COMMUNITY NEWS

SHELBYVILLE TIMES-GAZETTE

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Stricter animal control a 'bone' of contingence during Rules meeting

By Dawn Hankins
dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net

A stricter animal control resolution, sponsored by County Commissioner Anita Epperson, was discussed and taken quite seriously last Tuesday during the monthly Rules and Legislative Committee meeting.

Animal Control Director Josie Lowery commented on what some other counties have done and she said she applauds the groups for that. But inevitably stated during the meeting, "With what we work with here on a daily basis, adding more to my already tired staff would require more personnel. It's not as easy as going out writing a citation. Because someone is going to have to keep up with all this that is not complete.

She said she's always been for spayed or neuter best practices. But further stated that she doesn't feel Bedford County is prepared for the resolution currently before the Rules Committee.

She said the animal control building, i.e., employee parking, is landlocked. "There's a lot more thought that needs to go into this before this ever moves forward. We're just not ready."

Epperson then read some of the current dogs running at large stats.

Lowery said she hates the word "stray," because all of the animals had a home at one time.

Epperson continued to read stats. She said she's referring to running at large, which would constitute the spay or neuter requirements.

Lowery went into the procedures for "running at large" dogs. The conversation from Lowery continued into what animal control does each day.

Lowery said she disagrees with the dollar amounts for fines ($50 to $500) do not seem fair to all Bedford County Citizens. She said some pet owners don't have a lot of money to pay such fines.

Lowery said unlike some neighboring counties, BC runs best practice-that is-the animals are not turned out unaltered, Lowery said.

"We operate the facility under state law. I think there's some good points . . . but I do not think as a community the steps have been taken to adopt something like this."

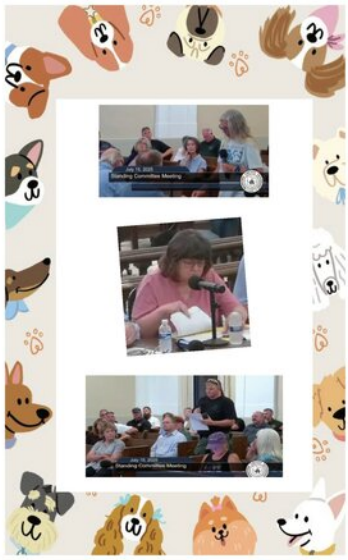
Epperson asked what steps she would like to see happen.

Lowery said right away that would be a better physical facility for animal control. She also mentioned more employees.

Mayor Chad Graham then explained animal control is not in a good situation to take on new responsibilities. Due to so many moving parts, he said this animal control resolution must be studied further before it moves along to the full Commission.

"Our staff and our operation are running at maxi-

See ANIMAL, 2A



Randall and Kay Bartley say farewell to Shelbyville

Like sunflowers in the garden, they're facing west

By Dawn Hankins
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As they packed their last items into the U-Haul Thursday, Randall and Kay Bartley looked over their long-time Shelbyville farmland. They smiled, embraced and felt in their hearts that all is well with their souls as they depart Bedford County.

They've been preparing for this move for a while. But parting, after all these years, is still sweet sorrow, they admit.

Kay notes they are still going to be local landowners for a while. But there will of course now be distance between the people here they've grown to love for decades.

Now seniors, aging has become a topic for the Bartley family. They understand it's important for families to make sacrifices-just like their parents did many years ago.

So, Randall and Kay are heading out I-40 West to Arkansas in order to be a greater part of their children and grandchildren's lives. Their son, Evan, and family live in Razorback country. Daughter, Erin, lives in Alaska with her family.

Kay shared that she and Randall want their grandchildren to have quality time with their cousins; they feel like they can make that happen by the move. The long drives and flights hinder the families from real quality time, according to Kay.

Incidentally, Randall and Kay's children were born late in their married life-18 years to be exact.

They note it seems like only yesterday that their own lives as a couple first began. Their life of service ignited while "Bart" was serving as an officer in the United States Army and based at Ft. Campbell, Ky.



The couple traveled abroad throughout Bart's military career. When he retired, they returned to Kay's hometown of Shelbyville.

See BARTLEY, 12A

The Webb School Shuts Down Football Program

By Noah Maddox
noah@t-g.com

BELL BUCKLE, Tenn. – Last week, The Webb School decided to shut down its football program for the upcoming 2025 fall semester, sources tell the Times-Gazette. This decision comes after a solid 2024 season where the Feet finished 6-5 (2-4) while seeing their season come to a close in the first round of the DII-AA playoffs against the University School of Jackson, 56-34.

