Government Photo

On May 13, County Mayor Chad Graham was keynote speaker for the Chamber of Commerce quarterly luncheon at The Fly Arts Center. Graham spoke about his priorities when running for office. He outlined accomplishments of county government in areas such as broadband, school construction to eliminate the use of portable classrooms, renovation of the county courthouse using COVID-era grant funds, and tax relief for low-income elderly property owners. He also spoke about challenges, such as the city-county tax lawsuit, the county's rapid growth, preservation of agriculture, affordable housing, inflation and unfunded liabilities and capital projects.

"People are coming, whether you like it or not," said Graham. But the county can play a role in helping to shape what kind of growth happens and what kind of people the county attracts. The county's population makes possible more retail growth, but the average household income is less than that required by some desirable chains that might want to move here. That's where economic development efforts play a key role."



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FEATURES FROM THE BIBLE

TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE

Miriam
Exodus

Miriam was Moses' sister.
It was Miriam who was charged with watching over Moses when he was placed in the tar-coated basket and placed in the water.

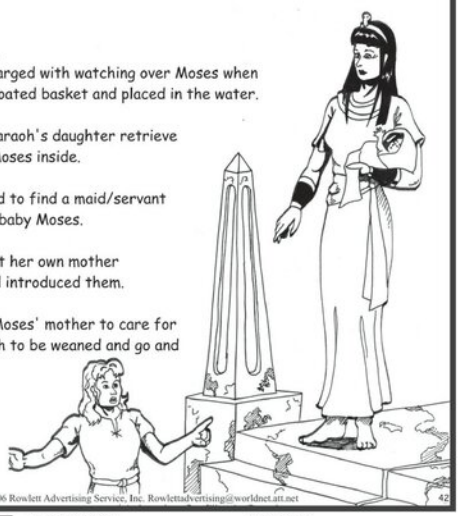
It was Miriam who saw Pharaoh's daughter retrieve the basket and discover Moses inside.

It was Miriam who offered to find a maid/servant to nurse and care for the baby Moses.

It was Miriam who brought her own mother to Pharaoh's daughter and introduced them.

Pharaoh's daughter paid Moses' mother to care for him until he was old enough to be weaned and go and live in Pharaoh's palace.

Exodus 15 records a song that Miriam sang and led the women to sing.



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Pencil Shavings

PENTECOST: GOD IN US

Are we still serving Him with fervor?

By Dawn Hankins

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses."

Pentecost Sunday was observed last week at Shelbyville First United Methodist Church. The cross was beautifully draped with the stole belonging to the late Aileen Pitman Massengale. The Rev. Massengale, mother of member Donna Brock, passed in 2003. She served as an evangelist and pastor from 1944 until the late 1990s, along with her husband.

Thank you, Rev. Massengale for sharing the Word of God throughout your life. As we look at the picture of your stole draping the wondrous cross, we remember how you considered yourself a mere humble servant for the Lord. Lives were no doubt changed by your ministry.

Thank you to Donna and family for sharing the photo, which was taken by Lori Schular, church keyboardist.

No doubt Rev. Massengale shared about Peter and Pentecost during her many years behind the pulpit.

So, what is Pentecost? Some churches observe "the fire" still today, others do not.

But it is clearly marked in scripture-Pentecost is a time when the Holy Spirit filled hearts.

Especially for the Christian, it's marked in history as an important day on the Christian calendar—one that is often overlooked.

As Jesus' followers gathered in an Upper Room after His ascension, the Holy Spirit came down to dwell within them in fulfillment of His promise (Acts 1:8.)

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses."

And that's exactly what happened. Filled with the power of the Holy Spirit, disciple Peter delivered a sermon that would literally change the world.

Pentecost was a harvest feast for the Jews, and people from various nations had come to Jerusalem for the celebration. When they heard their languages spoken by ordinary Galileans, some were bewildered. Yes, some mocked.

Still, Peter stood up before the crowd and delivered a revolutionary sermon about what happened on Pentecost—an event that permanently changed the world.

Hard to believe, perhaps, since before Jesus' death, Peter denied his Lord. This is amazing in itself that Peter was now telling the world about Christ, just as Jesus had commanded him to do. He too was a changed man.

Peter explained before the people that they were witnessing fulfillment of a prophecy in the book of Joel.

Peter identified "Jesus the Nazarene," as a man who was attested by them. But He remained a man of miracles, wonders and signs which God performed through Him.

Instead of being physically present with only a few, Christ now dwelled within each one of His followers through the Holy Spirit.

Just like the Apostles, we are now charged to tell others about our Savior, who defeated death and still today offers eternal life to all who believe in Him.



Photo by Lori Schular

The stole draping the cross last Sunday during Pentecost at FUMC Shelbyville belonged to the late Rev. Aileen Massengale. She served the church for many years.

This Sunday is Father's Day. Pastor Abe will be preaching "The Widow's Oil" from 2 Kings 4:1-7. Sunday School for all ages begins at 9 a.m., followed by the worship service at 10 a.m. Nursery and Children's Church are available during worship. The service is also available through Facebook livestream and on WLIJ 98.7 FM and AM 1580.

Is God Dead? Where to begin

By Ty B. Kerley, DMin.

Where to begin? Two weeks ago, we made the comment that for Christians, everything needs to have a warrant or approval from Scripture. That includes how and what we study about God. In search of scriptural warrant last week, we looked in Scripture at Paul's repeated use of classical philosophy in his speech and teaching as an example for us. And the week before last, we looked at God using observations from nature to present an apologetic (defense) of Himself to Job (Job 38-41). Thereby giving us approval from Scripture to use created things from nature (science, philosophy, and history) in building a defense of the existence of God and the truthfulness of Christianity (1 Pet 3:15). And so, the question now is this: with scriptural warrant from God and Paul in hand, where do we begin to answer the question, "is God dead?"

Since we introduced the Bible skeptic, "Michael," a few weeks ago, it would seem to make sense to begin to answer the question "Is God dead?" by looking for some common ground that we both can agree upon. Christians, and rightly so, always want to begin with the Bible. However, since Michael does not believe that the Bible is God's Word but is "a creation of man," the Christian needs to find some common ground that both can agree upon. How about this: what if we take the same approach that God took with Job (Job 38-41) and look to the world around us to see if it can serve as a witness to the existence of God? The universe is a vast and complex system of planets, moons, suns, and stars. In turn, each planet has its own unique complexity, especially planet Earth. Although the complexity of the universe is an apologetic defense for another day, the mere existence of the universe should speak to mankind. Now, it seems to me that there are only two possible conclusions that the universe could speak to us about its existence: either it has been here all along, or it had a beginning at some point in time past. That is it: either one or the other.

Now, we human beings are both creatures of habit and creatures of observation. In fact, at a base level, habits simply outweigh observations and experiences. If we think about our observations and life experiences, we know that nothing comes into being without something causing it. We often talk about cause and effect because we understand that all effects have a cause. We can think about how a tree comes into being, and we all know that a seed causes it. The same is true of pigs and cows, cars and houses, and even human beings. Everything that comes into being has a cause. Known in classical philosophy as the cosmological argument, some version of this idea of cause and effect concerning the universe has been summarized in a simple way, going back to Aristotle and Plato.

