COMMUNITY NEWS

SHELBYVILLE TIMES-GAZETTE

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County expected to approve 2025-2026 budget Thursday

By Dawn Hankins
dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net

County Mayor Chad Graham was smiling Tuesday during the Financial Management Committee monthly meeting. Perhaps it was actually a sigh of relief as next year's budget does not include a property tax increase.

The tax rate is currently set at the same as last fiscal year at 2.3252 (per $100 assessed property value.)

The finance committee voted unanimously Tuesday to send the budget on to the full County Commission with a favorable recommendation. The Commission meets in special called session 7 p.m. Thursday, June 26, at the courthouse, to consider adopting the 2025-2026 document.

The 2025-26 BUDGETS include: County General Fund 101, Drug Control Fund 122, Highway/Public Works Fund 131, General Purpose Fund 141, Child Nutrition Fund 143, School Age Care Program Fund 146, General Debt Service Fund 151, Education Capital Project Fund 177, and County Capital Projects Fund 178.)

The County has estimated its total revenue for 2025-2026 to be just over $38 million. Es-

See BUDGET, 2A



BEDFORD COUNTY BEAUTY

T-G Photo by Dawn Hankins

Bedford County farmers able to get their hay up recently were likely relieved when the temps got into the 90s this week. Some farmers having to work outside on Tuesday said it was exhausting. Others just went with the flow as they've always done. The extended forecast includes rain which will hopefully cool it back down for a little while.

School system expands culinary arts at Cascade

Students to earn high school and college credits

By Dawn Hankins
dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net

Superintendent Tammy Garrett told school board members last Thursday that Shelbyville Central students "love" the culinary arts program. And, there is generally a waiting list.

Bedford County Board of Education has unanimously agreed to renovate classroom space at Cascade for its culinary arts program.

"It is exciting!" Garrett told board members.

Through the culinary arts program, students can earn dual enrollment-high school credit as well as college credit-in the fields of hospitality and tourism.

This opportunity is part of the 2024 Governor's Investment in Technical Education (GIVE 3.0) Culinary Workforce Innovation and Student Success Harnessed. GIVE is designed to foster long-term regional partnerships between Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology (TCATs), community colleges, industry, economic development/workforce agencies, and K-12 to identify and address "skills gaps" in local/regional workforce pools.

Through data-driven and collaborative work, Tennessee can ensure that postsecondary education institutions are producing the credentials existing employers need while fostering growth and bringing new industry to the state. The GIVE program facilitates the alignment of workforce and education partners through a $40 million competitive grant process. These funds are available to local collaboratives through a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) issued by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC.)



School System Photos

Culinary Arts I class at Cascade High School recently took the ServeSafe Food Handler's exam and all 21 students passed with 100%. Bedford County Board of Education recently approved to expand classroom space at Cascade for a dual enrollment culinary arts program.

Motlow State Community College is working in partnership with Bedford County Board of Education. An MOU (memo of understanding) was signed in 2024, by Motlow President Michael Torrence and Superintendent Garrett.

According to this MOU, Bedford County will provide classroom space and all other appropriate work areas. The County will be in charge of recruiting students to the work-based learning program and is responsible for communicating with all stakeholders.

The County is responsible for developing the appropriate curriculum and helping to keep up with industry demand. Technical education and awareness will be made known as early as middle school.

Culinary Workforce Innovation + Student Success Harnessed (WIS2H) is being conducted under the direction of the Tennessee Department of Education.

Kelly North, vice chair of Bedford County Partnership, has also been involved in this agreement. North has had a long-standing relationship with Bedford County schools through the workforce development program.

Motlow serves as the lead entity and fiscal agent for the local culinary arts program and will facilitate purchasing, budget reporting and all fiduciary roles. The bills from Bell Construction for classroom design and renovation will be paid by Motlow.

Garrett said Thursday, and several board members agreed, they're blessed to be able to work with Motlow and utilize the $750,000 grant. One of the most expensive aspects, Garrett said, has been the kitchen vents/hoods.

Garrrett said the school system was approached by Motlow to participate. One board member advised that says something for the local school system.

A contract is forthcoming, Garrett said, when asked about the longevity of the culinary arts program. (The school board will meet next month, on Tuesday, July 15, rather than its usual third Thursday, due to state Summer Law, which most board members attend, in Gatlinburg.)

Board member Glenn Forsee said while he applauds all grant dollars received by the school system, he wanted to know about the time schedule for the Cascade design work. He asked if construction would happen during school hours and about security protocols for students.

See CULINARY, 9A



3-DAY JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION A SUCCESS

Photo by Marilyn Ewing

Coffee and a celebratory walk were some of the activities during last week's Juneteenth event. The Juneteenth celebration is co-sponsored annually by the Gilliland Historical Resource Center, Inc., and Rosenwald Recreation and Community Center. See more photos on page 12 today.



BEDFORD BRIEFS

MURDER TRIAL UNDERWAY

A jury will soon decide the fate of murder suspect James Michael Beddingfield of Shelbyville. He is charged with criminal homicide in the death of Julie Smotherman.

In May of 2023, Shelbyville Police Department, Bedford and Moore County law enforcement and Tennessee Bureau of Investigation began investigating the suspicious death of Julie Smotherman.

Smotherman's body was later located in Bedford County.

An Investigation into her death led to the arrest of James Michael Beddingfield, then age 46, formerly of Edgemont Drive.

Court dockets indicate Beddingfield was also charged with abuse of a corpse.

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SEVEN BREW DRIVE THRU COFFEE

Business Spotlight

7 Brew is so much more than just a coffee stand.

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New Vikes' Baseball Coach Parker Gunn

Gunn talked to the Times-Gazette about his program expectations and his excitement about the new position.

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BUDGET

From page 1A

timated expenditures for the next fiscal year will be nearly $45 million for 2025-2026. Salaries are estimated at $24 million for the coming fiscal year.

The estimated general fund balance at June end for this fiscal year is $5.3 million. The estimated fund balance in the general fund for next fiscal year is $99,000.

Sometimes year-end unexpected bills or departmental needs arise. So, the Financial Management Committee will have a 2024-2025 budget "clean up" meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, prior to the full Commission meeting.

Bedford County Finance Director Robert Daniel painted a picture of a good financial year when he gave a summary Tuesday of property tax collections which have come in $900,000 more, to date, than the same time last year.

Prior year collections, Daniel advised, are $53,000 more to date. Circuit Court- Clerk and Master-is also ahead by $119,000, due to a tax sale.

Sales tax revenue is up $1.4 million from the same time last year. Daniel advised, however, that the County has budgeted on this tax revenue.

Daniel said the County is waiting on its mineral severance from the state. The mineral severance tax in the state is a tax levied on the severance of specific minerals from the ground, including gravel and limestone.

This tax is collected by the state department of revenue and is used to fund county road projects. The tax rate has been increased.

Counties must submit annual reports detailing the revenue deposited into the county road fund and expenditures for construction, maintenance and repair of county roads.

Mark Clanton, County roads superintendent, explained some state-related information about mineral severance to the financial management committee.

Mayor Chad Graham stated: "We certainly don't want to leave money on the table, when we're having to ask taxpayers to step up."

In regard to financials, an audit committee report, which is mainly just a formality, will be on Thursday's agenda. The County has received a clean audit for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

As well, the following resolutions are attached to next fiscal year budget:

1. Resolution No. 26-1 - A Resolution Fixing the Tax Levy in Bedford County, Tennessee for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2025.

2. Resolution No. 26-2 - A Resolution Making the Appropriations for the Various Funds, Departments, Institutions, Offices, and Agencies of Bedford County, Tennessee, for the Year Beginning July 1, 2025 and Ending June 30, 2026.

3. Resolution No. 26-3 - A Resolution Making Appropriations to Non-profit Charitable Organizations of Bedford County, Tennessee for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2025 and Ending June 30, 2026.

This is the same funding as 2024-2025.

4. Resolution No. 26-4 - A Resolution to Authorize Payment of Additional Compensation to Certain Court Clerks.

5. Resolution No. 26-5 - To provide for Education Incentive Payments to Full-Time Elected Officials of Bedford County Government.

6. Resolution No. 26-6 - A Resolution Making all Federal Grants to Bedford County in Regard to Education Conform to the Federal Regulations of Such Grant.

7. Resolution No. 26-7 - A Resolution to Authorize the Bedford County Highway Department to Perform Work for all City/County Governmental Entities in Bedford County.

8. Resolution No. 26-8 - A Resolution to Authorize Procedures for Interest Earned on Opioid Funds.

A separate fund has to be set aside for interest on monies received. This is a federal court-ordered committee and funding.

9. Resolution No. 26-9 - A Resolution to Authorize Submission of Application for a Litter and Trash Collection Grant.

Master gardener Lynn Wallman discusses deer resistant plants

Guest speaker for June Town & Country Garden Club meeting

Town & Country Garden Club met on June 18 at the picturesque home of member Muriel Robinson.

The delicious meal consisted of quiche, fresh fruit salad, a banana bread muffin and strawberry cake. Hostesses were: Muriel Robinson, Becky Nichols and Nina Lambert.

Naomi Luna provided the Educational Trivia about Armadillos and Vice President Nancy Fayard passed out seed packets for members to add to their garden seeds. These packets will be exchanged with other members during another meeting.

Winners of the flower entries were announced.

Master Gardener Lynn Wallman presented the program. Lynn was featured on an episode of Volunteer Gardener, discussing her deer resistant plants. This episode can be viewed on YouTube.

She spoke to members about this topic and she also answered the many questions members had about different flowers in their own gardens.

It was a very educational and enjoyable program, members reported.



Sitting, left to right, Speaker Lynn Wallman; Ann Farrar; Charlene Nelson; Renee Francis; Hostess Nina Lambert



Vice President Nancy Fayard



Standing, left to right, Speaker Lynn Wallman; President and Hostess Becky Nichols; Hostess Muriel Robinson; Member Pat Johnson



T-G SENIOR SPOTLIGHT WINNER

T-G Photo by Renee Brown

Lyrik Lawson, this year's Times-Gazette Senior Spotlight winner, was recently presented with a $500 check, donated by sponsor and former resident Lytle Hoover. The Hoovers owned funeral homes, stores and markets in the 1930s and 1940s in Bedford County. Mr. Hoover is a proud Central graduate and recently donated his letterman's sweater and yearbook from 1949 to the Fly Museum. We thank Mr. Hoover for his generosity in supporting this contest and his hometown.



THE ISSUE

City Squeezes Out Another Yearly Budget Under Same Tax Rate

By Dawn Hankins

They certainly have a right to laugh. Who wouldn't want some comic relief after having to balance the City budget?

City Council members have been hard at work this spring, trying to balance the next fiscal year budget.

During its special called budget meeting at noon Tuesday, the City approved its 2025-2026 fiscal year budget and tax rate. The property tax rate will remain the same at $1.48 per $100 of assessed value.

While that satisfies a lot of people, especially those who feel already overburdened by property taxes, that tax rate leaves the City having to make some tough choices budget-wise. But they pulled it off as best they could for another year.

Is it at the expense of some very needy non-profits? Maybe. The City is only funding the three that are required-Senior Citizens Center, Shelbyville Bedford County Public Library and Tennessee Rehabilitation Center.

Will it mean some very needed upgrade projects get even further delayed? Perhaps some, for a while.

In the general fund, total revenues and transfers-in for 2026 have been proposed at $26.4 million. Salaries are estimated to cost the City roughly $14,157,249.

As far as salaries, with the town growing like it is, more police and fire personnel must be hired. Engineers shake their heads when examining current fire and police offices, due to the age and deterioration of the buildings.