The decision sparked the transfer of Joel Wyatt, among other players. Wyatt, who has since transferred to Oakland High in Murfreesboro for his upcoming senior season, is currently ranked as the No. 4 athlete in the Class of 2026 according to Rivals and is heavily targeted by the University of Tennessee.

The Webb School released a statement about the program's cancellation to the Times-Gazette:

On July 16, The Webb School administration made the difficult decision to cancel the fall 2025 varsity football season due to a lack of participation and overall concern for the safety of returning athletes on the playing field. Webb, which joined the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association's (TSSAA) football league six years ago, graduated 10 seniors from the Class of 2025 in May. Since then, The Webb School's football program has also been significantly impacted by new TSSAA transfer rules, which went into effect in April. While we empathize with the student-athletes who will be unable to compete for the Webb Feet on the football field this season, their health and safety remain paramount in this decision.

The new Head of School, Dr. Polly Parker, is just the 14th-such appointment in the school's greater than 150-year history. She also made history in becoming the first woman to assume the position, according to a Webb School press release. She began her duties this summer.

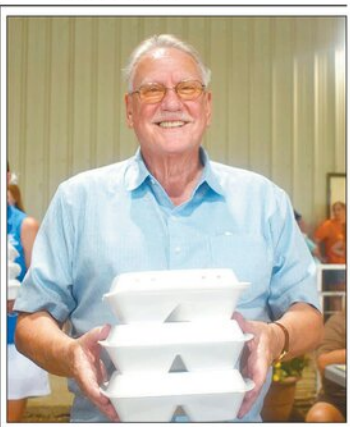
Surprisingly, despite Wyatt initially planning to return to the football team for his final year, Parker, along with other members of the administration, made the extremely difficult decision to cut the program entirely for at least 2025.



LATE SUMMER FISHING FUN

Photo by John Smith

Logan Smith, age 13, caught a big bass last weekend at Normandy Lake. Logan said he and his family, including Dad John, had a great time.



ALL ABOUT SERVICE

Photo by Marilyn Ewing

Mayor Randy Carroll rolled up his sleeves last Wednesday, along with other local government officials, to serve during the annual Senior Day luncheon which is held each year during the Bedford County Fair. See more photos on page 12 today.

Don't forget it's Tax-Free weekend in TN!

City Mayor Randy Carroll shares thoughts on sales tax-free weekend, July 25-27

As Mayor, I want to wish all of you a great school year. Enjoy being with friends, learning about new things, and making lifetime memories.

The citizens of Shelbyville have contributed through taxes to provide you with nice buildings, buses, streets, safety, fire protection, and most important teachers. These are given for you, the student, to succeed in life.

Education will open doors for you. Take this opportunity to be your best and encourage others to do the same.

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Church assists Veterans Services

Experience Community Shelbyville recently donated $10,000 to the Veterans Council.

See Page 2A

BLUE RAIDER SPORTS HALL OF FAME CLASS OF 2025

MTSU Hall of Fame

The Middle Tennessee Athletic Department has announced the Class of 2025 Blue Raider Hall of Fame inductees.

See Page 10A

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ANIMAL

From page 1A

mum capacity, adding additional responsibilities, again, without looking at the whole picture, is not within the best interest of the County government's responsibility to operate daily," advised Graham.

The mayor said without a top to bottom review, this resolution doesn't have a leg to stand on.

The mayor, who announced at this month's County Commission meeting that he will be leaving his office in September, said future daily operations, physical property maintenance, etc., all have to come into play when such resolutions are placed on the discussion table.

Commissioner Epperson explained, "I'm not saying animal control is not doing a good job. I don't want Josie to think that at all. These wouldn't be animals coming into the facility. These would be animals the owners would still be responsible for."

Graham backed up animal control and how the County continues to do its work within state law and confirmed the department's efforts at best practices. That is doing what is best for the welfare of the animals in the community.

Donna Clanton with New Destiny Dog Rescue commented at the outset of the meeting, "My recommendation is to have spay and neuter requirements or, pay a yearly fee. That gives pet owners a choice. For those not choosing not to spay or neuter, I feel a yearly fee would be appropriate."

She said her favor would be $100 per year, per dog. "These fees collected could then in turn be used to address the pet overpopulation problem we have in Bedford County. Animal control has always been at the bottom of the list when it comes to priorities."