1. Everything that begins to exist has a cause
2. The universe began to exist
3. Therefore, the universe had a cause

The first statement, "everything that begins to exist has a cause," is undoubtedly true. Almost no one disputes this claim. Centuries ago, it was thought that life spontaneously came about from decaying meat. If a piece of meat was laid out, a few days later, life had spontaneously appeared and could be observed in and on the meat. Later, they discovered that this spontaneously generated "life" was simply the hatchlings of fly eggs. In modern times, a few claim there are some subatomic particles (quarks, gluons, leptons, etc.) that seem to begin to exist out of nothing without a cause. Still, since these subatomic particles are observed by smashing two atoms together, they actually have a cause and do not come from absolutely nothing. Even so, today, it is safe to say that everything that begins to exist has a cause.

The second claim is that the universe began to exist. Rather than having existed since an infinite time past, the universe, at some moment in time past, began to exist. This is a bold claim sitting at the heart of the argument because it can lead directly to a capital "C" Cause, depending on how this particular claim is answered. Remember, there are only two options: the universe began to exist, or it has been here for eternity. This is where observations from the common ground of science have much to say about how Christians can engage with the Michaels of the world to answer the question, "Did the universe have a cause?" Answering that question is the first in a line of questions that ultimately lead us to answer the big question: "is God dead?" Join us next week as we pick up the story and continue investigating the claim that the universe had a beginning.

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Ty B. Kerley, DMin., is an ordained minister who teaches Christian apologetics and relief preaches in Southern Oklahoma. Dr. Kerley and his wife, Vicki, are members of the Waurika church of Christ and live in Ardmore, OK. You can contact him at dr.kerley@isGoddead.com.



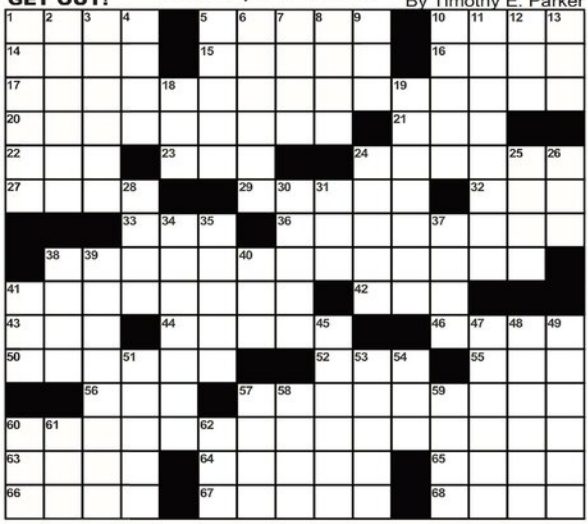


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Crossword

GET OUT! FreeDailyCrosswords.com By Timothy E. Parker



CLUES ACROSS

1) Framing 2x4
5) Middle ear bone
10) Birthday topics
14) Jason's ship
15) Makeup option
16) Hatcher of TV
17) Almost have in-laws
20) Official government pardons
21) Golfer's aspiration
22) Old TV "Squad"
23) "Just a__" ("Wait!")
24) In an optimistic way
27) It's south of Turkey
29) Housing projects?
32) Gaming cube
33) Dream Team team
36) Farthest toward the sunset
38) Instruction to an actor, sometimes
41) Animal that preys on others
42) Highest non-face card
43) Draft contents
44) Like interstate highways
46) Mouth off at
50) One who makes a point
52) Work unit
55) Fonddu__, Wisconsin
56) ___ in xylophone
57) Like good obedience school candidates
60) Avoid the public
63) Frank with a famous diary
64) Slender watercraft
65) Rope entanglement
66) Pricey opera house seating section
67) Way the wind blows
68) Male heirs

CLUES DOWN

1) Italian deli item
2) Low number on the Richter scale
3) Lake George is there
4) Bird of peace
5) Ready to spit nails
6) Observe
7) Like baby monkeys
8) They are uttered with shudders
9) Gloater's shout
10) Legendary reference book?
11) Trash
12) Closer's stat
13) Walter Scott or Walter Raleigh
18) Curvaceous one of 26
19) Disciple of Jesus
24) Go back to the default settings
25) Santa checks it
26) Up to the present
28) ___ pro quo
30) Conscious of
31) Really relax, in slang (with "out")
34) Furthest from the freshest
35) "When you wish upon___ ... "
37) Clothing store section
38) Musician Clapton
39) Making copies in the office
40) Heavy measure
41) Outdoor sound blasters, briefly
45) Certain church official
47) Lacking pigmentation
48) Wild West drinking hole
49) Potpourri offerings
51) One spelling for an Indian princess
53) Irritated
54) Large African antelope
57) Any old Russian ruler
58) Jeweler Lalique or Hollywood's Russo
59) Inquires
60) Cowpoke's sweetheart
61) Yoko of the music world
62) Mo. of colorful foliage

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FLAG DAY

The Stars and Stripes

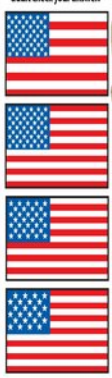
The flag of the United States of America has red and white stripes and white stars on a blue background.

The first flag was sewn by hand by a seamstress in Philadelphia in the year 1777. Some say that New Jersey Congressman Francis Hopkinson came up with the idea for how the flag should look, and Betsy Ross made it.

The flag was approved by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777. Americans celebrate that day as Flag Day each year.



Only one of these flags is the real American flag. Can you find it? Have an adult check your answer.





Can you bring these spools of thread to Betsy Ross?

Standards Link: Science Investigation: Find similarities and differences in common objects.

Extra! Extra!

ABC Dad

Look through the newspaper for five words that explain ways your dad, grandfather, favorite uncle or a friend is special to you. Put these words in ABC order.

Standards Link: Spelling: Arrange words in alphabetical order.

Father's Day Flags

Are you looking for a special way to say "Happy Father's Day?" Make your dad a flag all his own! It's simple!

1. Make a list of words that describe your dad.

_____ _____

_____ _____

2. Choose the three best words from your list.
3. Find or draw pictures that represent the words you have chosen.
4. Cut out the pictures and arrange them on a letter-sized piece of paper to look like a flag.

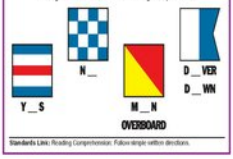


Standards Link: Design: Use a variety of media to create a design.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Flag Talk at Sea

Long before cell phones and radio communications, people on ships needed a way to communicate to people on other ships, or on shore – people who were too far away to be reached by yelling. A system of nautical flags was developed, each flag represented a letter of the alphabet and/or a meaning. Fill in the missing vowels to discover what these flag examples mean.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

CONGRESS
DAD
DAY
DRAW
FATHER
FLAG
HAPPY
HAND
LETTER
ROSS
SEWN
SIMPLE
SMART
SPECIAL
UNCLE

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

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

An Ad for Dad

Look at the advertisments in the newspaper. What makes a great father? Create an ad for your dad (or uncle, grandfather, etc.) that features all the best things about them.

Standards Link: Writing: Use stylistic and rhetorical aspects of writing.

Write On!

Thank You, Dad!

Design a "Thank You" ad for a special dad, granddad, uncle or family friend. Say why this dad is special.

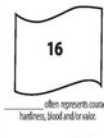
Kid Scoop Together

What Flags Mean

The colors and symbols on the flags of countries and states are chosen with great care. They each mean something that people feel represents their country.

Color by numbers to discover what each color represents.

18 - 3 = BLUE
11 + 5 = RED
20 - 3 = WHITE
12 + 2 = YELLOW



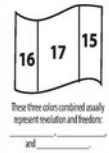
_____ often represents courage, hardiness, blood and/or valor.