Even considering all this, there must be a new fiscal year budget by July 1. So tough choices have had to be made.

So, the City has proposed $33 million in total expenditures for 2026. Total 2024 expenditures (audited) came in at $25.8 million.

The City has discussed the ending fund balance-reserves-a lot this month during budget workshops. City Councilman William Christie has spoken out about the continued decline in reserves.

The City released last week that the FY 2024 audited ending fund balance was $23.8 million. The FY 2025 estimated ending fund balance was to be $18.3 million. For the end of the 2026 fiscal year, the City proposes an ending fund balance of $11.4 million.

Some City Council persons have said that they believe both the budgeted revenue and expense numbers are intentionally conservative and the actual deficit this year and next year will be lower than the budget numbers reflect.

The City has proposed the 2026 ending fund balance for the debt reserve fund to be just over $313,000.

Saving for future projects, acquisitions, and other allowable purposes is an important planning consideration for local governments. Reserve funds provide a mechanism for legally saving money to finance all or part of future infrastructure, equipment, and other requirements. Reserve funds can also provide a degree of financial stability by reducing reliance on indebtedness to finance capital projects and acquisitions.

In uncertain economic times, reserve funds can also provide officials with a welcomed budgetary option that can help mitigate the need to cut services or to raise taxes. In good times, money not needed for current purposes can often be set aside in reserves for future use.

The City of Shelbyville has plenty of projects (flood pumps, roads, parking lots, Riverview Distriet plans, new police and fire station and more.) And the ever-blasted flume is always causing havoc of some kind at the City level, so emergency reserve funds must be available.

But the bottom line: City fund balances are decreasing.

It's a struggle to keep everyone happy when it comes to local tax dollars and spending. While local property tax revenues are estimated to come in a bit higher next year, the overall revenue picture (including state and federal funds) is proposed to decrease.

But perhaps, and hopefully, this is just a little conservative.

Still, in an effort to keep people happy (no property tax increases) governmental budgets can become more of a pay-as-you-go operation.

While these types of budgets aim to ensure neutrality, they've also been long debated as far as effectiveness.

Council member William Christie, who has been concerned about decreasing fund balance amounts, said Wednesday that the City was facing a time schedule, that is, the budget had to be passed and sent on to the state. He said he sincerely hopes that the city manager will present the council a balanced budget next year without using any of the reserves.

Christie advised that "dipping in the reserves should be a city council decision." He believes that the City, like everyone else, should not exceed revenue collected.

Just something to keep in mind for next year.



WHAT'S SO FUNNY?

You had to be there

After a very busy month of going through the budget, line item by line item, laughter was no doubt welcomed around the table at the outset of Tuesday's special called City budget approval meeting.

School board gets 'on the stick' with computer upgrades

But the system remains behind on technology needs

By Dawn Hankins

If Bedford County Board of Education had a generous benefactor to step up right now, likely the funds could be used to get the entire school system up-to-date with student technology.

But all indications from Thursday's board meeting suggests that it's going to be a long, drawn-out process. And it's likely to be expensive, to boot.

Christy Williams, director of school technology, told the board Thursday that she had suggested earlier about a lease option. But she said after investigation she's realized this will come at a larger price tag and she could not in good stewardship supply the board with any of the potential surge charges such as shipping, device damage charges, etc. from Dell.

"Our department will always do the will of the board. And we will always do the will of the superintendent," said Williams.

She continued to talk about unknown costs and nuances.

Board chair Michael Cook told Williams, "Just to be clear . . . if we decide, as a board, we're going to lease vs purchase, we understand that there could be costs on the back side of things and that's part of a contractual agreement."

Williams said the school system will be looking at just over $1 million for purchasing needed computers. As for the lease cost, she advised that will not change and will be just over $200,000 over 4 years-about $900,000 total.

There were still concerns from Williams about unknown charges for damages, shipping, etc., which can accrue as well over that time period.

Cook added, "I understand and appreciate, very much, the caution . . . to that particular aspect of it because there's no way for you to get up here on a white board tonight and tell us what that cost could be potentially in 4 years."

Cook added, "I believe everyone understands that. I want you to understand that and don't feel like that's a burden weighing you down."

Williams said she's just trying to be transparent as far as cost. It was discussed how there are currently about 3,000 laptops system-wide that are inoperable, mainly due to not being able to upgrade to Windows 11.

Williams discussed what is entailed in repairing computers. Principals were in the audience and participated in some of the discussion about students taking computers home. Or not, which is the case of Shelbyville Central High.

Charlie Pope, SCHS principal, was asked how serious students take caring for laptops. He said his students for the most part take care of the computers, especially since they don't take the devices home.

Pope said his students have the option of checking computers out of the library. He said this helps with the upkeep. As for seniors, transcripts can be withheld for not returning school property like computers.

Pope said SCHS teachers have carts and the devices are assigned to classrooms. He said teachers are therefore aware of which students damage devices.

Cook asked Pope if he believes the computers would be more damaged if they're taken home. He said you have to consider teens don't always take care of electronics that well; he mentioned his own teens who have their own laptops.

Cartwright Elementary Principal Whitney Yoes said computers at the younger level seem to suffer more accidental damage, like keys getting popped off. She said they're just not experienced yet with computers and have to be taught the necessary care skills.

She said to remember students sometimes have to carry laptops. "We haven't had any go flying down the steps yet which I was very surprised the first time I saw a group carry them."

Williams said Community High and Cascade High allow their students to take computers home. She said those schools have had good success.

Following more discussion about student upkeep of the computers, chair Cook said his thought is that every April, the school system should invest some fund balance dollars into the computer purchase program.

Board member Brian Crews asked Williams about the estimated funding that would have to take place Thursday and again in the same budget year, say next April.

Williams advised that delaying the purchase of computers only puts the school system further behind in its technology.

Cook said, though Finance Director Robert Daniel was not present for the meeting, he believes, based on trend, that the school system will be looking at several million dollars in its fund balance by July 1. He suggested that the board use these dollars to help it get on the path toward major purchases of computers. Cook added addressing the needs each April would help the school board stay on track of what would need to come from the budget each school year.

Superintendent Tammy Garrett advised that the initial purchase for computers, that night, will come from the County's debt service (in the form of a budget amendment.)

Garrett said Thursday night that it might be advantageous to see if the County would give the technology department a boost toward that next April goal.

Williams is concerned with whether those older computers can be upgraded to Windows 11. By adding the recommended 2,500 computers to the inventory now, Williams said that will put the system over 10,000 usable computers.

Superintendent Garrett stated that around 2019, federal monies were available to purchase computers. "Now that money is gone. And that's why we're looking at this."

School board member Glenn Forsee asked Williams what her department needs to efficiently start the next school year. She said that would be 2,450 computers. But Williams was quick to point out that trying to install new computers at the start of the school year is not productive.

The board moved to purchase 2,450 computers now with debt service funds and revisit computer needs again in April. School board member Crews voted no to that action.

Library and city meet about proposed property buy

The City of Shelbyville met with the Shelbyville Bedford County Library Board on Tuesday regarding the City's request for some vacant property belonging to the library. Attorney Ginger Shofner said the City is not ready to discuss its request since information gathering and an appraisal is underway.

Library Board members discussed the City's request to donate the currently unused land. Comments were as follows:

• The library should be compensated for the land donated since the money is needed for Library projects.

• The environment of the Library would be much different with the presence of emergency vehicles near the library. (The City is considering using that vacant property to build a dual complex for fire and police.)

• One member thought the land had been originally donated but learned from another member the library had purchased the land in 2000 from the City.

• One library board member said that maybe the City should buy the Library out and use the current library building as City Hall. The Library could find additional benefactors and build a larger library that can facilitate community needs.

• It was noted that the Library must utilize the Fly on occasion for children's programs due to the lack of space.

Some other comments made during the meeting were that the County had donated a $1 million from the sale of the hospital for the building of the library. And, the City pledged $1 million but never came through on that pledge.

Now would be a good time to make good on that pledge, suggested one board member.

Unfortunately, the Library built on South Jefferson was downsized from the original plans due to the shortfall, one said.

A board member asked about Library traffic. He was told that last fiscal year, 50,000 people

entered the library (there is a counter at the front door.) This fiscal year, the library is expected to exceed that amount.

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CONTACT US
NEWSROOM
dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net
(931) 684-1200
ADVERTISING DEPT.
advertising@t-g.com
CIRCULATION
circulation@t-g.com
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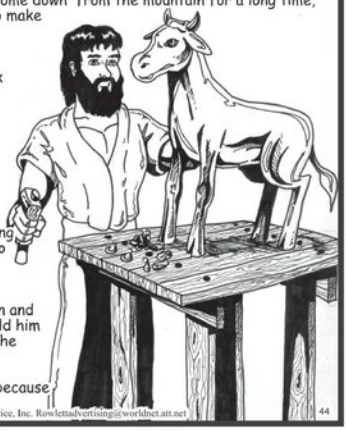
FEATURES FROM THE BIBLE

TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE

AARON and the Golden Calf
Exodus 32

Aaron was left in charge while Moses was on the mountain receiving the commandments from God.

When the people saw that Moses did not come down from the mountain for a long time, they grew impatient. They asked Aaron to make them gods who would go before them.



Aaron instructed them to bring the gold earrings the people were wearing. He took the gold and formed it into a golden calf. Aaron then built an altar in front of the calf and called for a festival to the Lord on the following day.

The people sacrificed burnt offering and presented peace offerings. Then they ate and drank and indulged in revelry.

God knew that these people were sacrificing to the idol and not to Him, so he planned to destroy them. Moses intervened on their behalf and God spared them.

When Moses came down from the mountain and questioned Aaron about the calf, Aaron told him that he had thrown the gold jewelry into the fire and out came the calf.

The Lord struck the people with a plague because of what they did with the golden calf.

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ASSEMBLY OF GOD
FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
2510 Hwy. 231 N., 931-684-4809

HASKINS CHAPEL ASSEMBLY OF GOD
425 Haskins Chapel Rd., Lewisburg
931-388-7191

BAPTIST
BELVIEW BAPTIST
471 Troupe Rd., 931-684-3422

BETHANY BAPTIST
210 Richdale Lane, 931-684-8606

CALVARY BAPTIST
405 Lane Pkwy., 931-684-1870

CANNON BAPTIST
713 S. Cannon Blvd., 931-684-5442

EASTVIEW BAPTIST
404 S. Fairoak St., 931-684-9521

EDGEMONT BAPTIST
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
931-389-9680

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST
289 Hilltop Rd., 931-695-5119

GALILEE BAPTIST
917 Sevier St., 931-652-8543

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
1019 Madison St., Shelbyville
931-460-9037

HURRICANE CREEK BAPTIST
689 Ebbethel Rd., 931-684-4754

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101 Cooper Rd., Unionville
931-294-2281

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2706 Midland Rd., 931-680-0507

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101 Dow St., 931-684-1583

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506 Hill St., 931-684-5807

NEW BEGINNINGS BAPTIST
2027 Madison St., 931-703-9972

NEW BETHEL BAPTIST
1632 Hwy. 64 W., 615-684-5636

NORMANDY FIRST BAPTIST
100 Center St., Normandy,
931-857-3800

NORTH FORK BAPTIST
1641 Unionville Deason Rd.,
931-294-5610

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

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

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304 E. Depot St., 931-773-0145

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931-993-8286

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CATHOLIC
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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
115 High St., Bell Buckle
931-813-3079

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., 931-684-1563

FLAT CREEK CHURCH OF CHRIST
1404 New Center Church Rd.
931-684-1360

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

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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., 256-273-8565

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

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
122 Public Square N., 931-684-2535

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

PLEASANT GROVE UNITED METHODIST
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

PENTECOSTAL
EMMANUEL PENTECOSTAL
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340 Maplewood Dr., 931-684-1243

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209 Thompson St., 931-703-7076

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3602 Midland Rd., 931-437-2599

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507 Coble Circle, 931-224-5184

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Joel Landers

Historical society hears about Falls Mill

The Bedford County Historical Society held its summer quarter meeting on June 16, 2025, in the Fellowship Hall of the First United Methodist Church on the Square in Shelbyville with approximately 80 members and visitors in attendance. Visitors included Walter Martin, David Martin, Ena Carol Selby, Pam Constantine, and Jodie Turner.