Clanton said complaints are growing daily as is the County. The long-time New Destiny volunteer stated that her group would love to hear, on the topic of spay and neuter, "what they [County] can do" about the pet overpopulation.

Included in the discussed resolution, as it stands, is an ordinance for the regulation, capture, impoundment and humane disposition of stray dogs and cats.

Under the spay and neuter section, which was of a big concern Tuesday night, unaltered dogs or cats must be confined indoors, or in a SECURELY fenced area or under direct physical control of the owner by means of a lead, or similar device made for walking animals. Tethered animals not protected by a secure fence or enclosure must be spayed or neutered, according to this proposed ordinance.

Exceptions to this section include:

(a) Persons who own, keep, harbor, or have custody of registered service dogs, or working Police K-9's, or dogs and cats competing in shows and / or hunting sporting competitions, or commercial breeders, or

(b) Persons who are nonresidents of the County and reside temporarily herein for a period

not to exceed a total of thirty (30) days within a twelve (12) month period, or

(c) State licensed Animal Shelters housing animals on quarantine, stray holds, or available for adoption, or

(d) Licensed Veterinary facilities, or an individual that owns, keeps, harbors, or has custody of an animal and who is in possession of a certification signed by a licensed Veterinarian stating the animal is unfit or unable to be spayed or neutered because the procedure would endanger the life, or be detrimental to the health and well-being of the animal.

The real "bone" of contention was the part of the resolution that stated in the event an unaltered owned animal is picked up by Bedford County Animal Control and the owner can be located, they will be given sixty (60) days to have the animal altered. If not in compliance Bedford County Animal Control may issue a fine of fifty (50) dollars per month until the animal is altered or they may pay $500 per year to keep the animal unaltered.

Bedford County property transfers

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

File date: July 15

Location: Pepper Hill Road Bell Buckle; Seller, Thomas D. Crawford, Jessica Crawford; Buyer: Huggins 2021 Joint Revocable Trust, David and Lynn Huggins 2021 Joint Revocable Trust; Price, $194,650.00. Deed.

Location: Trott Rd Lot 3 Bell Buckle; Seller, Thomas D. Crawford, Jessica Crawford; Buyer, Kayla Chapman; Price, $208,830. Deed.

Location: NA; Seller: James A. Farrar, Sr.; Buyer, Michael L. Farrar; Price, $235,000. Deed.

Location: Hensle Road; Seller: Timothy L. Nowling; Buyer, Amanda Nowlin; Price, $0. QD.

Location: NA; Seller: Tim Nowlin, Amanda Nowlin; Buyer, Timothy L. Nowlin Jr., Jessica Peary; Price, $0. QD.

Location: Clem Creek Road, Chapel Hill; Seller: Lori A. Sullivan; Buyer: Jason Sullivan, Lori A. Sullivan, Kevin Petty; Price, $0. QD.

Location: 410 Cedar Grove Rd., Chapel Hill; Seller: Lori A. Sullivan; Buyer: Jason Sullivan, Kevin Petty; Price, $0. QD.

File date: July 16

Location: Whiteside Hill Road; Seller: Tamara Tunie; Buyer: Lynel Horn, Kevin Horn, Joshua Horn, Kimberly Ashley Sadler; Price: $599,500. Deed.

Location: 710 Blue Ribbon Prkwy; Seller: Entersource Properties LLC; Buyer: Transcas Capital LLC; Price: $1,100,000.00. Deed.

Location: 967 Horse Mountain Rd; Seller: Alex Davis; Buyer: Patrick M. Holt; Price: $276,400. Deed.

Location: 909 Winners Circle S.; Seller: Chance Ounsombath; Buyer: Chance Ounsombath, Wirathchada Ounsombath; Price: $0. DEED.

Location: 653 Mac St.; Seller: Blue Reef Homes LLC; Buyer: Catalina Pascual, Brett Alexander Cameron; Price: $254,900.00 DEED.

Location: 128 Deer Point, Unionville; Seller: Dennis R. Monroe; Seller, Matthew W. Reed; Price $30,000.00. DEED.

File date: July 17

Location: 115 Brown Lane; Seller: Beatriz Pineda Lopez; Buyer: Beatriz Pineda Lopez, Shane Shaffner; Price: $0. QD.