_____ often represents freedom, vigilance, justice, perseverance, peace and/or prosperity.



_____ often represents the sun, wealth and/or justice.



These three colors combined usually represent revolution and freedom: _____, _____ and _____.

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Bedford County property transfers

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

File date: June 3

Location: 150 Perryman Lane; Seller, Donald W Boylston, Elaine C Boylston; Buyer, Elaine and Wayne Trust; Price, $10 (QD).

Location: Fruit Valley Rd; Seller, Hollis Lamb Jr, Stacie Lea Paschal, Rebecca Lynn Lamb Teague, Loren Lamb Hilton, Eric Shane Lamb, Mary M Lamb Estate; Buyer, Loren Lamb Hilton, Eric Shane Lamb; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Fruit Valley Rd; Seller, Hollis Lamb Jr, Stacie Lea Paschal, Rebecca Lynn Lamb Teague, Loren Lamb Hilton, Eric Shane Lamb, Mary M Lamb Estate; Buyer, Rebecca Lynn Lamb Teague; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Fruit Valley Rd; Seller, Hollis Lamb Jr, Stacie Lea Paschal, Rebecca Lynn Lamb Teague, Loren Lamb Hilton, Eric Shane Lamb, Mary M Lamb Estate, Mary Esther Lamb; Buyer, Eric Shane Lamb; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 113 E Bomar Ct; Seller, Susana Irias Donaghey, Johnnie Lee Donaghey; Buyer, Jacie Sloan; Price, $297,000 (Deed).

Seller, Bryan Mitchell, Heather Mitchell; Buyer, Lloyd Steve Cory, Angelica Marina Cory; Price, $390,000 (Deed).

Location: 521 Happy Valley Rd; Seller, Maria Isabel Ordonez Quevedo; Buyer, Jeffrey Dwight Heredia, Annette Marie Heredia; Price, $318,000 (Deed).

Location: 1503 Green Lane Unit 9; Seller, Curl Properties LLC; Buyer, Jeanie Marie Fisher; Price, $349,900 (Deed).

Location: 113 Reese St; Seller, James Blaine Rollins; Buyer, Silvestre Osorio; Price, $100,000 (QD).

Location: 447 Pepper Hill Rd; Seller, Christopher Michael Smith, Ashley Brooke Smith; Buyer, Clifton A Beasley, Alicia K Beasley, James Brennan Sanders; Price, $1,050,000 (Deed).

File date: June 4

Location: Ray St; Seller, Iva Wilson, Barry Wilson; Buyer, Iva Wilson; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 120 Cunningham Lane; Seller, Keeley Sutton, Eli Dearing; Buyer, Keeley Dearing, Eli Dearing; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 1125 Carr Creek Rd; Seller, James Blaine Rollins; Buyer, James Bret Rollins; Price, $0 (QD).

Seller, Haynes Service Company LLC; Buyer, Steve Smith, Kim Smith; Price, $110,000 (Deed).

Seller, Equiknox Construction LLC; Buyer, Jack Campbell, Ruth Campbell; Price, $210,000 (Deed).

Seller, Bedford Development LLC; Buyer, Ole South Properties Inc; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 1566 Old Nashville Dirt Rd; Seller, Randy W Sutton; Buyer, Keith Allen Henning, Tammy Jean Henning; Price, $300,000 (Deed).

Location: 442 Sims Spring Rd; Seller, Fredt Rene Franco Martinez, Rafaela Rosales Gomez; Buyer, Donald Kyle Borne; Price, $389,900 (Deed).

File date: June 5

Location: 96 Sarvis Ridge Rd; Seller, George Lyston Pierce; Buyer, Music City Holdings LLC; Price, $355,456 (Deed).

Location: 211 Jack Taylor Rd; Seller, James A Monce, Marsha A Moore; Buyer, Pamela Renee Baldwin; Price, $544,000 (Deed).

Seller, Susan D McCurry, Josheph W McCurry; Buyer, Cataldo Brothers Holdings LLC; Price, $220,000 (Deed).

Location: 117 Cook Lane; Seller, Brandon M Shelton; Buyer, Eldon Gaston, Melody Gaston; Price, $330,000 (Deed).

Location: 306 Blue Ribbon Parkway; Seller, Laverna Davis; Buyer, Cynthia L Corbin; Price, $250,000 (Deed).

File date: June 6

Location: Sarvis Ridge Road; Seller, Music City Holdings LLC; Buyer, Nextgen Properties LLC; Price, $375,000 (Deed).

Location: 253 Adams Lane; Seller, William L Russell, Alice Russell; Buyer, Christopher Michael Smith, Ashley Brooke Smith; Price, $730,000 (Deed).

Location: Jackson Highway; Seller, James E Farrar Jr; Buyer, Paige Savannah Bell, Dakota Claude Deuel; Price, $295,000 (Deed).

Location: 4478 Highway 41A-N; Seller, Greg Horton, Leslie Horton; Buyer, Horton Revocable Trust, Greg and Leslie Horton Revocable Trust, Greg Horton Revocable Trust, Leslie Horton Revocable Trust; Price, $0 (QD).

Seller, Justin Stallings, Sarah Elizabeth Stallings; Buyer, Joseph Moser III, Lori C Moser; Price, $300,000 (Deed).

Location: 102 Doak St; Seller, Rubin Lublin TN PLLC, Staci Sewell, Kyle Sewell; Buyer, Rocket Mortgage LLC; Price, $274,120 (TRD).

Seller, May Tory Homes LLC; Buyer, Autumn Wisdom; Price, $314,900 (Deed).

Location: Nashville Dirt Road; Seller, Emma Jean Locke Williams, Jean L Clark, Kerry Clark, Ella Locke, John Cooper Locke; Buyer, Emma Jean Locke Williams, Keith Roger Williams; Price, $0 (Deed).

File date: June 9

Location: Unionville Deason Road; Seller, Martin V Lafferty, Gwendolyn M Lafferty, Gwendolyn M Rafferty; Buyer, Robert Dale Burge Jr, Ashely Danielle Burge; Price, $475,000 (Deed).

Location: Blue Stocking Hollow Rd; Seller, Greg Hinote; Buyer, Lee R Hardy; Price, $545,000 (Deed).

Location: 790 Happy Valley Road; Seller, Anthony Jay Reaux, Jessie Wireman; Buyer, Jason Michael Pellegrin, Kelley Pellegrin, Debbie Malm; Price, $520,000 (Deed).

Location: 126 Gregory Mill Road; Seller, Amen Gerges Gerges, Hossam Laftah Omran, Gerges Gerges; Buyer, Hassan Nazi, Zolikha Nasi, Eddie Nazi, Fahimeh Nazi; Price, $1,600,000 (Deed).

Location: 210 Republic St; Seller, Shelby Johnston; Buyer, Briana J Davis; Price, $319,000 (Deed).

Location: 195 Cedar Grove Rd; Seller, DCC Strategic Realty Partners LLC; Buyer, Luis Carrillo, Rosalinda Clinto Velasquez, Manuel Godinez, Julia Irma Cinto; Price, $379,000 (Deed).

Location: 726 Kingdom Rd; Seller, Jason Hodge, Amy L Hodge; Buyer, Amy L Hodge; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Maxwell Chapel Rd; Seller, James Rickey Lamb; Buyer, James Rickey Lamb, Linda A Lamb; Price, $0 (QD).

Seller, May Tory Homes LLC; Buyer, Lexi Delatte, Seth Delatte; Price, $329,900 (Deed).