A potluck supper started the evening's festivities at 6:30pm, hosted by Becker Baker, Jon & Donna Brock, John Cortner, Alan & Sara McFarland, Sue Morphis, Jared Habel, and Roger & June Debatin, Hazel Foster, and Mary Ruth Simmons. The Fellowship Hall was decorated with Flag Day-themed patriotic table décor, featuring red, white, and blue tinsel centerpieces and flags with like-themed place settings.

Following the meal, the Society held a short business meeting. Recording Secretary Freda Head gave the secretarial report, followed by Treasurer Hazel Foster's financial report and Carolyn Smotherman's membership status at 339 members.

President Al Simmons thanked Jane Cortner, Roy Turrentine, Carolyn Smotherman, Lila Beasley, and Carol Roberts for their contribution of materials for articles published in the Summer Quarterly. He noted that Poplin Memorial History Award honorees were recognized at their high school's Senior Awards Day programs in May and thanked members for their donations in support of this Society effort. Award winners and a list of contributors are included in the Summer Quarterly. Simmons announced the next meeting of the Society Board of Directors will be on July 9, 2025, at the Public Library at 1:00pm.

The Parsons Cemetery marker was erected in mid-May and then dedicated as part of the cemetery's Decoration Day Services on May 25. A short history of the cemetery and its families is given in the Summer Quarterly. Simmons reported that the Society has received requests for markers at two more County historical locations and has prepared preliminary designs for both requests.

After the business meeting, Simmons introduced the evening's program presented by John and Jane Lovett, owners and proprietors of Falls Mill in Belvidere, TN. John is President of the Franklin County Historical Society, of which he and wife Jane have been active members for many years. They gave an update on current features, additions, and activities at the mill. Originally a cotton woolen mill in the 1870s, it was converted during the early 1900's to a cotton gin, then a wood-turning factory, and finally, a gristmill starting in 1970. The facility is also the home of the Museum of Power and Industry. A nearby house was purchased in 1989 and converted into a Bed & Breakfast.

The Lovett's also provided details of one of their latest projects, the construction of a one-room schoolhouse on the mill site and furnished with teaching accessories, furniture, and tools of the period. The structure was constructed from an old log corncrib and adorned with a bell tower and new entry. Heat is furnished with a pot-bellied stove. Period desks, slates, recitation bench, and a pump organ are also featured therein as well as an outhouse outside. Tours of the facilities are available to groups from April through October.

In concluding the meeting, Simmons announced that the next meeting will be on September 15 with a revival of the Society's popular "Show & Tell" program, with members bringing a relic, memorabilia, or an old item to showcase to the Society. Melissa Edwards, Clark & Lisa Bearden, Faye Fuller, Twyla Ramsey, and John & Melody Teague will host the meeting.



(Summer Quarter Meeting Hosts and Hostesses) – From left - Larry & Sue Morphis, June & Roger Debatin, John Cortner, Becky Baker, Donna & Jon Brock, Sarah & Alan McFarland, and Charles Brumbelow pause for a moment before serving up the Historical Society's potluck supper at the June Historical Society.

LIBERTY FCE MEETING REPORT

Ann Spencer reporting

It was a "peachy day" as Liberty Family and Community Education Club (FCE) held its monthly meeting on June 16.

Judy Smith called the meeting to order. Members Jeannie and Judy read inspirations for summer.

Minutes were read and roll call was answered by 10-all who shared their favorite ways to use peaches. (See our favorite summer pizza with peaches from the Diary Alliance, below.)

Bedford County Fair will be July 14-19.

The local Farmers Market is open each Thursday at 2:30 p.m. at the Celebration pavilion.

Whitney Danhof gave a seasonal presentation about peaches.

New County agent Matthew Deist begins work on July 1. A meet and greet is planned at the extension office on July 8 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Club members planned for Share Fair, which was June 24 at 6 p.m.

The picnic will be at Doris Turrentine's house on July 21st at 6 p.m. The club provides meat and members bring sides to share.

The next Liberty FCE meeting is July 21, 2025.

BBQ Chicken & Peach Pizza



- 4 oz. chicken, breast or Rotisserie
- Pizza dough
- 1/4 fruit peach
- 1/4 small red onion
- 1/3 cup BBQ sauce
- Cilantro, handful, optional
- 1 cup cheddar cheese

1. Preheat the oven to 475° degrees. Cut/shred the rotisserie chicken. Cut peach into thin slices. Cut onion into thin slices. Use your hands to tear cilantro into small pieces (or use a knife).

2. Spread BBQ sauce evenly over the pizza dough. Leave a small border for the crust.

3. Sprinkle shredded cheddar cheese evenly over the sauce. Distribute chicken on top of the cheese. Arrange the thin slices of peach on top of the chicken. Scatter thinly sliced red onions over the pizza.

4. Transfer the assembled pizza to the oven and bake for about 10-12 minutes, or until the crust is golden and the cheese is melted and bubbly.

5. Remove the pizza from the oven. If desired, sprinkle fresh cilantro over the top for a burst of color and flavor. Drizzle a little extra BBQ sauce on top.

6. Allow pizza to sit for 5-10 minutes. Slice and serve immediately.



Bedford County Historical Society program speakers Jane & John Lovett (right) review Falls Mill brochures and programs with Society member Mary Ruth Simmons and meeting guests David Martin and Walter Martin.



Historical Society members from left: Pat Richardson, Lorrie Richardson, Mark Majors, and Larry Watkins look over the Falls Mill display detailing the one-room schoolhouse constructed on the Mill property in Belvedere, TN, and featured in John & Jane Lovett's meeting program for the Historical Society.

Vanderbilt Hospital Health Column

What Happens Between the 911 Call and the Hospital

By Kellee West, a critical care paramedic with Vanderbilt LifeFlight Ground Transport



I've had the privilege of serving as an emergency medical services (EMS) provider for 17 years and as a critical care paramedic for the last three years. I now work with the Vanderbilt LifeFlight Ground Transport team, which handles long-distance emergency transports for patients in need of a higher level of care. When you or a loved one call 911, a lot happens between that initial call and the patient's arrival at the hospital. I want to give you a behind-the-scenes look at what unfolds during those critical moments.

The process begins the moment a call is placed to 911. As sirens sound, a whole network of health care professionals from dispatchers and EMS crews to hospital staff spring into action to make sure care is delivered every step of the way.

Before any of that happens though, we take the time to prepare ourselves for the shift. At the start of each shift, the supervisor meets with the communications center to determine staffing for each ambulance and then we begin checking the equipment. We make sure everything is stocked and ready such as syringes, medications, monitors and other tools that might be needed during an emergency response. Every second counts in an emergency and our ability to mobilize instantly depends on being fully prepared.

When a 911 call comes in, dispatch alerts the nearest crew using "tones," which also share quick details about the situation. This could include the patient's current condition or whether the location poses any access challenges. We are expected to be en route within one minute, which is a benchmark known as "chute time." That doesn't leave much room for hesitation, which is why preparation, practice and muscle memory are essential.

Once we arrive on scene, we quickly assess the patient and it usually becomes clear whether someone is stable or not. If the patient is stable, we use that window of time to gather as much medical history as possible from family members or friends who are present, including medications, allergies and recent symptoms to help inform our course of action and relay the information back to our counterparts in the Emergency Department. However, in many cases, we must make decisions with limited information and rely on our training and experience to guide care.

We then stabilize the patient, whether through IVs, medications or other interventions, and transport them to the most appropriate hospital, which is not always necessarily the closest one.

Local facilities like Vanderbilt Tullahoma-Harton Hospital provide certain emergency services that can serve patients with varying care needs, such as chest pain, stroke and more. However, when a higher level of care or specialized treatment is needed, we may need to reroute or use a LifeFlight helicopter to quickly transport the patient to a hospital that is further equipped to meet the patient's needs.

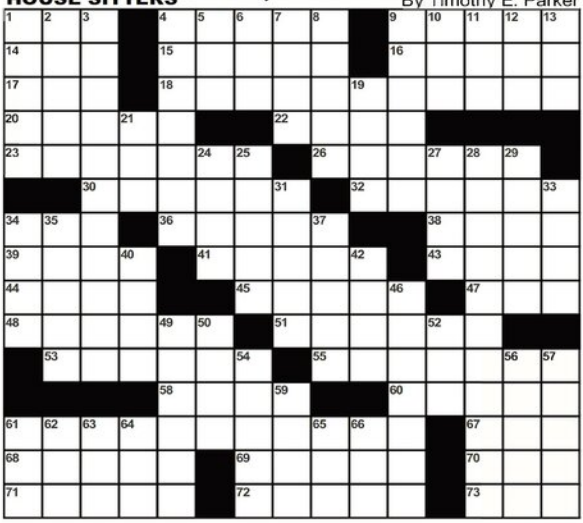
Throughout the transport, we're in constant contact with the receiving hospital. We radio ahead to give a brief overview of the patient's condition so the emergency room can prepare.

Sometimes we even work directly with ER staff while we're en route to expedite care. I remember one case where a patient needed an urgent CT scan. By coordinating with the hospital team while we were still on the way, we got him scanned quickly, and that response time and teamwork ultimately helped to save his life.

EMS is about so much more than just getting a patient from point A to point B. Whether we're responding to a critical trauma or checking in on a patient who often falls and just needs a little help, we're bringing a high level of care to patients wherever they are. Sometimes that means starting treatment even before we reach the hospital doors. Ultimately, our role is to help people get where they need to go, and sometimes — in a life-threatening emergency, for example — that's everything.

Crossword

HOUSE SITTERS FreeDailyCrosswords.com By Timothy E. Parker



CLUES ACROSS

1) Navigational aid
4) "FoxTrot" cartoonist Bill
9) Bondservant
14) 90-degree letter
15) Achier
16) Place for the highborn?
17) Vast grassy area
18) Celebrator to the extreme
20) Banana cluster
22) Mall lure
23) Opposites do it
26) Renounce, as a family member
30) More replete
32) Channel of the sea
34) Daisy of "Li'l Abner"
36) LaGuardia lineup
38) Beginning of a famous conclusion
39) Yemeni city
41) Dry riverbeds
43) Sign of things to come
44) Took a horse
45) Roomy four-door auto
47) Fury
48) Bring into existence
51) Come back
53) Book corrections
55) Thrill to pieces
58) Rural hotels
60) One running easily
61) Handy exterminators
67) Word before "carte" or "mode"
68) 1970 World's Fair site in Japan
69) Frightfully strange
70) Matchstick-removing game
71) Astronomer Hubble
72) Won every game of a series
73) Mariner's "Mayday!"