Location: 524 Madison St.; Seller: Robert A. Allison; Buyer: Robert A. Allison, Irrevocable Trust Agreement, dated July 16, 2024; Price: $0. QD

Location: 602 N. Main St.; Seller: Mini Super Los 3 Reyes LLC; Buyer: Magdi Ishak; Price: $560,000.00. DEED.

Location: NA; Seller: Cherie A. Beatty; Buyer: SCOOPSMAC2 LLC; Price: $656,000.00. DEED.

File date: July 18

Location: NA; Seller: James E. Farrar Jr.; Buyer: Stanley Robinson III; Price: $315,000.00. DEED.

Location: 803 Hay St.; Seller: April Wall; Buyer: Derek E. Wall; Price: $0 QD.

Location: NA; Seller: Meredith Reach; Buyer: Joshua A. Hanson, Abby Hanson; Price: $310,000.00. DEED.

Location: 208 Hillview Ave.; Seller: SDH Nashville LLC; Buyer: Raymond J. Kimball, Sandra Heister Kimball; Price: $350,370.00. DEED.

File date: July 21

Location: Roddy Lane; Seller: Brian Kilgore; Buyer: Stefin Reed; Price: $240,000.00. DEED.

Location: Peacock Lane; Seller, Rhonda Wagster Uselton, Cheryl Wagster Wright; Buyer: Wayne Morris Simons, Deborah Darlene Simons; Price: $1,100,000.00. DEED.

Location: Carr Creek Rd; Seller: Ray Brown, Stacy Brown; Buyer: Brad McGee, Amy McGee; Price: $190,000.00 DEED.

Location: 371 Honeybee Drive, Unionville; Seller: Rappa Custom Homes LLC; Buyer: Crucificio D. McCarty; Natalie R. McCarty; Price: $615,000.00. DEED.

Location: NA; Seller: Javier Reyes, Amy Gunn Reyes; Buyer: Steven Archer Dill; Price: $206,000.00. DEED.



BEDFORD BRIEFS



FARMER'S MARKET

Farmer's Market on Saturdays at Dixie Doodle Boutique off Highway 41A North in Unionville until about 2 p.m. or produce runs out!

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Flat Creek Community Center is having its annual Ice Cream Social on Aug 2 (first Saturday of month) from 4 to 7 PM. 115 New Herman Rd. Hamburgers, baked beans, chips, and a drink will all be served in addition to homemade desserts and ice cream for $10 a plate. All the money raised goes back into the community center itself to keep the lights on and a space available for Flat Creek.

BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY GIVEAWAY

We are giving away free Backpack with Supplies! Backpacks will be given out at 3 p.m., July 27. Event starts 12 p.m.-4 p.m. at Shelbyville Park and Recreation, 220 Tulip Tree Rd., Shelbyville, TN 37160. For more info, call 931-735-0301.

Celebrating 2 years of local service:
Richardson Media Group

LOCAL T-G WINS TPA EDITORIAL AWARDS

The Times-Gazette team works hard each week to provide you with the best local news coverage. We appreciate all your support over the last 2 years. During the Tennessee Press Association Contest in Memphis recently, the T-G took home a first place, a second and fifth for 2024 editorials. While typically editorials are not the easiest pieces to write in a newspaper, TPA judges from Arkansas complimented the Times-Gazette on its entries and selected the paper to receive the first-place honor (group II) for "best humor column." The first-place award was for an editorial written by Dawn Hankins titled: "I Miss the Snow." The T-G received its other editorial placements for a series of editorials written about the Duksan plant and City development. T-G Team, from left, Dawn Hankins, editor; Noah Maddox, sports editor; and Renee Brown, T-G office manager. Not pictured, but a vital part of the production team, is Jeremy Smith.



Church Assists Veterans Services With Vehicle

Working with Bedford County Veterans Council, a local church has made it possible for Bedford County Veterans Services to have a new vehicle. Experience Community Shelbyville, after a recent fundraiser, donated $10,000 to the Veterans Council, which is made up of Local veterans organizations. The council voted to use the money towards a new vehicle for the county Veterans Services office. Since that time, the office's previous vehicle has gone out of service, so this new vehicle, a 2025 Chevrolet Traverse LT, will replace it. The vehicle is used to transport veterans to and from medical appointments.

Bedford County government made up the difference between the donation and the purchase price of the vehicle, which will be county-owned.