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION, CARE AND PROTECTION, TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS, DOCKET NUMBER: 23CP0200MI, Trial Court of Massachusetts, Juvenile Court Department, COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester County Juvenile Court, 225 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608, 508-478-8638.

TO: Joshua Oehler and/or Father of: A petition has been presented to this court by Department of Children and Families (Whitinsville), seeking, as to the following children, **Kayleigh R Choummanivong, Aidyn S Choummanivong**, that said children be found in need of care and protection and committed to the Department of Children and Families.

The court may dispense the rights of the persons named herein to receive notice of or to consent to any legal proceeding affecting the adoption, custody, or guardianship or any other disposition of the children named herein, if it finds that the children are in need of care and protection and that the best interests of the children would be served by said disposition.

You are hereby ORDERED to appear in this court, at the court address set forth above, on the following date and time: **11/05/2025 at 08:30 AM Pre Trial Conference (CR/CV)**

You may bring an attorney with you. If you have a right to an attorney and if the court determines that you are indigent, the court will appoint an attorney to represent you.

If you fail to appear, the court may proceed on that date and any date thereafter to a trial on the merits and adjudication of this matter.

For further information call the Office of the Clerk-Magistrate at 508-478-8638.

WITNESS: Hon. Mary Beth Keating, FIRST JUSTICE, DATE ISSUED: 06/04/2025, Brendan J. Moran, Clerk-Magistrate.(612316)

Auctions

Today's Date 06-12-2025. The following vehicle will be sold at Street Trophies Auto Sales 322 South Brittain Street, Shelbyville TN 37160. Beginning 06-22-25 at 8AM. If you have any interest in this vehicle call: 931-619-3466.
Vehicle: 2009 Nissan Sentra VIN: 3NAB61E39L611171

Today's Date 06-12-2025. The following vehicle will be sold at Auto Collection LLC on 319 Madison Street, Shelbyville TN 37160. Beginning 07-12-25 at 8AM. If you have any interest in this vehicle call: 931-492-4663.
Vehicle: 2021 Ram 2500 VIN: 3C6UR5DL3MG541870

Yard Sales

Yard Sale
104 Triple Crown Court
Saturday, June 14th from 7 AM-?
Baby items, Brand name clothes, household items

Two Family Moving Sale
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Thursday and Friday 8-4
Saturday 8-1
Furniture, fishing equipment, home decor, etc.

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931-492-4304

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Town of Wartrace, Tennessee, hereby provides certain financial information for the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget in accordance with the requirements of Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 6, Chapter 56, Section 206. There will be a public hearing concerning the budget at City Hall on June 27, 2025 at 5:30 PM. All citizens were welcome to participate. The budget and all supporting data are a public record and are available for public inspection by anyone at the office of the Chief Financial Officer.

	GENERAL FUND			STATE STREET AID FUND		
	FY 2024 Unaudited	FY 2025 Estimated	FY 2026 Proposed	FY 2024 Unaudited	FY 2025 Estimated	FY 2026 Proposed
Revenues:						
Local Taxes	$317,048	$328,348	$353,500	-	-	-
State of Tennessee	121,147	148,082	94,070	23,997	20,092	23,300
Federal Government	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Sources	21,859	38,158	75,250	-	-	-
Total Revenues	**$460,054**	**$514,588**	**$522,820**	**$23,997**	**$20,092**	**$23,300**
Expenditures:						
Salaries	$180,244	$158,747	$166,870	-	-	-
Other Cost	354,971	376,270	257,226	42,280	9,605	11,000
Total Expenditures	**$535,215**	**$535,017**	**$424,096**	**$42,280**	**$9,605**	**$11,000**
Beginning Fund Balance:	**$450,602**	**$375,441**	**$355,012**	**$68,965**	**$50,682**	**$61,169**
Ending Fund Balance:	**$375,441**	**$355,012**	**$453,737**	**$50,682**	**$61,169**	**$73,469**
Number of FTE Employees	2.00	2.00	2.00	-	-	-

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The City of Shelbyville, Tennessee, hereby provides certain financial information for the Fiscal Year 2026 budget in accordance with the requirements of Tennessee Code Annotated Title 6, Chapter 56, Section 206. There will be a public hearing concerning the budget in Council Chambers at the Planning, Building and Codes Building located at 100 N. Cannon Blvd., on Tuesday, June 24th, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. (Noon).

	General Fund			State Street Aid Fund			Debt Reserve Fund		
	FY 2024 Audited	FY 2025 Estimated	FY 2026 Proposed	FY 2024 Audited	FY 2025 Estimated	FY 2026 Proposed	FY 2024 Audited	FY 2025 Estimated	FY 2026 Proposed
Revenues:									
Local Taxes	*17,571,124*	*17,938,250*	*17,647,624*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*
State of Tennessee	*3,895,165*	*3,869,788*	*3,646,100*	*823,852*	*825,000*	*825,000*	*0*	*0*	*0*
Federal Government	*25,934*	*11,921*	*20,000*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*
Other Sources	*5,513,853*	*5,178,402*	*5,094,451*	*45,432*	*526,500*	*517,500*	*100,000*	*100,000*	*0*
Total Revenues & Transfers-in	*27,006,076*	*26,998,361*	*26,408,175*	*869,284*	*1,351,500*	*1,342,500*	*100,000*	*100,000*	*0*
Expenditures:									
Salaries	*11,560,860*	*12,998,800*	*14,157,249*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*
Other	*14,331,392*	*19,544,431*	*19,097,787*	*960,613*	*1,538,000*	*1,580,000*	*114,247*	*113,395*	*362,850*
Total Expenditures & Transfers-out	*25,892,252*	*32,543,231*	*33,255,036*	*960,613*	*1,538,000*	*1,580,000*	*114,247*	*113,395*	*362,850*
Beginning Fund Balance	*22,702,082*	*23,815,906*	*18,271,036*	*763,479*	*672,150*	*485,650*	*710,483*	*696,236*	*682,841*
Ending Fund Balance	*23,815,906*	*18,271,036*	*11,424,175*	*672,150*	*485,650*	*248,150*	*696,236*	*682,841*	*319,991*
Number FTE Employees	*232*	*241*	*243*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*

Death Notices

Russell Eugene Jackson

Russell Eugene Jackson, age 51, of Shelbyville, passed peacefully from this life on Monday, June 3, 2025, at his home, surrounded by family and under the care of Hospice Compassus.

Born on May 17, 1974, in Independence, Kansas, Russell was the son of Shirlee Bertie Stradley Jackson and the late Glen Carl Jackson. Russell is survived by his loving wife, Tara Ballard Jackson; his children, Zaine Freeman of Oklahoma, Sydnee Payge Jackson and Mason Russell Jackson, both of Kansas, Adin Freeman and Samuel Snyder, both of Shelbyville.

Doak-Howell Funeral Home is serving the family.

Kevin D'Angelo "Gru" Pettygrue

Kevin D'Angelo "Gru" Pettygrue, age 52, of Shelbyville, passed away unexpectedly on June 4, 2025. Born on May 12, 1973, in Lynch, KY, he was son of Arthur "BooBoo" Powell, who preceded him in death, and Sheila (Pettygrue) Powell.

A graduate of Shelbyville Central High School Class of 1992, Kevin spent over 25 years working at Jostens.

Doak-Howell Funeral Home is serving the family.