CLUES DOWN

1) Type of toast
2) Alaska Peninsula native
3) Time-saver for a gardener
4) Driveway material
5) Bygone bird of New Zealand
6) Make a goof
7) Butterfly snarers
8) Tree nymph in Greek myth
9) Most mentally fit
10) Souvenir from Hawaii
11) What you have up your sleeve
12) By way of
13) "Electric" fish
19) Boxers Muhammad and Laila, for two
21) Grand___ (wine bottle words)
24) Hammerhead part
25) Things are bigger there
27) Nabisco item
28) Some utensils for chefs
29) African river or country
31) Revere at midnight, historically
33) Voicemail sound
34) Antony of antiquity
35) Like a whole lot
37) Ending with "blind" or "broad"
40) Able to get to quickly
42) Fill beyond full
46) Group with no members, in math
49) South China Sea island
50) Volcano in Italy
52) Christ the Redeemer city, briefly
54) Opening poker stakes
56) Prefix meaning "sun"
57) Mine vehicles
59) Hearty soup
61) Enemy
62) 1960s hits?
63) Go off course
64) Type of boot or lift
65) Long start, of old
66) Tear inelegantly

Kid Scoop

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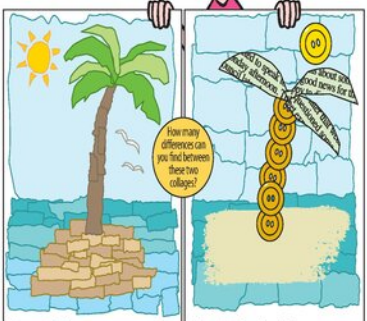
RIP IT! TEAR IT! CUT IT! MAKE A COLLAGE!

What Is a Collage?

A collage is art that's made by pasting different things together to create a picture. Artists use paper, fabric, buttons, photos or even leaves. They paste these things onto a piece of paper or cardboard. No two collages are ever the same!



Collages are a fun way to be creative. The best part is, there's no wrong way to do it—just grab your glue and get started!



Paper Collage

A paper collage is made with torn or cut pieces of colorful paper, newspapers, or magazines. Some paper collages look like a real scene, such as a beach or a tree. Other collages are just interesting shapes, patterns and colors all mixed up. (That's called **abstract** art.)

Mixed-Media Collage

This kind of collage uses all sorts of materials. Paper, fabric, string, paint, and buttons are just some of the countless things you can use! You might glue on sand to make a beach or use cotton balls to make big, fluffy clouds. Mixed-media collages are all about using your imagination and trying new textures.

Photo Collage

A photo collage is made using pictures, often from newspapers or old photo albums, or printed from a computer. People use photo collages to tell a story or remember fun times. It's also fun to create funny new characters by mixing up faces and bodies. It's like making a puzzle from real-life pictures!



Nature Collage

A nature collage is made from things you find outside, like leaves, flowers, small twigs or seeds.

You can use things found on a hike to make a picture of a tree, an animal or just a pretty pattern. Just make sure to only take things that have already fallen on the ground!

Draw the leaf that should come next in each row to complete the pattern.



Standards Link: Math: Identify patterns using symbols.

Extra! Extra! News Message

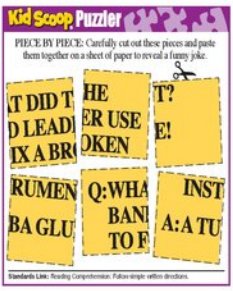
Look through the newspaper and cut out words and letters. Paste them on a piece of paper to create a new message to give to a friend.

Let's play baseball SATurday

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple, written directions.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

PIECE BY PIECE: Carefully cut out these pieces and paste them together on a sheet of paper to reveal a funny joke.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

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

ART
BEST
COTTON
CUT
FABRIC
FACES
GLUE
NATURE
PAPER
PASTE
PHOTO
PUZZLE
SAND
TIMES
TORN

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

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

From the Kid Scoop Lesson Library

News Photo Fun

Choose a photograph from the newspaper. Cut it in half and glue one half onto a blank piece of paper. Then, draw the photo's missing half on the blank paper using pencils, crayons or markers.

Standards Link: Art: Use a variety of media to create artwork.

Write On!

My Favorite Artist Is . . .

Write three to five sentences about your favorite artist.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Write descriptively using supporting details.

Kid Scoop Together

Art Supply Search

Can you find all of these?

- ❑ 3 pairs of scissors
- ❑ 5 glue sticks
- ❑ 2 paintbrushes
- ❑ 4 markers
- ❑ 4 pencils
- ❑ 1 crayon
- ❑ 2 rolls of tape
- ❑ 3 sharpeners



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SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE

Sale at public auction will be on September 5, 2025 on or about 11:00AM local time, At the Main Entrance, Bedford, County Courthouse, 1 Public Square, Shelbyville, TN 37160, conducted by the Substitute Trustee as identified and set forth herein below, pursuant to Deed of Trust executed by ALEXANDRA JULY LYONS AND CYNTERIUS DEVON LYONS, to Megan K. Trott, Trustee, on July 20, 2022, at Record Book TD1062, Page 93-106 as Instrument No. 22006482 in the real property records of Bedford County Register's Office, Tennessee.

Owner of Debt: NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing

The following real estate located in Bedford County, Tennessee, will be sold to the highest call bidder subject to all unpaid taxes, prior liens and encumbrances of record:

Being all of Lot No. 27, on the plan of Final Plat, Wheatfield Subdivision, Phase 1, according to plat and survey appearing of record in Plat Cabinet E, Envelope 353, of the Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee, to which plat reference is hereby made for more complete details of location and described of said lot.

Being the same property conveyed to Alexandra July Lyons and Cynterius Devon Lyons, Wife and Husband, by Warranty Deed from Olo South Properties, Inc., a Tennessee Corporation, dated July 20, 2022, appearing of record in Book D 375, Page 864, of the Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee.

This conveyance is made subject to Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions contained in instrument of record in Book D371, page 519, and Book D358, page 631; Easement for Tennessee Valley Authority of record in Book D221, page 614; Boundary Survey of record in Plat Cabinet J, Envelope 23; Shelbyville Power and Sewer Easements of record in Book D246, page 744 and Book D264, page 452; HOA Charter of record in Book Ch14, page 610; and to any and all matters shown on said plan and survey of record in Plat Cabinet E, Envelope 353, all of said Register's Office.

Tax ID: 077-079.07-K-E-005.00-000

Current Owner(s) of Property: ALEXANDRA JULY LYONS AND CYNTERIUS DEVON LYONS

The street address of the above described property is believed to be 300 Durum Street, Shelbyville, TN 37160, but such address is not part of the legal description of the property sold herein and in the event of any discrepancy, the legal description referenced herein shall control.

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE

Sale at public auction will be on August 19, 2025 on or about 11:00AM local time, At the Main Entrance, Bedford, County Courthouse, 1 Public Square, Shelbyville, TN 37160, conducted by the Co-Substitute Trustees as identified and set forth herein below, pursuant to Deed of Trust executed by ANDREW L. CLANTON, to Megan K. Trott, Trustee, on February 17, 2021, at Record Book TD996, Page 782-793 as Instrument No. 21001757 in the real property records of Bedford County Register's Office, Tennessee.

Owner of Debt: PHH ASSET SERVICES LLC

The following real estate located in Bedford County, Tennessee, will be sold to the highest call bidder subject to all unpaid taxes, prior liens and encumbrances of record:

A certain real estate lying and being in the Twenty-Third (23rd) Civil District of Bedford County, Tennessee, and being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a stake in line with a fence from the Southwest, on the West margin of the Old Tullahoma Highway, 30 feet from its center, at the Southeast corner of the Raymond Breece property and the Northeast corner of the property herein described, thence following the said West margin South 49 degrees 38 minutes East 351.4 feet to a point at the beginning of a curve to the right (delta - 45 degrees 10 minutes, radius - 290.1 feet, tangent - 120.7 feet); thence following the arc of said curve 228.7 feet (chord - South 27 degrees 03 minutes East 222.8 feet) to a point at the end of said curve; and South 24 degrees 40 minutes East 21.97 feet to a fence corner post on the West bank of a creek; thence leaving the said West margin and following the said West bank South 35 degrees 24 minutes West 257.15 feet to a metal pin; South 26 degrees 17 minutes West 205.98 feet to a metal pin; and South 44 degrees 21 minutes West 296.58 feet to a fence post: thence South 41 degrees 37 minutes East 21.48 feet crossing said creek to a metal pin by a large oak on its East bank; thence with the East bank South 46 degrees 56 minutes West 118.50 feet to a metal pin: South 86 degrees 09 minutes West 130.77 feet to a metal pin: South 48 degrees 10 minutes West 273.39 feet to a 14 inch elm; thence South 25 degrees 36 minutes West 175.75 feet to a metal pin: South 41 degrees 48 minutes West 147.10 feet to a metal pin; and South 9 degrees 49 minutes West 64.43 feet to a metal pin; thence North 80 degrees 32 minutes West 48.51 feet crossing said creek to a metal pin in fence on its West bank; thence leaving the said West bank North 3 degrees 41 minutes West 107 44 feet to a fence corner post; thence North 19 degrees 30 minutes East 210.2 feet to a 6 inch elm at a fence corner; thence North 10 degrees 53 minutes West 433.6 feet to a 15 inch elm at a fence corner; thence North 23 degrees 25 minutes West 474.4 feet to a cedar fence corner post; thence North 61 degrees 30 minutes East 1041.2 feet to the point of beginning, and containing 23.71 acres, according to a survey by Rex Northcutt, Registered Land Surveyor, dated March 21, 1988. Being the same property conveyed to Rachel Elaine Latham and husband, Daniel Scott Latham, by warranty deed from Kathleen T. Welsh, unmarried, dated July 30, 2014, of record at Deed Book 321, Page 809, Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee.

Also being the same property conveyed to Andrew L. Clanton, a single man, by warranty deed from Rachel Elaine Latham and husband, Daniel Scott Latham, dated June 14, 2018, of record at Deed Book 344, Page 643, Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee.

Together with a 1978 CAPR mobile home, Model ALS, VIN SN6228, which is located on the above-described real estate.

Tax ID: 112-016.01-000

Current Owner(s) of Property: ANDREW L. CLANTON

The street address of the above described property is believed to be 2612 Highway 130 E, Shelbyville, TN 37160, but such address is not part of the legal description of the property sold herein and in the event of any discrepancy, the legal description referenced herein shall control.

SALE IS SUBJECT TO OCCUPANT(S) RIGHTS IN POSSESSION.

THE RIGHT IS RESERVED TO ADJOURN THE DAY OF THE SALE TO ANOTHER DAY, TIME AND PLACE CERTAIN WITHOUT FURTHER PUBLICATION, UPON ANNOUNCEMENT AT THE TIME AND PLACE FOR THE SALE SET FORTH ABOVE. IF THE SALE IS SET ASIDE FOR ANY REASON, THE PURCHASER AT THE SALE SHALL BE ENTITLED ONLY TO A RETURN OF THE PURCHASE PRICE. THE PURCHASER SHALL HAVE NO FURTHER RECOURSE AGAINST THE GRANTOR, THE GRANTEE, OR THE COUNTY TRUSTEE.

OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES: None

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE

If applicable, the notice requirements of T.C.A. 35-5-101 have been met.

All right of equity of redemption, statutory and otherwise, and homestead are expressly waived in said Deed of Trust, but the undersigned will sell and convey only as Substitute Trustee.

If the U.S. Department of Treasury/IRS, the State of Tennessee Department of Revenue, or the State of Tennessee Department of Labor or Workforce Development are listed as Interested Parties in the advertisement, then the Notice of this foreclosure is being given to them and the Sale will be subject to the applicable governmental entities' right to redeem the property as required by 26 U.S.C. 7425 and T.C.A. §67-1-1433.

This property is being sold with the express reservation that the sale is subject to confirmation by the lender or trustee. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the purchase price. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney.