The Veterans Service Office is located in the basement of the historic Bedford County Courthouse on the Shelbyville square. For more information, call 931-685-4838 or go to https://www.bedfordcountytn.gov/departments/veterans_services.php



Bedford County Government Photo

Inspecting the new vehicle are, from left, County Veterans Service Officer Benjamin Eley; Bill Tucker, the lead driver for the Veterans Office; Jim Painter, outgoing commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), who was chair of the Veterans Council at the time the project was approved; Gary Leverette, representing the American Legion; and County Mayor Chad Graham. Not pictured are American Legion commander Tim Estes and Disabled American Veterans (DAV) commander Brian Melton.

Back to school we go: Living a life of love

By Dawn Hankins
dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net

It's that time of the year when everyone is going to be running around getting all the best clothes, backpacks, computers, etc. Yes, it's tax-free weekend in Tennessee.

School starts back Aug. 1. And I think the best thing to remember about kids starting back to school is to remind them to be safe, kind and helpful.

In a nutshell, that still means do what's right by school law and public law. As for being kind, that figures into the no bullying campaign. Bullying can be one of the most detrimental aspects of school life. What am I saying, in adult life, too.

But let's stick with public school today.

I was so happy when my grandson's teacher complimented him on being so "helpful." Coming from a Christian perspective, that really makes us feel great that he already wants to serve.

When I write about back to school, naturally I think about several people in the community that we've lost this week. Four that come to mind right now were once involved in education here, whether as parent, teacher, minister, judge.

We say goodbye to former **City Judge Burt English**. We were blessed at how studied Judge English was in the law. But most important, he always tried to help others. My family will vow how he, and his father, served us all faithfully.

Carolyn Matusek, owner of Carolyn's Dress Shop and Simmons Jewelers for many years, went to be with her Lord this week as well. Carolyn knew to be about business; we had to be dressed for success. We thank her for all those marvelous fashion shows, fashion advice and friendship. We will miss her greatly.

Local pastor Bryan Nerren succumbed to cancer this week. He's no doubt now reaping his reward for starting the Asian Children's Education Fellowship. His time in India and of course for his work locally as a servant of the Lord was immeasurable.

Rheaetta Farrar Wilson was this community. We have big, big shoes to fill. She was involved in all genres of education from children's time at First United Methodist Church to guidance counseling. What a great loss but heaven's gain.

There's one person I must mention in this column; she's not passed but moving to another state this week after being a pillar of this community for many years. It's sadly another great loss for FUMC Shelbyville.

Kay Bartley, know how much this community is going to miss you. (See page 1 story.) I have no doubt you, and Randall, will touch many, many hearts in beautiful Arkansas. Blessings to you both. And a great big THANK YOU!!

If kids ever have a need for role models, this group leaves a legacy of love. Pass it on. It's your turn.



FOLLOWING THE LEADER

T-G Photo by Dawn Hankins

These feathered friends apparently elected a trusted leader and safely followed close behind on this country road. "Many are saying, "Who will show us any good?" Lift up the light of Your countenance upon us, O Lord! Psalm 4:6.



TOWN AND COUNTRY GARDEN CLUB

Speaker Kara Jamison; Hostesses Mary Pickhardt and Naomi Luna



Secretary Linda Anderton, Naomi Luna, Nancy Reak



Blooming Joy Flower Co., photo

Guest speaker for the Town & County Garden Club meeting this month was Christiana floral business owner, speaker and blogger Kara Jamison.





A TIME OF PUBLIC PRAYER

Bedford County Government Photo

A time of public prayer was held Tuesday on the courthouse lawn as part of Gov. Bill Lee's Pray4TN initiative and in keeping with House Joint Resolution #51. Clergy present led prayer in small groups.



PLEASE DISPOSE OF WASTE IN PROPER AREAS

Diane Forbes of Bedford County Solid Waste gave a report during the Financial Management Committee meeting Tuesday. She holds up a "no littering" sign which she said will be placed with the 45 MPH postings that are going up on County roads.



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FEATURES FROM THE BIBLE

TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE

More Rebels
Numbers 16

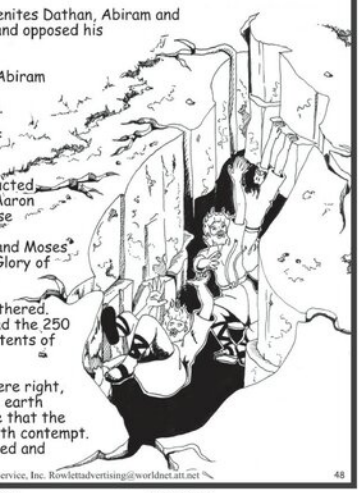
Korah, great-grandson of Levi, and Reubenites Dathan, Abiram and On took men and rose up against Moses and opposed his leadership. 250 joined with them.