James Henry Stringfield

James Henry Stringfield, age 90, of Shelbyville, passed from this life Saturday, June 7, 2025, at Maury County Regional Hospital in Columbia.

He was born on November 28, 1934, in Erin, TN, to the late Wade Ambers Stringfield and Martha Belle Brooks Stringfield.

James is survived by his wife of 67 ½ years, Mary Lee Carter Stringfield; sons: Mike (Reba) Stringfield of Tullahoma and Greg (Cheryl Leigh) Stringfield of Madison, AL;

Doak-Howell Funeral Home is serving the family.

Wendell Jerome Sims

Wendell Sims died May 30, 2025. He was born March 8, 1958, to the late McKinley Sims Jr. and Willie Nett (Rippy-Davidson) Sims. Wendell was known in his early childhood as "Pugh."

Survivors include a daughter Latoya (Anton) Taylor.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

James "Jim" Holloway

James "Jim" Holloway, Sr. age 65, passed away on June 9, 2025.

James was born on June 19, 1959, in Lewisburg, to the late Milton and Treva Holloway.

He dedicated 40 years of service to Kroger, retiring in 2019.

He is survived by his daughter, Ashley (Matthew) Holloway Hughey, of Murfreesboro; a son, James "Jamie" (Christy Black) Holloway, Jr. of Readyville.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Horace E. Rogers Jr.

Horace E. Rogers Jr. passed away on the morning of June 3, 2025, peacefully in his sleep with his loving wife of 54 years, Linda, by his side.

He was born April 22, 1933, in Shelbyville. He attended Shelbyville Central High School where he

graduated in 1951. He is preceded in death by his parents, Horace E. Rogers Sr. and Mary Helen Reid.

What funeral directors wish families knew

Family Features

Most people don't want to think about death – let alone talk about it. When the time comes, families often find themselves overwhelmed, not only by grief but by the many decisions that need to be made quickly.

Funeral directors witness this every day. They see the stress and confusion that can come when there is no plan in place and the peace of mind that comes with thoughtful preparation.

After consulting funeral directors nationwide, the National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA) uncovered five things they wish families knew before a death occurs.

1. It's Never too Early to Start Planning

While everyone knows death and taxes are inevitable, conversations about death are often avoided. Simply documenting your wishes and discussing your preferences with your family can alleviate the difficult decisions your loved ones will have to make in the future. Speak with a funeral director to explore the many options for planning a meaningful funeral.

2. Legal and Financial Details can Cause Unexpected Issues

Families often don't realize power of attorney ends at death, meaning a designated person can no longer make decisions or access bank accounts once an individual dies. To avoid complications, consider adding a trusted loved one to your bank account and ensure life insurance beneficiaries are up to date. Too often, deceased individuals leave minor children, deceased spouses or former partners as beneficiaries, leading to legal and financial challenges.

3. Final Wishes Shouldn't Be in Your Will

Many people believe the best place to document their final wishes is in their will. However, wills are often not read until after funeral services take place, making them an unreliable way to communicate last requests. Instead, discuss and document your wishes with family members or a trusted funeral professional who can keep your wishes on file until there is a need.

4. There's a Variety of End-of-Life Options

End-of-life planning offers more choices than many realize. While burial remains a common preference, cremation is an increasingly popular choice and can even include a viewing and funeral service. Additionally, eco-friendly options, such as alkaline hydrolysis, natural burial and natural organic reduction are becoming more widely available for those seeking green memorialization. In fact, according to NFDA's 2024 Consumer Awareness and Preferences Study, 68% of respondents expressed interest in green funeral options.

Exploring these possibilities with a funeral professional can help ensure your final arrangements reflect your values, traditions and personal wishes.

5. Funeral Directors Don't Just Manage Funerals

Funeral directors play a vital role in helping families create meaningful services that reflect their loved one's life, values and traditions. Whether planning ahead or facing a recent loss, funeral professionals provide expertise, compassionate care and personalized guidance during one of life's most difficult moments.

Choosing the right funeral director is an important decision and finding someone who understands your needs can make all the difference in honoring your loved one in a personal and meaningful way.



Start the conversation today by talking about end-of-life planning. It isn't easy, but it's one of the most important conversations you can have with your loved ones. A little planning today can make a world of difference tomorrow.

Use comprehensive resources like RememberingALife.com, which is designed to guide families through every stage of the journey, including planning, funeral options and grief resources. The site offers valuable tools and support, such as the "Find a Funeral Home" tool to connect families with compassionate, local funeral directors and much more.

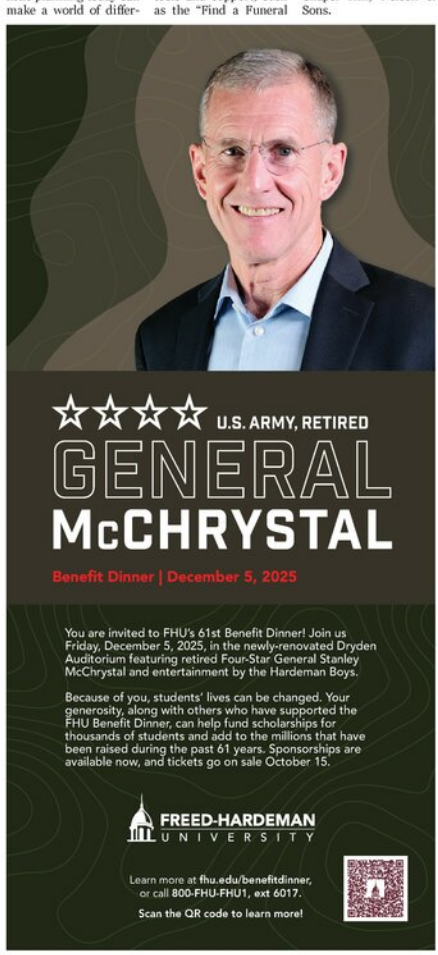
Local funeral homes able to assist in your end-of-life planning include: Doak Howell, Feldhaus, Hillcrest, Gowen Smith, Lawrence Funeral in Chapel Hill, Nelson & Sons.

Death announcements from the music industry

Just days before the annual Bonnaroo Festival in Manchester, TN., takes off, the co-founder, Jonathan Mayers, has died. A special tree will be planted in his honor this week.

As well this week, long-time Beach Boys co-founder, drummer and vocalist, Brian Wilson, age 82, passed away.





Business Spotlight

YOUR BUSINESS CAN BE FEATURED HERE!
Email dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net

Community expresses excitement for The Artist's Hoard during open house



By DAWN HANKINS

The Artist's Hoard held its open house last weekend and is now officially open next to Piggly Wiggly off Highway 41A North (876 Union St.) in Shelbyville.

Owners are Heather and David Fry, who are both Shelbyville Central graduates and deeply rooted in the local, artistic community.

Their dream is to make the new store this area's go-to spot for high-quality art supplies, unique stationery and gifts. Workshops will also be held.

"We are a small store specializing in fine art supplies, stationery and unique gifts run by me and my husband, David. We want to provide a place for local artists to not only be able to purchase high-quality supplies but really have a community hub where they can go to connect with other artists," said Heather recently.

Heather and David earned their bachelor degrees from MTSU in 2012. David later earned his master's degree from Vanderbilt. Heather earned her master's from the University of North Alabama.

She works as a freelance instructional designer and volunteers with Bedford Arts Collective. David is a longtime arts enthusiast, diving now into drawing and painting.

"We opened The Artist's Hoard to bring more color, creativity and community to our hometown," Heather shared with Facebook followers this week.