MWZM File No. 25-000135-505-1
Mackie Wolf Zientz & Mann, P.C., Substitute Trustee(s)
Cool Springs III
725 Cool Springs Blvd, Suite 140
Franklin, TN 37067
TN INVESTORS PAGE: HTTP://MWZMLAW.COM/TN_INVESTORS.PHP (6193tc)

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 J 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.(6123tc)

NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE

WHEREAS, default has occurred in the performance of the covenants, terms, and conditions of a Deed of Trust dated October 26, 2011, executed by Richard G Pierce, an unmarried man, to Fidelity National Title Insurance as Trustee, for Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as beneficiary, as nominee for Reliance First Capital LLC, its successors and assigns, and appearing of record on November 14, 2011, in the Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee, at Book TD764, Page 262, and Instrument Number 11005608.

WHEREAS, the beneficial interest of said Deed of Trust was last transferred and assigned to Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC, the party entitled to enforce said security interest; and having appointed Clear Recon LLC, the undersigned, as Substitute Trustee by instrument filed or being filed for record in the Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee, with all of the rights, powers, and privileges of the original Trustee named in said Deed of Trust.

NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable as provided in said Deed of Trust, and that the undersigned, Clear Recon LLC, as Substitute Trustee or his duly appointed agent, by virtue of the power, duty, and authority vested and imposed upon said Substitute Trustee will, on August 5, 2025, at 12:00 PM, local time, at the main entrance of the Bedford County Courthouse, One Public Square, located in Shelbyville, Tennessee, 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 situated in Bedford County, to wit:

The land referred to herein below is situated in the County of Bedford, State of Tennessee, and is described as follows:

THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED TRACT OR PARCEL OR REAL ESTATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE SIXTH (6TH) CIVIL DISTRICT OF BEDFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS TO WIT: BEGINNING AT A METAL PIN ON THE EAST MARGIN OF MINK-SLIDE ROAD AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE TERRY A. HALL PROPERTY (DEED BOOK 204, PAGE 250) AND BEING THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF

LOT 3 AND THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED, THENCE WITH SAID EAST MARGIN N 33 DEGREES 18 MINUTES 05 SECONDS E 100.05 FEET TO A METAL PIN; THENCE S 56 DEGREES 13 MINUTES 04 SECONDS E 298.70 FEET TO A METAL PIN; THENCE S 30 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 00 SECONDS W 100.00 FEET TO A METAL PIN; THENCE N 56 DEGREES 15 MINUTES 00 SECONDS W 304.34 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, AND BEING ALL OF LOT 4 IN CHAMPION ACRES SUBDIVISION RECORDED IN PLAT CABINET "A", ENVELOPE 239, ACCORDING TO A SURVEY DATED MARCH 7, 1995, BY REX NORTHCUTT, REGISTERED LAND SURVEYOR, RLS NO. 77,117, HICKORY DRIVE, SHELBYVILLE, TENNESSEE. BEING THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED TO RICHARD G. PIERCE BY DEED FROM TRISHA PIERCE RECORDED 6/24/2011 IN DEED BOOK 305 PAGE 163, IN THE REGISTER'S OFFICE OF BEDFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE.

Parcel ID: 058 05600 000000

Commonly known as 541 Minkslide Road Shelbyville, TN 37160

The street address and parcel number(s) of the above described property are believed to be correct; however, said references are not a part of the legal description of the property sold herein, and, in the event of any discrepancy, the legal description herein shall control

This sale is subject to tenant(s)/occupant(s) rights in possession.

This sale is subject to all matters shown on any applicable recorded plat; any unpaid taxes; any restrictive covenants, easements, or setback lines that may be applicable; any statutory rights of redemption of any governmental agency, state or federal; any prior liens or encumbrances as well as any priority created by a fixture filing; and to any matter that an accurate survey of the premises might disclose. In addition, the following parties may claim an interest in the above-referenced property: Richard G Pierce.

If the United States or the State of Tennessee have any liens or claimed lien(s) on the Property, and are named herein as interested parties, timely notice has been given to the applicable governmental entity, and the sale will be subject to any applicable rights of redemption held by the entity as required by 26 U.S.C. § 7425 and/or Tennessee Code § 67-1-1433.

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; however, the undersigned will sell and convey only as Substitute Trustee.

The transfer shall be AS IS, WHERE IS, AND WITH ALL FAULTS, and without warranties of any kind, express or implied, as to the condition of the Property and the improvements located thereon, including merchantability or fitness for particular purpose. Trustee shall make no covenant of seisin or warranty of title, express or implied, and will sell and convey the subject real property by Substitute Trustee's Deed only.

The right is reserved to adjourn the day of the sale to another day, time, and place certain without further publication, upon announcement at the time and place for the sale set forth above.

This property is being sold with the express reservation that the sale is subject to confirmation by the lender or trustee. This sale may be rescinded by the Substitute Trustee at any time.

THIS OFFICE IS ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR AND IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Clear Recon LLC, Substitute Trustee
651 East 4th Street Suite 200
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37403
Phone: (877) 319-8840
File No: 1154-3179A
Newspaper: Shelbyville Times Gazette
Publication Dates: 6/26/2025, 7/3/2025, 7/10/2025

Bedford County property transfers

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

File date: June 17

Location: Qualls Lane; Seller, Frederick Parker Craig Miner; Buyer, Frank Malvagna, Hill Valley Trust; Price, $72,500 (Deed).

Location: Qualls Lane; Seller, Frank Malvagna, Hill Valley Trust; Buyer, Jose Rodriquez, Miriam Cervantes; Price, $92,000 (Deed).

Location: 716 North Main St; Seller, Kasey Kesselring, Maureen Kesselring; Buyer, Vu Anh Nguyen, Giau Thi Huynh Lam; Price, $512,500 (Deed).

Location: 108 Taylor Creek Lane; Seller, Rhonda Lynn Moore; Buyer, Roger Raynor II, Emily Margaret Raynor; Price, $0 (Deed).

Location: 105 Jonathan Ct; Seller, Randall Vincent, Wendy Schafer Vincent; Buyer, Colton Walser, Amber Michelle Squier; Price, $329,900 (Deed).

Location: 1053 Haunt Hollow Rd; Seller, Kaylin Craftin, John Upchurch; Buyer, Ronald Britt Franks, Kristine Teresa Franks; Price, $979,301 (Deed).

Seller, Linda S Mallard; Buyer, David L Hasty, Sueanna Hasty; Price, $100,000 (Deed).

Seller, Matthew Clanton, Shelby Clanton; Buyer, Matthew Clanton, Shelby Clanton, Anna Clanton; Price, $0 (QD).

File date: June 18

Location: 126 High St; Seller, Greg Curl; Buyer, Donnia Frank Jones Sr, Kathy Sue Jones; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 101 Old Pencil Mill Rd; Seller, H & N Group LLC; Buyer, Christopher Sloan, Tina Sloan; Price, $845,000 (Deed).

Location: 203 S Wood Lane; Seller, Sean D Barham, Shelley A Barham; Buyer, Miriam G Cortinas, Esperanza Castro Martinez; Price, $300,000 (Deed).

Location: 763 Bell Buckle; Seller, Three Putt Properties, Reed Emerson, Matthew Reed; Buyer, Rodney E Olson; Price, $106,500 (Deed).

Location: Wartrace Pike; Seller, Ricky Marlin; Buyer, Faysel Khalel; Price, $185,000 (Deed).

File date: June 20

Location: Warner Bridge Rd; Seller, Nathan W Anthony; Buyer, Amanda Nowlin; Price, $80,100 (Deed).

Location: High St; Seller, James Jeffrey Howard, Mindee Baker Howard; Buyer, J & M Development LLC; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 2214 Sims Rd; Seller, Faith Zielke, Charles Zielke; Buyer, Cody Pierce, Kayley Pierce; Price, $375,000 (Deed).

Location: Unionville Deason Rd; Seller, Emily D Smith Anderton; Buyer, Larry Brett Bell; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Deer Point; Seller, Jose Alberto Cruz; Buyer, Haydee Cruz Torralba, Maria Edith Lopez; Price, $0 (QD).

Seller, Jonathan Moyer; Buyer, Gerson O Solis Flores, Alexandra M Gonzalez; Price, $220,000 (Deed).

Seller, Tommie Lenard Boleyn, Tara Lee Boleyn; Buyer, Chelsea Kay Boleyn, Bucker Keith Curtis; Price, $1,000 (Deed).

Seller, Tommie Lenard Boleyn, Tara Lee Boleyn; Buyer, Caitlin Ann Louise Boleyn; Price, $1,000 (Deed).

Seller, Michael J Oettinger Jr, Alfred Joseph Oettinger Estate; Buyer, Linda Lee Morris, Michael J Ottinger Sr; Price, $0 (QD).

Seller, Christopher Richard Madeo; Buyer, Wartrace Creek Farm LLC; Price, $105,000 (Deed).

File date: June 23

Location: Midland Rd; Seller, Michael Walker, Christine Deuel; Buyer, Christine Deuel; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 118 Townsend Ave; Seller, James Harrell, Lisa Harrell; Buyer, Sean Norrod, Nikki Norrod; Price, $260,000 (Deed).

Location: 106 Laurel Park; Seller, SDH Nashville LLC; Buyer, Ayfvin A Pierucini Grateerol, Ashley A Perez Pierucini; Price, $325,000 (Deed).

Location: 133 Baker St; Seller, Tennessee Western Kentucky Conference; Buyer, Bedford Builds Habitat for Humanity; Price, $120,000 (Deed).

WANTED

Paying cash for older sports card collections. Unopened sports card cases and boxes. Comic books and antique sports related items. Shelbyville

931-492-4304

YARD SALES

Huge Moving Sale
Inside - Rain or Shine
602 LaFayette Street
Friday 6/27
& Saturday 06/28
from 8-4, Halloween and Christmas decorations, equipment, shoes,- clothes, antiques, household goods, furniture, cookware, pictures

Yard Sale
1190 Horse Mt. Road.
Thursday, June 26, 8-4
Friday, June 27, 8-4
Saturday, June 28, 8-12
Lots of clothes - $1.00 each
Home decor, Household items and much more.

Death Notices

Jerry L. Yeager, Sr.

Jerry L. Yeager Sr., age 71, of the Laws Hill community of Marshall County, died Monday, June 23, 2025, in Columbia, Tennessee. Jerry was born in Lawrenceburg and was a son of the late Thomas Lofton and Dovie Mary Jane Howell Yeager. In addition to his parents, Jerry was also preceded in death by his wife, Jan Yeager, who died in 2019; two children, James Wilson Yeager and Terry Dewayne Yeager.

Mr. Yeager is survived by his sons, Jerry (Christy) Yeager Jr., Laws Hill Community, Taylor (Jennifer) Yeager, Unionville, TN.

Lawrence Funeral Home is serving the family.

Vicky Calvert Douglas

Vicky Calvert Douglas, age 70, of Chapel Hill, Tennessee, died Tuesday, June 24, 2025 in Lewisburg. Vicky was born in Columbia, Tennessee and was a daughter of the late Edgar Leon and Mary Elizabeth Lovelace Calvert. She was also preceded in death by her husband, Alfred Don "Weasel" Douglas. Vicky worked for 30 years for Chapel Hill Florist.

Mrs. Douglas is survived by her daughters, Beth (J.C.) Chumbley, Becky Jones, and son, Brad (Rhonda) Douglas, all of Chapel Hill.

Lawrence Funeral Home is serving the family.

John Ross Hockaday

John Ross Hockaday, Sr., age 82, of Shelbyville, passed from this life on Thursday, June 19, 2025, at Alive Hospice in Murfreesboro.

He was born on May 30, 1943, in Selmer to the late Bonna Morris and Mallie Vera Garrett Hockaday. John owned and operated Hockaday Tractor and Equipment for 25 years, retiring in 2014.