"Whether you stopped by just to look or left with a bag full of goodies, we're so grateful for your support during our opening weekend!" Heather shared. "Hearing your 'oohs' and 'ahhs' . . . made every late night and stressful moment worth it."

Business hours for the Artist's Hoard: Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The store is closed on Sundays and Mondays.



Recipes for Father's Day Success

The Dairy Alliance

June is Dairy Month too!

People say the way to a man's heart is through his stomach, so serving up a delicious meal is a great place to start. Serve up recipes for Dad that are both healthy and delicious this Sunday and throughout the rest of the year!

Portobello Grilled Cheese Sandwich

- 2 large portobello mushrooms, sliced
- 1 red bell pepper, seeded and sliced
- 1 small onion, sliced
- Olive oil cooking spray
- 8 slices sourdough bread
- 1/4 cup crumbled blue cheese
- 4 slices Monterey Jack Cheese

1. Coat a large nonstick skillet with olive oil cooking spray and sauté mushrooms, pepper and onion 4-5 minutes or until tender.
2. Assemble sandwiches by spraying outside of each slice of bread with olive oil cooking spray. Place one slice low-fat Monterey Jack cheese on top of the bottom piece of bread.
3. Top evenly with vegetable mixture. Top each with 1 tablespoon crumbled blue cheese and the second slice of bread.
4. Cook sandwiches in nonstick skillet over medium heat 2 minutes on each side or until golden brown.

Summer Berry Cobbler

- 4 cups mixed berries
- 2 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon lemon zest
- 1 cup milk
- 1/2 cup butter, melted
- 1 1/2 cups sugar, divided
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups heavy whipping cream
- 1 tablespoon confectioners' sugar
- 1 tablespoon ground cardamom

1. Preheat oven to 350° degrees.
2. Place berries in a large mixing bowl. Add 1/2 cup sugar, lemon juice and zest. Stir until well combined. Set aside to rest for about 5 minutes.
3. Meanwhile, place milk and butter in a microwave-safe container and cook on HIGH just until butter is melted, about 1 minute. Stir until well combined. In a medium mixing bowl, whisk together flour, remaining 1 cup sugar, baking powder and salt. Gradually pour in milk and butter mixture, whisking until smooth.
4. Pour batter into a 13-x 9-inch baking dish, then spoon berries evenly on top. If desired, sprinkle top with about 2 tablespoons of sugar. Bake at 350° for 45-50 minutes or until crust is golden brown. While cobbler is baking, pour the heavy cream into a non-reactive metal or glass bowl. Add confectioners' sugar and whip on medium speed with electric mixer until soft peaks form. Sprinkle in cardamom and whip again until stiff peaks form. Cover and refrigerate until ready to serve. Serve cobbler warm or at room temperature with the spiced whipped cream.

GET OUT! By Timothy E. Parker

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HIRING

Advertising Sales Representative
Richardson Media Group, Inc.

Richardson Media Group, publisher of several community newspapers across Tennessee, is hiring Advertising Sales Representatives in various regions. Openings are available in the coverage areas of the **Martin Post, Dresden Enterprise, Jackson Post, Lake County Banner, Camden Chronicle, Carroll County NewsLeader.**

This is a commission-based position with high income potential. Hourly compensation may be considered for the right candidate.

Duties include:
- Selling print and digital advertising
- Maintaining and growing client relationships
- Visiting businesses and community locations
- Attending local events as a representative

Qualifications:
- Sales experience is helpful but not required
- Must be dependable and self-motivated
- Strong communication and people skills
- Reliable transportation required

If you're outgoing, organized, and want to support local business growth, we'd love to hear from you.

Apply by emailing:
daniel@richardsonmediagroup.net
or by calling: (731) 418-4001

Get Involved in Local News Seeking Community Contributors
Richardson Media Group, Inc.

Richardson Media Group, publisher of several community newspapers across Tennessee, is seeking **freelance writers, student contributors, photographers, and community members** to help us tell the stories that matter most in their communities.

We currently have contributor opportunities in several regions, with immediate needs at the **Crockett County Times, Lake County Banner, Buffalo River Review, and Waverly News Democrat**. Additional openings may be available at other RMG publications across the state.

This is a freelance, per-article position. Hourly pay may be considered for experienced contributors who consistently produce publishable work. While we're happy to offer guidance and feedback, contributors should be able to meet deadlines and follow editorial direction without extensive long-term training.

Opportunities include:
Writing local news and community stories
Covering public meetings or events
Submitting publishable photos with captions
Pitching story ideas from your community

Ideal candidates:
Are responsible and deadline-driven
Have strong writing, grammar, or photography skills
Can work independently and communicate clearly
Are familiar with or open to learning AP style

Whether you're a student, freelancer, or just passionate about your community — we'd love to hear from you.

Send samples and a short introduction to:
daniel@richardsonmediagroup.net
Call (731) 418-4001 for additional information

INITIAL RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED FIVE MILLION DOLLARS ($5,000,000) OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, OF BEDFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE

WHEREAS, by Sections 9-21-101, *et seq.*, Tennessee Code Annotated, counties in Tennessee are authorized through their respective governing bodies to issue and sell bonds of said counties to finance public work projects; and

WHEREAS, by Section 7-86-114, Tennessee Code Annotated, as amended, Emergency Communications Districts are authorized through their respective governing bodies to issue and sell bonds to finance emergency communications facilities; and

WHEREAS, by Sections 7-86-101, *et seq.*, Tennessee Code Annotated, the Emergency Communications District of Bedford County, Tennessee (the "District") has authorized its Resolution Recommending to the Board of Commissioners of Bedford County, Tennessee (the "Board") for the issuance of debt by Bedford County, Tennessee (the "County") to fund the construction, improvement, reconstructing, bettering or expanding, and equipping of emergency communications facilities in an amount not to exceed $5,000,000; and;

WHEREAS, the Board seeks to issue and sell bonds for the purpose of financing, in whole or in part, (i) the acquisition of land for and the construction, improvement, reconstructing, bettering or expanding, and equipping of emergency communications facilities; (ii) the acquisition of all property, real and personal, appurtenant thereto or connected thereto; (iii) technological improvements; (iv) public facilities construction and improvements; (v) reimbursement to the appropriate fund of the County for prior expenditures for the foregoing costs, if applicable; (vi) payment of legal, fiscal, administrative, architectural, and engineering costs incident to all of the foregoing (collectively, the "Projects"); and (vii) payment of costs incident to the issuance of the bonds authorized herein; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to applicable law prior to the issuance of bonds for said purposes, it is necessary to adopt an initial resolution authorizing said bonds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Bedford County, Tennessee, that for the purpose of financing, in whole or in part:

(i) the acquisition of land for and the construction, improvement, reconstruction, bettering or expanding, and equipping of emergency communications facilities;

(ii) the acquisition of all property, real and personal, appurtenant thereto or connected thereto;

(iii) technological improvements;

(iv) public facilities construction and improvements;

(v) reimbursement to the appropriate fund of the County for prior expenditures for the foregoing costs, if applicable;

(vi) payment of legal, fiscal, administrative, architectural, and engineering costs incident to all of the foregoing (collectively, the "Projects"); and

(vii) payment of costs incident to the issuance of the bonds authorized herein.

The County shall borrow money and incur indebtedness through the issuance of general obligation bonds of the County in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed $5,000,000 which shall bear interest at a rate or rates not to exceed the maximum rate permitted by law and which shall be payable from ad valorem taxes to be levied on all taxable property within the territorial limits of the County in an amount sufficient to pay when due the annual amount payable by the County for the bonds as and when such obligations become due and payable. The bonds and interest on the bonds are additionally payable, but not secured by, revenues of the District. These bonds do not constitute a debt of the District within the meaning of any statutory limitation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk be, and is, hereby directed and instructed to cause the foregoing initial resolution relative to the issuance of not to exceed $5,000,000 general obligation bonds to be published in full in a newspaper having a general circulation in Bedford County, for one issue of said paper followed by the statutory notice:

NOTICE

The foregoing resolution has been adopted. Unless within twenty (20) days from the date of publication hereof a petition signed by at least ten percent (10%) of the registered voters of Bedford County shall have been filed with the County Clerk of Bedford County protesting the issuance of the bonds, such bonds will be issued as proposed.

Donna Thomas, County Clerk

Continued from front...

Coach Gunn is equally enthusiastic about this new chapter.

"I'm most looking forward to serving the community and molding young men into gentlemen who will play the game the right way and at a high level," Gunn commented. "I believe in fostering an environment where quality relationships, discipline and knowledge come together to shape not only great players but great people."

Gunn also shared that he is a proud father of a four-year-old daughter Lainey James. And for you Tennessee Vols fans out there, he is also an avid fan.

Community High School will be hosting a Meet the Coach Night where families, students and community members are invited to meet Coach Gunn. This will be held in the Community High School cafeteria on Monday, June 16 at 6:30 p.m.

A baseball tryout schedule has been announced as follows:

Returning Players - Thursday, June 19 at 10:00 a.m.

New/Incoming Players - Friday, June 20 at 10:00 a.m.

All tryouts will take place at the Community High School baseball field, 3470 Hwy 41A, Unionville.

Bedford County Schools is a district of sixteen schools committed to the academic and personal success of each child and serving over 9,000 students.

SCHS Hosts 10th Annual Tennis Camp

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com

SHELBYVILLE, Tenn. – Shelbyville Central Tennis and the Shelbyville Recreation Center hosted its annual three-day tennis camp this week from Monday through Wednesday for ages 5-12.

"We partner with the Shelbyville Recreation Center for this three day camp," SCHS Tennis head coach Allison Smith said. "Usually [ages] 5-12 is what we do; some of them are repeat campers, and some of them wind up in middle school playing, hopefully continuing on to play in high school."

After a spring season that saw Henry Stone qualify for the Boys Region 5-AA Individual Tournament and Lilly Smith win the Girls Region 5-AA Title as well as qualify for the TSSAA Girls Class AA Individual State Tournament, Coach Smith is hosting another annual tennis camp for kids in Bedford County that has been running since the mid-2010s.

"I've been doing a tennis camp since 2015 or 2016 and it's grown," she said. "We did it for the Tennis Association years ago, then we did it with just the high school, and now we partner with the Shelbyville Rec Center."

Lilly Smith was one of the volunteer assistants that helped run the camp, as well as a number of her teammates on the tennis team that finished as the District 8-AA Runner-Up to Tullahoma.

"Camp volunteers are all high school tennis players. It's a little community service helping our youth grow in a sport that you can play the rest of your life," Coach Smith said.

Smith finds joy in not just the sport itself, but helping the youth find both their individual and collective way in tennis as it relates to their lives as a whole.



Shelbyville Central hosted its annual tennis camp this week with more than 15 campers aged 5-12 in attendance.
T-G Staff Photo by Noah Maddox.

"I like to see them [the kids] succeed even if it's the smallest task," she explained. "Not every kid is the same, they all develop differently in different stages in their lives whether it's with tennis, soccer, or baseball, not everyone has the same growth at the same time. When you have a kid who processes things differently, it doesn't mean they can't play, it's just they process differently, so every kid should have that opportunity."

"They all deserve the opportunity to do what everybody else is doing."

2025 MTSU Football promotional schedule is set

MT ATHLETICS

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – Middle Tennessee Football is gearing up for an exciting fall at Floyd Stadium, where the Blue Raiders will host six home games during the 2025 season. Each game will feature a theme designed to unite the Blue Raider community and honor groups who make a difference. With group tickets now on sale, it's the perfect time to rally your friends, coworkers, church groups, or youth teams and be part of the action together this season.

August 30 vs. Austin Peay

#BLUEnited - Community Day
Faith and Family Day

September 20 vs. Marshall

Game Sponsor: Ascend Federal Credit Union
Homecoming
Hall of Fame
Blue Raider Kids Club

October 8 vs. Missouri State

Game Sponsor: Window World
Educator Appreciation
Youth Sports - Celebration of Excellence

October 29 vs. Jacksonville State

Game Sponsor: Murfreesboro Medical Clinic
Breast Cancer Awareness
Healthcare Appreciation
Trunk or Treat

November 8 vs. FIU

Game Sponsor: Mid-South Ford & The Charlie and Hazel Daniels Veterans and Military Family Center
Salute to Veterans and Armed Forces
Scout Day
Family Weekend

November 22 vs. Sam Houston

Senior Day
Lightning's Reading Club

Group tickets are on sale for the 2025 season!



Photo courtesy of MT Athletics.

The athletic department is thrilled to announce that group tickets are now available for all six homes games for the 2025 season. For those interested in bringing a group of friends, family, co-workers, church members or youth sports teams and groups can now purchase tickets for only $12 (regularly $22) when purchasing 20+ tickets directly through the Blue Raider Ticket Office. Group tickets are available in the Family Fun Zone of Floyd Stadium or in the south end zone near the Blue Raider Beer Garden. The $12 price reflects a traditional group ticket purchase where the group leader contacts the ticket office and makes one bulk purchase of 20+ tickets. Additionally, several benefits exist when purchasing group tickets including:

"Welcome to Floyd Stadium" recognition with your group's name on the Jumbotron during the game

Reserved block seating so your entire group may sit together

$10 savings off regular price ticket

Food Voucher add-on option available

On-field opportunities like Blue Raider High-Five Tunnel, Presenting the Colors or National Anthem performance.

*Minimum ticket purchase required. Various for each experience

Party Tent Packages are also now on sale for the perfect hassle-free tailgate experience on a Blue Raider football gameday! With one of our three different ticket/tent packages, reserved tickets can be located in our Family Fun Zone end zone or the Blue Raider Beer Garden end zone, depending on your group's preferences and availability. Party tent locations are available in the grass near the Greenland Drive parking lot, with limited availability in The Grove as well. If you require additional group tickets above what your package offers, tickets are only $12 (group rate) when purchased in advance at the time of your booking.

Package #1 – One 20'x20' Tent, Four 60" Round Tables, One 8' Serving Table, 20 Chairs, 20 Reserved Game Tickets, One Parking Pass

Package #2 – One 20'x40' Tent, Six 60" Round Tables, Two 8' Serving Table, 50 Chairs, 50 Reserved Game Tickets, Two Parking Passes

Package #3 – One 40'x40' Tent, Ten 60" Round Tables, Two 8' Serving Table, 100 Chairs, 100 Reserved Game Tickets, Four Parking Passes

For more information on a traditional group ticket outing, or for our Party Tent Packages, contact John Paul at 615-904-8082.

Lady Champs' Golfer Anna Clanton Signs With MTSU

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com

MURREESBORO, Tenn. – Cascade's Anna Clanton is joining the Middle Tennessee Women's Golf program under the direction of second-year head coach Lauren Wamsley, MTSU announced last week.