Survivors include his wife of 60 years, June D. Williams Hockaday; his sons, John "J.J" (Laisha) Hockaday, Jr., and Jeff R. Hockaday, both of Shelbyville.

Doak Funeral Home is serving the family.

Kristopher Ross Taylor

Kristopher Ross Taylor, Sr., age 50, of Bedford County, passed away on Friday, June 20, 2025, at Alive Hospice in Murfreesboro.

Born on December 27, 1974, in Bradenton, Florida, Kristopher was son of the late Ross Taylor.

Kristopher is survived by his children, Ross Taylor Jr. (Sierra), Austin Taylor (Katie), and Brooke Taylor (Rusty Shelton, Jr.), all of Shelbyville.

Doak Funeral Home is serving the family.

Justin Ray Brown

Justin Ray Brown, age 28, of Shelbyville, passed from this life on Sunday, June 22, 2025, in Only, TN.

Justin was born on December 30, 1996, in Shelbyville, to Timothy and Tiffany Brown Hurt who survive him. Justin is also survived by his brothers, Christopher Rodriguez, Dakota Hurt, Noah Rodriguez, and Nicolas Rodriguez; sisters, Destiny Hurt and Mercedes Hurt; grandfathers, Leland Brown and Ric Ables; grandmother, Pamela Ables. He was preceded in death by his grandmother, Joyce Brown, and brother, Brian Rodriguez.

Doak Howell Funeral Home is serving the family.

Janice Carolyn Cunningham

Janice Carolyn Cope Cunningham, age 82, of Shelbyville, passed from this life on Sunday, June 22, 2025, at NHC in Lewisburg, under the care of Gentiva Hospice.

She was born on March 2, 1943, in Sparta, to the late Fred D. Cope, Sr. and Josephine Hutson Cope. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Reggie Cunningham; son, Mike Cunningham; stepson, Steven Cunningham.

She is survived by her son, Randy (Rachel) Cunningham of Shelbyville; step-daughter, Reggina Hampton of Alabama; step-daughter, Kathy (Johnny) Reed of Shelbyville and "chosen daughter- in-law" Mary Beth Sudberry of Shelbyville.

Doak Howell Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Vicky Lynn Merlo

Vicky Lynn Merlo, age 61, of Shelbyville, passed from this life on Monday, June 23, 2025, at Vanderbilt Bedford Hospital.

Vicky was born on April 13, 1964, in Shelbyville, to the late Robert Earl Sanders and Kathleen Dollar. Vicky is survived by her husband, Benson Merlo; children: Robert Cody Sanders, Brandi Merlo, and Brandon Merlo.

Doak Howell Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

John Leroy Bonner

John Leroy Bonner, 78, of Chapel Hill, died June 20, 2025. He was owner/operator of Down Under Body Shop and was a veteran of the U.S. Army, Vietnam.

Born November 9, 1946, in Chicago, he was the son of the late Darrell Edward Bonner and Agnes Elizabeth McConnell Bonner. Survivors include his wife of 61 years, Fay Elizabeth Newton Bonner; children, Faye Michelle Hambleton, Linda Marie McAnally, John Michael Bonner (Minerva), Kimberly Ann Bronikowski (William), Jeffrey Darren Bonner (Crystie.)

Hillcrest Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Henry Lee Hargrove, Jr.

Henry Lee Hargrove, Jr., age 84, of the Wheel community in Bedford County, passed away June 21, 2025 in Lynchburg. Mr. Hargrove was born May 1, 1941 in Chapel Hill, TN to the late Henry Lee Hargrove Sr. and Ethel Louise Ragsdale Hargrove. Henry Hargrove is survived by his loving wife of 46 years, Sandra Yoes Hargrove; sons, Tad (Kim) Hargrove of Lewisburg and Tye (Brandi) Hargrove of Hendersonville; daughters, Kathy Hargrove Curtis of Chapel Hill, Lisa (Toby) Yoes Hobbs of Shelbyville and Laura (Bill) Yoes Gordon of Shelbyville.

Lawrence Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Obituaries

Wilma Rhea West Kane



With great sadness, we announce the passing of Wilma Rhea West Kane, age 85, of Normandy, Tennessee. She peacefully departed this life on June 22, 2025. We find great comfort in knowing that she lived a long, well-lived life and will be reunited in heaven with her loved ones whom she missed so dearly.

Wilma was born on January 5th, 1940, to the late Alvia Ray West and Floella F. West. She was raised on her family farm with her brothers and sister in Normandy, Tennessee, where she developed a lifelong love for gardening. She graduated from Tullahoma High School as part of the class of 1958. She loved the community of Tullahoma and dedicated much of her life to volunteering and serving on numerous committees and projects. She was an active member of the American Legion Women's Auxiliary and cared deeply for our military veterans. She also dedicated many years of service to the Bethany Good Neighbors Club and our local agricultural community through 4-H and farmers' markets.

As a career, she worked at the University of Tennessee Space Institute in purchasing for over 30 years. After retiring from public work, she could be found at the local farmers' markets selling her homegrown produce, plants, and preserves. She was known throughout the community for her strong work ethic. She continued to care for her farm daily until her health began to fail just a few months shy of her 80th birthday.

To her family, Wilma is remembered as a loving sister, mother, and grandmother to her two sons, six grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. The role of grandmother was one of her greatest joys. She had a generous spirit and enjoyed preparing Sunday dinners and hosting holiday gatherings at her home. She never missed a birthday and always took time to make her loved ones feel special.

Wilma was preceded in death by her father, Alvia Ray West, her mother, Floella F. West, and her two brothers, David E. West and Harry R. West. She is survived by her dear sister Bonnie West Stephens of Windermere, Florida, her loving sons Robert (Lisa) Kane and Edgar (Dawn) Kane both of Tullahoma, Tennessee, her grandchildren, Father Adam Kane of Signal Mountain, Tennessee, Allison (Casey) McGehee of Meridianville, Alabama, Amy (Nicholas) Cunningham of Tullahoma, Tennessee, Matthew (Rebecca) Kane of Tullahoma, Tennessee, Morgan (Cody) Beattie of Soddy Daisy, Tennessee, Madison Kane of Christiana, Tennessee, her great-grandchildren, Lucas Tyler McGehee, Hope Elizabeth McGehee, Aubrey Claire Cunningham, Jack Montgomery Cunningham, Connor Lee Kane and many nieces and nephews.

In addition to her family, she is survived by many special lifelong friends, including Linda Smith of Normandy, Tennessee, Patricia Outlaw of Tullahoma, Tennessee, Susie Crowell of Tullahoma, Tennessee, and Daryl Hammers of Tullahoma, Tennessee. Our family would also like to express our heartfelt gratitude to her special caregiver, Tracie Smith of Tullahoma, for her devoted care and companionship, and the staff at Life Care of Tullahoma, to whom the family is deeply grateful.

Viewing will be on Wednesday, June 25, 2025, from 6:00pm – 8:00pm, Funeral Service will be held on Thursday, June 26 at 12:00pm at Daves Culbertson Funeral Home with Pastor Joel Capizzi officiating. Interment will follow at Rose Hill Memorial Gardens. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that those who wish to express sympathy consider donating to the 4-H Bedford County Extension, an organization close to her heart.

Donations may be sent to Bedford County 4-H, 2105 Midland District Road, Shelbyville, TN 37160. Make checks payable to the University of Tennessee. Please indicate it is in memory of Wilma Kane.

Online condolences may be made at www.davesculbertsonfuneralhome.com.

Daves-Culbertson Funeral Home is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Is God Dead? The stars and cold coffee

By Ty B. Kerley, DMin.

Last week, standing with the Bible skeptic Michael on the common ground that science affords, we continued to look to the stars to see what we might learn. We have been looking for evidence that the universe had a beginning because if the universe had a beginning, then it had to have a Beginner.

In the early twentieth century, Albert Einstein ventured to say that the universe is continuously expanding and that the planets, moons, and stars are all moving further and further away from each other. Then, some 20 years later, Edwin Hubble confirmed Einstein's equations. Of course, this was all just mathematical theory at the time. By the end of the twentieth century, the Hubble telescope (named after Edwin Hubble) was looking out unto the far edges of the universe. And what the Hubble telescope saw was absolutely amazing.

The Hubble was able to take the light that was being emitted by the distant stars at the very edge of the universe and analyze it by passing the starlight through a prism. In this way, they could separate the different wavelengths of light, just like what happens in a rainbow. But they noticed two odd things. The red band of light had moved or shifted from its normal location in the rainbow. They also observed that the blue band of light from other stars had shifted as well. But this is exactly what Einstein and Hubble had predicted: a shift in the position of the red light in the stars that were moving away and a shift in the position of the blue light in the stars that were moving closer.

Astrophysicists naturally call this "redshift" and "blue shift." But that is not all of the story. The degree to which the red or blue light has shifted is directly related to how far away the star is and how fast it is moving. It is very much like Doppler radar that the highway patrol uses to clock you speeding. This data proves that the planets, moons, and stars are all moving further and further away from each other, and their speed is decreasing. Here is something else that is interesting; the only event that behaves in this same manner is an explosion, a Big Bang of sorts. The instant before an explosion occurs all the material is confined in a very small and very dense location; think of a hand grenade. An instant after the explosion, all the material is broken up into pieces and those pieces begin to move away from each other. But as those pieces move further and further away from their pre-explosion location, their speed gets slower and slower. That is precisely what Hubble is looking at in all the planets, moons, and stars. What that means is that at one point in time, the entire universe was a single infinitely dense particle, what scientists call "The Initial Singularity." Christians call this initial singularity; "in the beginning God created."

But there is still more. The Second Law of Thermodynamics states, "The total entropy of an isolated system can never decrease." That simply means that all temperatures in a system eventually become equal. If I had a big hot cup of coffee sitting on my desk. Over time the coffee would cool off, or we would say my coffee got cold. But my coffee would give up its heat to the air in the room. The temperature of my coffee would go down, and the room's temperature would go up. The increase in the room temperature would be almost non-detectable because the room is so large, but eventually, the temperature of the room and my coffee would come into balance. The same is true of the stars and the universe. Over time, the stars burn their fuel, giving heat to the universe. However, the universe is so vast and so cold that the temperature of space does not go up by a detectable amount. The fuel in the sun and the stars is finite, with a limited supply. Eventually, all the stars will burn out, and the emptiness of space will absorb the heat. It is no different than your car. You fill it up at the station, drive it, and eventually run out of gas. The same is true for the stars. They were "filled up" with gas at some beginning point; they are burning that fuel now, and they will eventually all run out of gas. This is what scientists mean when talking about "the heat death of the universe?" At some point, millions of years from now, all the stars will burn out, and the universe will go dark and cold.

The point in all this is simple: If the universe has existed from all eternity past, why haven't the stars already burned out? If the universe had existed from eternity past, we would not be here today because the stars would have already burned all their fuel. Since we have sunlight and starlight, it tells us the universe had a definite beginning at some point in time. That is just one more indication that the universe had a beginning, which points to a Beginner. Join us again next week as we wrap up (for the time being) our back porch star-gazing with the Bible skeptic Michael.

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 Wauri ka church of Christ and live in Ardmore, OK. You can contact him at dr.kerley@isGoddead.com.)



CULINARY

From page 1A

Forsee said Thursday that when the SCHS culinary arts project was being designed, there was an agreement that there was to be no communication between students and construction crews. He said sadly, that was not the case, and some workers had to be dismissed from the job site.

"I just want to make sure we have protocol in place protecting our students," said Forsee.

Garrett said she would take care of those security concerns with Cascade Principal Sandy Sorrells.