"It was great...winning state after winning the region was big for us because Summertown was our rival, and then two weeks later seeing that she [MTSU HC Lauren Wamsley] offered me... never believed it would happen but it did."

Clanton helped lead the Lady Champions to the program's first-ever Region Championship (5-A) as well as the TSSAA Division 1 Class A State Tournament Championship last October. Cascade finished 10 strokes ahead of second-place Stewarts Creek with a total score of 302 (+22). She finished in fourth place individually with a score of 153 (+12) over the two days, and committed to MTSU a few weeks later in November.

"I committed shortly after state – around November – and the reasons I chose MTSU were that it's close to home and I've always been a fan of their basketball team because of Coach Insell," Clanton explained. "It's also a great school."

"When I went to take a visit, I met some of the players too. It was just great to meet them, and I can't wait to learn from them and play with them during my college career because they're great golfers."

Clanton also won both the District 9-A and Region 5-A Individual Championship en route to the State Tournament appearance. She also won the SunDrop Tourney at Willowbrook earlier in the season.

She was a dual-sport athlete for three of her four years in high school – basketball and golf – and her basketball fandom was a feather in MTSU's cap during the recruiting process.

She was one of five seniors on the golf team last year – Tatiana Greene, Kelsey Shatley, Sara-Kate Hall, and Kaydence Miller being the other four – and she says that camaraderie greatly enhanced her experience in making program history.

"It was extra special because we grew together like a family since we had known each other from elementary school," said Clanton. "Just to look back at all the things that we've done and what we accomplished is great. I don't think we ever lost a match our entire high school career, and we had never gone to state as a team before – only as individuals in our junior year – so going as a team because it had never been done before was just great to have that opportunity."

Clanton, who plans to major in Business at MTSU, played softball through seventh grade before transitioning to competitive golf before her eighth grade year.

"Around 8th grade year is when I got competitive, but I've been swinging my whole life," she said. "My parents always play, but I had always played softball [before 8th grade] until I tried it one day and I was kinda good at it."

She also recognizes the role her support system has played in her career so far, thanking both her head coach and her parents.

"We [Clanton and her parents] come out here and play every day as a family, and you start getting better and better without even realizing it. If it weren't for them, I would not be where I am right now because I would not be playing."

"I also want to thank Coach Bankston for a great four years of golf," she emphasized.

Clanton is ready for the next chapter of both her life and her golf career as she prepares to move in on campus starting in August.

"I'm excited to meet new people, improve my golf game, and just live the college experience."



Anna Clanton (pictured) officially signed with MTSU to continue her golf career, leaving Cascade after winning the program's first-ever team State Championship. *Photo courtesy of MT Athletics.*

Borendame Announces Four New Additions to the Blue Raiders

MT ATHLETICS

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – Middle Tennessee men's tennis head coach Jimmy Borendame has announced the addition of four transfers ahead of the 2025-26 season.

Looking to maintain Middle Tennessee's presence on the national stage and remain competitive in Conference USA, Borendame welcomes Jonasz Dizopak, Freddy Murray, Eric Crivei and Birtan Duran to the Blue Raiders.

Dizopak, a transfer from Tennessee State, was the first to commit. The Poland native spent the last three seasons at TSU and will join MTSU for his senior year. Dizopak competed in all 20 matches for the Tigers during the 2025 spring season, playing primarily at No. 1 singles and on courts one and three in doubles. He posted an 8-8 record in singles and an 8-6 mark in doubles.

"Jonasz has been playing high-level tennis and is a top student in the classroom," Borendame said. "I envision him making major steps in his game this season. With a slight nudge to get Jonasz more aggressive, we will unlock his best tennis."

Murray joins the Blue Raiders from UNC Asheville, where he had a strong 2025 campaign. The Irishman played all matches at No. 1 singles and doubles, finishing with an 11-7 singles record. He competed in all 22 matches for the Bulldogs and earned All-Big South First Team honors in singles and Second Team in doubles. Murray spent three seasons at UNC Asheville and will finish his collegiate career at MTSU.

"Freddy is committed to playing pro tennis, and I'm excited to have his senior leadership this season," Borendame said. "His competitiveness each day at practice and in matches will be a huge plus and push everyone."

Crivei transfers from Kentucky, where he saw limited action as a freshman, appearing in 10 matches. He recorded a 3-7 singles record and a 4-1 doubles mark. Despite a quiet start in college, Crivei made a name for himself as a junior, finishing as runner-up at the 2024 Canadian U18 Outdoor National Championship and reaching the quarterfinals at the Indoor National Championship.

"Eric is a big, tall, athletic lefty and he is very feisty," Borendame said. "He competes with a chip on his shoulder. He will continue our trend of top lefties we have developed like Negre, Rauch, Edge and Al-Amin."

The final addition is Duran, a junior transfer from North Alabama. The Turkey native played in every match for UNA during the 2025 season, posting a 14-5 record in singles and an 11-4 mark in doubles. Duran helped lead UNA to a 20-4 record, an ASUN championship and a berth in the NCAA Championship.

"Birtan was an automatic point for UNA in singles this past spring," Borendame said. "He has a great feel from the baseline and just wins. Also, his doubles play is deceptively good and he fits our doubles system well."

With the new additions, Borendame is already looking forward to the upcoming season and continuing to build a championship culture at MTSU.

"I'm excited about each of these four new guys," Borendame said. "Each has the ability to help us both in singles and doubles. More importantly, they are good guys, coachable and want to get better."



Blue Raiders' Head Coach Jimmy Borendame (center) announced four new signings for the Men's Tennis program. *Photo courtesy of MT Athletics.*

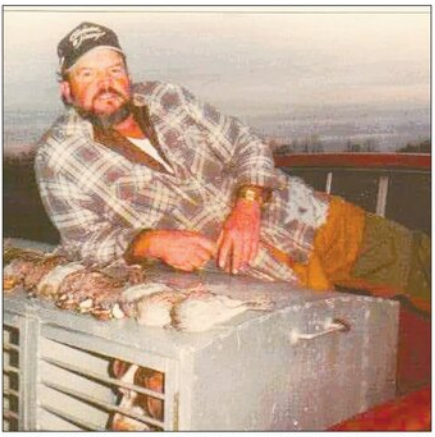
HAPPY Father's Day



HE KEEPS THEM LAUGHING

Photo submitted by Marissa Baker

"Andy Jones is not only a supportive and loving father to his three daughters (Andriana, Marissa, and Michaela-not pictured), but he is also a much-loved "Grandpa Jones." He keeps his family, including wife, Mary, laughing, that's for sure!"



FATHER'S DAY WISH TO A 'BEST FRIEND'

Photo submitted by Misty Ann Guinn.

"This is my father, Jimmy Anderson. I lost him to cancer June 18, 2009. He was my best friend. Now he spends his time with Jesus. I have always been a daddy's girl. I lost him the Thursday before Father's Day in 2009."



A FAMILY THAT PRAYS TOGETHER . . .

Photo submitted by Misty Guinn.

"Happy Father's Day! Rodney Guinn and my precious father-in-law, Charles Guinn." Misty said this Father's Day is extra special for Rodney. "My husband gets his district preaching license in July 2025."



READY TO CELEBRATE FATHER'S DAY!

Richard Sudberry with children: Sadie-age 9; Ava-age 6; Wyatt-age 3. The photo was submitted by Lauren Sudberry. She quotes: "Any man can be a father, but it takes a special person to be a DAD."

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