Tennessee Department of Education has stated in reports that the need for a skilled culinary/hospitality workforce is demonstrated in multiple data sources, including the Tennessee Higher Education Commission's (THEC) Academic Supply for Occupational Demand, Jobs4TN, Tennessee Department of Economic & Community Development (TNECD), and the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS.)

In addition to leveraging partnerships within the K-12 community and hospitality industry, work-based learning plays a large role in the implementation of such programs. Students enrolled in secondary institutions will receive dual enrollment credit as well as opportunities for work-based learning, which includes job-shadowing, internships, co-ops, apprenticeships, and more. Embedded certifications will also be available through this program that include essential employability skills and customer service. Additionally, teachers and educators will participate in trainings to enhance and expand classroom learning, according to TDE.

Bottom line, people like to eat in restaurants. And these days, the job market looks good for graduating seniors in the field of culinary arts.

According to a report in 2024, released by the education department (comprehensive career cluster review,) it is the intention of career and technical education (CTE) programs, and course standards within the programs, to ensure students have up-to-date course standards aligned to postsecondary and career needs.

Such schools as Tennessee College of Applied Technology (TCAT) and the University of Tennessee offer studies in the culinary arts. As well, there are many other private and specialized schools and hotels across the state offering opportunities for students to study about areas like kitchen management and tourism.

Students can work toward such job titles as master chef or professional caterer now in post-secondary education.

Figuring into the study of food is real science. It's not all just about making desserts.

SCHS students have learned about the business of catering. Cooks and chefs use math constantly, from measurements to conversions. Culinary math includes ratios, yields and percentages.

Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development estimates the growth of culinary job opportunities will increase between 23 to 40% in the near future.

See the chart below for TN employment projections for 2020-2030 from the Tennessee Department of Education.



CULINARY MASTERPIECE

Cascade Culinary Arts II students created this delicious masterpiece earlier this school year.



PUTTING JOB SKILLS TO WORK

School System Photos

Shelbyville Central's CTE Culinary Arts class prepared breakfast this spring for the annual school board retreat.

Figure 1. Tennessee employment projections for Culinary-related occupations with positive job openings projected 2020-2030.[1]

Occupation	SOC Code	Employment (2020)	Projected Employment (2030)	Projected Growth (2020-2030)[1]	Projected Annual Job Openings (2020-2030)
Fast Food and Counter Workers	35-3023	58,547	75,243	22%	15,228
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	35-1012	19,266	25,904	26%	4,351
Waiters and Waitresses	35-3031	48,005	64,165	25%	12,431
Food Service Managers	11-9051	14,275	18,536	23%	2,238
Cooks, Restaurant	35-2014	21,160	35,263	40%	5,485
Food Preparation Workers	35-2021	32,875	39,742	17%	6,878
Cooks, Fast Food	35-2011	17,444	18,807	7%	2,754
Cooks, Institution and Cafeteria	35-2012	9,835	10,713	8%	1,572
Dishwashers	35-9021	7,342	9,828	25%	1,613
Beverage Preparation Workers	35-3011	6,409	9,348	31%	1,606

Business Spotlight

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

7 Brew Coffee

7 Brew Coffee, 1815 North Main St., was born from a desire to change drive-thru coffee into a fun, mind-blowing experience.

Yes, the Expresso helps.

But owners said they dreamed of serving premium coffee in record time and making new friends while they were at it.

What makes 7 Brew so different? Owners say it is so much more than just a coffee stand.

So, check it out. Drive thru. Get an Irish Crème Breve.



School System Photo

7 Brew Coffee, 1815 North Main St., treated Bedford County Schools Central Office employees on Monday to cold coffees and energy drinks. Schools Superintendent Tammy Garrett and Communications Director Carol Garrette were seen enjoying their favs.



Community High HOSA shines at International Conference!

School System Photos

Recent graduate Alexa Montalvo made history as the school's first-ever ILC competitor to advance to Round 2 in Phlebotomy! While she didn't place in the top 10, her dedication and hard work mark a major milestone for the chapter, the school reports.



Six Community High School students recently represented their HOSA chapter at the 48th Annual HOSA International Leadership Conference in Nashville. They joined over 12,000 future health professionals there.



The incoming officer team also took part in leadership training, while the chapter was recognized at the HOSA Happenings Recognition Reception for excellence in communication and outreach. But as the picture demonstrates, the HOSA leaders also had a lot of fun at this conference.

HOUSE SITTERS

By Timothy E. Parker

M	A	P	■	A	M	E	N	D	■	S	L	A	V	E
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"This is going to be a place where people want to be" – New Vikes' Baseball Coach Parker Gunn Ready for Year One

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com

UNIONVILLE Tenn. – After parting ways with longtime Community staple, Robbie Davis, following a 15-20 (1-7) 2024-25 season, the Vikings announced the hiring of former Coffee County assistant coach, Parker Gunn, on June 9, 2025, as the new Head Baseball Coach as well as a math teacher for 2025-26.

"I loved Manchester, but it was time for me to come back home," said Gunn. "This job popped up and originally, I didn't think much about it. I just had a lot of people reach out to me and thought that I would be a good fit for the program. I already had some connections in Unionville, and they already had a math opening [to teach] so really the stars aligned. After I applied and got to talk to Dr. Ralston, I was bought in."

Gunn took a year-long hiatus from coaching last season, returning to his alma mater – Shelbyville Central – to teach Algebra II and Senior Math, and Gunn says he started to feel like he needed to get back into baseball and coaching once the new year rolled around. So badly, in fact, that he and a buddy began some small-time umpiring in the spring, and now he doesn't plan on separating himself from the sport anytime soon.

"Really I don't ever anticipate letting it go again," he stated. "I told my family that I feel like God gave me an adventure and a ride to ride and I have no clue where it leads, but I wanna ride it and see where it takes us. Hopefully it's somewhere good."

Gunn began his coaching career in Manchester after graduating from Middle Tennessee State University in 2017, accumulating seven years of experience as an assistant coach, and he feels like the lessons he was taught were invaluable.

"I've learned how much service means to a community and how much it means to a team when they see those few leaders be able to step up and serve the team unselfishly expecting nothing in return," he explained. "I feel like that type of embodiment lends itself to a community that people want to invest in. It was good that I had the time as an assistant – I always tell people that I think one of the biggest keys is humility – and when I came in I thought I knew everything about the sport. It helped me mature a lot and helped me realize what's important and what's not important."

"I think kids learn better from people who they trust have their best intentions at heart."

He also thinks that Community is the perfect spot for him and his family, who already have ties to the area. Gunn's wife is a Community alum, Gunn himself student-taught at Community during his time at MTSU, and they plan on enrolling their 4-year-old daughter at the elementary school next fall. Meanwhile, Gunn is excited to begin work on building a culture in the program by focusing on the process rather than results.

"The biggest thing right now is I want good things to come out to Community," he began. "I feel like...you look at the three county high schools, obviously good things are going on at Shelbyville and even at Cascade as far as developing facilities and fields and things like that, and I think Community is due. I think now is also a good time to get them bought into the culture we want to embody out there."

"The way I run a program is very independent, meaning I allow the kids to have the freedom and comfortability to play the game that they've always played and play it at a high level, but not to fear failure or repercussions of failure through their coach to allow them to go out there and have fun," Gunn continued. "We are probably going to be one of the more aggressive teams in the state because they are not going to fear failure in the way that I've seen other high schools across the state.

"We're not results driven, we are completely bought into the process of how we do things and why we do them instead of worrying about what the results are going to look like, and that's really all I can expect out of them."

Gunn says he wants a "revolution in the way that we think, the way that we work, the way that we're curious, and specifically it'll be how they buy into the individual aspect of trusting in themselves and having the freedom to approach the game in a fearless way."



Parker Gunn (pictured) was announced as the new Community Vikings' Head Baseball Coach on June 9. Gunn talked to the Times-Gazette about his program expectations and his excitement about the new position. *Submitted Photo - BCS*

Of course, he recognizes that this will take time, but he's confident that Unionville has the right pieces in place for both him and the program as a whole to succeed in the long-term.

"Community has a small-town feel, and you just don't find it in places hardly anymore," Gunn said. "I like how everybody knows everybody, I like the same kids being with each other K-12, and I think that all helps build a culture. I like to be around people I trust, and in a small-town community you get to know people very well and you build a certain level of trust. If I'm going to choose someplace to live and where I want my daughter to be raised, I want it to be around people I trust and know she's in good hands.

Lastly, Gunn realizes that people outside of Unionville are probably sleeping on the Vikings' coming into next season on the diamond, but he feels like this presents a big opportunity to surprise a lot of people.

"I'm just really excited. I wanna see a high-tempo, super-aggressive team that nobody wants to play. I kinda get this feeling that we're the underdogs, and man, it's a fun way to play. Expectations are low to anybody that's not in Unionville. The people that are in Unionville, I think the expectations remain high and should remain high, and I think it's going to be fun to go out and surprise a lot of people. I know we've lost some guys that have transferred, and I think the opinion around is that Community Baseball is gonna be down. I wouldn't mind going out there and surprising some folks."

"The truth is...Community seems like it's the forgotten school. I think that it's worth investing and looking into and I want people to see the positivity that I'm able to see out there," Gunn concluded. "I think there's going to be a revolution of sorts, and it may not be this year, but this is going to be a place that people wanna be in five, ten years from now."

MTSU to celebrate ribbon cutting of historic $66M Smith Athletic Performance Center on July 30

MT ATHLETICS

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – Middle Tennessee State University will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony on Wednesday, July 30, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. CT to officially open the new Stephen and Denise Smith Student-Athlete Performance Center.

The event will take place in the area between the Rose and Emmett Kennon Hall of Fame building and the new Smith Athletic Performance Center (SAPC), located in the north endzone of Floyd Stadium.

The three-story, 85,000-square-foot facility will serve as the new home for Blue Raider Football while also providing premier training, nutrition, and sports medicine amenities for all MTSU student-athletes. It is the centerpiece of Phase I of the Build Blue Campaign, a $25 million private fundraising initiative to transform the athletic facilities at MTSU.

"This facility represents our unwavering commitment to excellence in collegiate athletics," said MTSU President Dr. Sidney A. McPhee. "It is an investment not only in our student-athletes' performance but also in their health, well-being, and future success both on and off the field."

"The Smith Athletic Performance Center is the culmination of years of vision and support from our community," added Director of Athletics Chris Massaro. "It provides our teams with the resources to train, recover, and compete at the highest level. I would like to thank the many people involved in such a big project."

In addition to housing football operations—including locker rooms, meeting spaces, and offices previously located in Murphy Center—the facility also includes:

A state-of-the-art strength and conditioning center open to all student athletes, named in honor of Blue Raider great and NFL Pro Bowler Kevin Byard

A comprehensive sports medicine and rehabilitation center, open to all student athletes

A dedicated nutrition station to fuel peak performance, open to all student athletes

A striking main lobby named after longtime supporters Tommy and Judy Smith

The third floor club level, named the SRM Concrete Club, featuring premium amenities and views on game day or for special events



Photo courtesy of MT Athletics.

"This building is a bold symbol of our momentum," Massaro said. "It honors our past, serves our present, and positions us for a stronger future."

Fundraising for the Build Blue Campaign is ongoing, with the focus now on Phase II – the renovation of the historic Murphy Center. To learn more or to contribute to this campaign, visit MTSUBRAA.com/build-blue.

The ribbon cutting ceremony on July 30 is a free event that is open to the public. The new SAPC will be available afterwards for viewing.

Middle Tennessee Recruiting Class Ranked 11th Among Mid-Majors

MT ATHLETICS

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – Middle Tennessee head men's tennis coach Jimmy Borendame and his staff continue to draw national attention for their recruiting efforts, as the Blue Raiders were recognized with a top recruiting class among mid-major programs.

With the addition of seven new student-athletes — three incoming freshmen and four transfers — Middle Tennessee earned the No. 11 mid-major recruiting class ranking by Tennis-Recruiting.net. The Blue Raiders are listed among notable programs such as San Diego, Memphis, and Kennesaw State.

Among the new signees are five-star recruit Houston Jacques of Huntsville, Alabama, and Polish transfer Jonasz Dizopak, who joins the program from Tennessee State. Dizopak recently claimed a tournament title at the PPT North Macedonia on the UTR Tour.

Coach Boerndame on the Recruiting Class

"These three new guys have tons of potential. We are excited to work side by side with them in the athletic, academic, and personal development."

With a strong incoming class, the Blue Raiders look to build on their recent success heading into the 2025–26 season. Borendame's squad aims to remain a contender in Conference USA and make a deep run in the 2026 NCAA Tournament.

"We are getting closer each and every day moving in the direction we want to be in November" – New Vikes Basketball Coach Hunter Ferrell Talks Summer Ball Growth

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com

Since Community hired Centennial assistant Hunter Ferrell back in early April to replace long-time head man Robbie Davis, Ferrell has been working to implement his vision and standards for the Vikings' basketball program in time to be competitive during June's camp season.

As the calendar winds down in June in preparation for the July dead period, Community wrapped up its third of three summer camps last week at Page High School, taking on York Institute and Camden Central. Before that, Ferrell took the Vikes to Lebanon to kick off the camp schedule before visiting MTSU two weeks ago, ensuring his new team was able to tangle with quality competition in game settings.

"June has been a good mix of practicing and then playing game after game after game where you have to have a short memory of the game you last played," said Ferrell. "It's been really good to spend a lot of time with the guys, get to know them better, and for them to get to know me better and know what I want. It's been a productive summer."

After preliminary tryouts, Ferrell ended up settling on 20 kids to compete in both varsity and JV games at these camps, although that number eventually fell to 17 for the final week of practice following a couple of injuries. Ferrell says that about half of the 17 are varsity only, a few others are playing in both varsity and JV settings, while the rest are JV only. Of the 20 total, 10 are returning players from a season ago, and Ferrell repeatedly lauded about the upperclassmen's willingness to adjust to a brand new coach's playstyle and standards, even relating his own experience dealing with this situation back when he played.

"I kinda came in knowing and understanding that these seniors and juniors have spent the majority of their basketball career doing something that is different to what I have done, so I've come in having a lot of patience towards them and asking them to have patience towards me where yea, we're going to do things differently, but hopefully you can see why we're doing the things we're doing and if you have questions please ask why we're doing those things," explained Ferrell. "For the most part they've done a really good job of buying in and doing what's asked of them. At least to me, they haven't done or said anything that would suggest they haven't fully bought into what we're doing and what we're going to be about."

"I've been in their shoes before; my senior year we got a new coach and all the good will and everything I had done the first three years of my career had just gone out the window. I had to impress a new guy and he's got different roles for me and different things that I've done my whole life, but these guys have been super patient and super understanding and really getting after it trying to buy into what we're doing."

"When you come in and a coach is completely brand new, there's a lot of adjustments both for me and for them, but they've been really eager and quick learners," continued Ferrell. "You can tell they really love basketball because they're here early getting shots up, they're staying late, they want to be here every time the gym is open, so it's been a transition because we are playing differently than what they were used to playing but they're eager to get better. I've seen progress from two weeks ago to now; I've seen growth, I've seen guys figuring it out, and they understand what our standards are and how good we want to be. We are getting closer each and every day to taking that direction to who we want to be in November."

One of the things that Ferrell is bringing with him is a tough and tenacious attitude on defense, but he also wants his team to push the ball up the floor offensively. With his specialty being on the defensive end, that means he also has an idea of how best to attack a good defense to try and generate high-quality shots on offense.

"I think the simplest adjustment has really been the tempo that we're playing at," Ferrell said. "I think they were initially used to playing a little bit slower, and therefore not having to be in great shape, or not as good of shape as they have to be in right now. I have the luxury where I feel like I have a lot of guys I can put in a game and still be really good which means the guys are getting rest, and I remember in one of our first games, someone said to me in like the third or fourth quarter that 'we're wearing them down,' like the other team was getting tired. In practice we don't have a lot of down time, we are just constantly going and I'm telling them to do everything faster and everything quicker, like we are going to make mistakes but we're going to make mistakes going full-speed. I think that's been a tough transition, just how good of shape you have to be in and what pace I'm expecting them to go at. I think our point guards – Charlie Haskins and Johnathan Lawell – I think have both loved the pace we're playing at, but it's also been an adjustment for them because they ask 'what do you mean we're not walking the ball up the floor?', like we're going. I'm not gonna sit there and harp on them on how we just gave up a basket or be impressed that we got a stop because we're gonna go. I know that was an adjustment for them, but I think they're enjoying it. I think even though they are gassed, they're having a good time just because we're pushing them hard and they're seeing progress and seeing why we're doing it."



First-year Vikings' Head Basketball Coach, Hunter Ferrell, talked with the Times-Gazette about his team's progression over the summer. *T-G Staff Photo.*

Haskins, who scored 22 points against Cascade in the District 9-AA Consolation game last season at Grundy County, has been one of the key players that the Vikes' new coach is relying upon during the summer preparation months. As someone who has played significant varsity minutes in both his freshman and sophomore seasons, Haskins has invaluable experience at the point guard position that Ferrell is extremely thankful for.

"I think because Charlie Haskins has played a ton of varsity basketball his first two years, I'm stepping into a really good situation for what I want and what these guys are capable of because you've got a guy like Charlie who has played instead of stepping in and asking a guy who doesn't have that experience and telling him to play fast and make those quick decisions...it can be difficult," said Ferrell. "For a guy like Charlie who's also a super coachable kid, like he's taking it all in stride. I'm asking him to do things in a different way than he's been doing them, but he continues to get better and make better decisions and you can trust a guy like that. I can ask a lot of him because he's proven it before."

As a head coach, coming into a new situation with an experienced point guard who is also extremely coachable and willing to learn is a luxury that can't be taken for granted, especially one with the skill and ability to get to the cup with force that Haskins possesses. A strong point guard that can essentially be an extension of the head coach on the floor tends to be a defining characteristic of really good teams, and Ferrell is hopeful that this year's Vikings can reach that standard in his first season.

Of course, over the summer, the focus is inherently geared towards the process instead of the actual results of the camp games. Sure, it's nice to be able to win as many as possible, but the end goal of preparing for the fall and winter months when the regular season begins is the top priority. To do that, you need strong leadership, and that is even more true under a first-year head coach to get everyone to buy into what you're trying to do. Ferrell made sure to praise numerous members of his team that have left a strong impression as June comes to an end.

"Jaxson Williams is a quieter kid, but he's one of those older guys that has played a ton so he's someone you can rely on and do what you ask him to do," said Ferrell. "He can take coaching and can do a lot of things that other kids can't do so you can hold him to a higher standard than others and he doesn't complain about the coaching, he just does what is asked of him to the best of his ability and I think a lot of the guys respect that. Josh Powers is another senior and he kind of does it all. He's been a kid that I've referenced multiple times because he's kind of what I'm about. He's gonna take a charge, he's gonna dive on a loose ball, he's gonna do all the things that nobody wants to do but we all benefit from, so I've constantly been like, 'Josh is the only one taking charges, is Josh the only one that's tough enough to help our team out?' or 'Josh is six feet tall but he's getting the most offensive rebounds, what is he doing that you can't do?' There's some pressure when you get called out positively like that, but when you have a kid in your program who you can point to and say we need y'all to do this, that's just been super helpful."

"Two other seniors, Mo Berman and Zack Leathers, have also come in and been big cheerleaders for everybody else," he continued. "They're not selfish or worried about themselves, instead they have been super supportive of the young guys and have done a great job of taking coaching and doing the things they are asked to do."

"I mentioned Charlie, he's been super coachable and has a lot of experience. Johnathan Lawell has been a guy where you just kind of point at him and ask the team if they're playing as hard as he is. He's one of the most athletic kids I've seen for someone his size, and he's got to be miserable to play against. Looking at other teams' point guards when they have to go against him, they just look miserable. His effort is off the charts."

"Logan Reed is playing a position that's completely new. I'm asking him to play more on the perimeter when he's more used to being a back-to-the-basket type of guy, but he's been super coachable and has played really hard and is learning from his mistakes."

"The sophomore class has been really impressive, kids like Masyn Hill I've bragged on numerous times just because of his willingness to do whatever is asked of him. I've got kids like Maddox Thompson and Karson Boyce who are both bigger kids but are going up against stronger and more athletic guys and continue to stick their head in there and grab rebounds and do some of the less glamorous work. Everybody has done something in the summer that is worth bragging about because they're doing such a good job about doing what is asked or doing what is hard. Rising water lifts all ships; we are all competitive and pushing each other to get better."

"I'm just super impressed with how much the kids have been willing to learn and try to get better. I think a lot of times a new coach can come in and there's some pushback or some eye-rolling, but really all I've experienced here are kids that want to get better and work hard and see how good they can get, and as a coach that's all I can ask for," he concluded.

The Community Vikings tip-off the 2025-26 season for Ferrell's first year manning the sidelines on the road at Hickman County on November 18th.





THE JUNETEENTH CREW

Photos by Marilyn Ewing

The Juneteenth Crew worked hard to make sure this year's event was as wonderful as the last. Reports are that it was a wonderful 3-day event this year.



HISTORIC WALK

A historic walk was taken last Thursday in observance of Juneteenth.



CELEBRATING ON THE TOWN SQUARE

A Celebration of Freedom was the theme for this year's Juneteenth event. Several vendors participated. The event is co-sponsored annually by the Gilliland Historical Resource Center, Inc., and Rosenwald Recreation and Community Center. The Center was recognized last year as a National Historic Place.



JUNETEENTH GUEST SPEAKER

Guest Speaker during festivities at Rosenwald last weekend was Dr. JoAnn Sebastain, a Shelbyville, Nashville educator and historian.



COUNCIL ENJOYS CELEBRATION

Shelbyville City Council members looked like they were really enjoying themselves during the Juneteenth Parade around the square on Saturday. Front, left to right, Josh Blevins, Bobby Turnbow (back, left to right) Betsy Noel and William Christie. Sheriff Austin Swing is partially hidden in the photo.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES



First Presbyterian Church-Shelbyville will be praising God this Sunday, June 29th, with singing! Hymn Sing Sunday is comprised of learning the history behind some favorite hymns and singing those hymns. A church pot-luck luncheon will follow the service in the fellowship hall. All are welcome. Services are at 10:00 a.m. in the historic sanctuary (behind the post office.) Can't be there in person.... join the Facebook livestream... First Presbyterian Church of Shelbyville, TN.

Pastor Abe Zimmerman at **Shelbyville First United Methodist Church** will preach this Sunday: "The Heart of Service: Part 2" from Romans 12:3-8. The service will focus on the importance of serving and how our gifts can be used to help others. 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. For those joining at home, worship can be experienced via Facebook or YouTube livestream or tune in to WLIJ 98.7 FM and AM 1580.

Free Summer Meals for Kids & Teens in School!

This summer, Shelbyville Community Soup Kitchen is offering every Thursday in June and July free meals for kids and teens enrolled in school! Sign-up is required through the Soup Kitchen.

For more details or to register, contact Gloria Johnson at 931-607-5913.

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