Moses dealt with Korah but Dathan and Abiram refused to respond to his summons. Moses called an assembly of all of Israel. He wanted to settle the question of whom the Lord wanted to be in charge of the Israelites.

After a prayer to the Lord, Moses instructed Korah and his followers to appear with Aaron before the Lord the next day with incense censers, and present them to the Lord. Korah and his followers met with Aaron and Moses in front of the tent of meeting and the Glory of the Lord appeared.

The Lord chose to destroy those 250 gathered. Moses and Aaron prayed and the Lord had the 250 elders to separate themselves from the tents of Korah, Dathan and Abiram.

Moses declared that if these 3 rebels were right, they would die a natural death but if the earth opened and swallowed them, all would see that the three rebels had threatened the Lord with contempt. Immediately the earth cracked and opened and swallowed Korah and his men.



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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

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

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

MOUNT ZION BAPTIST
101 Dow St., 931-684-1583

MT. ZION BAPTIST
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

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

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

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

SHELBYVILLE MILLS BAPTIST
900 Union St., 931-684-3625

SOUTHSIDE BAPTIST
900 S. Cannon Blvd., 931-684-6136

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

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

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

VICTORY INDEPENDENT BAPTIST
2200 N. Main St., 931-684-8114

CATHOLIC

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

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

CHRISTIAN

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

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

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

CHURCH OF CHRIST
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

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

BRIGHT TEMPLE COGIC
516 Elm St., 931-684-7356

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

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

EPISCOPAL

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

EVANGELICAL

EAST PARK EVANGELICAL
103 E. Pkwy., 256-273-8565

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
1005 Belmont Ave., 931-685-6999

IGLESIA APOSTELIC PENTECOSTAL
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SHELBYVILLE UNITED PENTECOSTAL
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WHOSOEVER WILL PENTECOSTAL
219 E. Cedar St., 931-684-4384

PRESBYTERIAN

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
600 N. Brittain St., 931-684-6541

GREEN HILL CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN
1900 Unionville Deason Rd., Bell Buckle
931-294-2040

NORMANDY PRESBYTERIAN
106 Center St., Normandy, 931-857-9395

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

FIRST SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
101 Church St., 931-685-9588

OTHER

ABUNDANT LIFE
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AGAPE WORSHIP CENTER
340 Maplewood Dr., 931-684-1243

BEREAN WAY CHRISITAN FELLOWSHIP
209 Thompson St., 931-703-7076

BLANKENSHIP COMMUNITY CHURCH
3602 Midland Rd., 931-437-2599

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
500 Elm Street, 931-684-0202

CHURCH AT ZION HILL
510 Thompson Rd., 931-581-4777

FELLOWSHIP FOR CHRIST
142 Richdale Lane, 931-684-0949

GATEWAY
1250 Madison St., 931-684-2794

HOUSE OF PRAYER
86 Union St., 931-703-5162

HOUSE OF PRAYER MINISTRY OF FAITH
907 W. Lane St., 931-639-1368

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF PRAYER
865 Union St., 931-703-5162

KING CHAPEL CHURCH AT UNION RIDGE
510 Union Ridge Rd., Wartrace, 931-389-6248

LIGHTHOUSE
111 Church St., 931-684-4900

LIVING STONES COMMUNITY
304 Old Nashville Dirt Rd., 931-684-6883

LIVING WATER
3383 Hwy. 41A N. Unionville, 931-993-2477

MIRACLE TABERNACLE
507 Coble Circle, 931-224-5184

MOUNT VIEW
1331 Horse Mountain Rd., 931-685-0337

MULLIN CHAPEL
601 Ledbetter Rd., 931-685-4547

NUEVA VIDA
1304 Madison St., 931-580-0365

NEW LIFE
111 Church St., 931-735-6720

PEOPLE'S CHURCH
1890 Madison St., 931-680-4880

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

SHILOH OUTREACH CHURCH
2547 Hwy. 64 W., 931-684-0972

VICTORY CELEBRATION REVIVAL
1000 Colloredo Blvd., 931-680-0302

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

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201 Lane Pkwy, Shelbyville
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Sunday 10-2
Lunch buffet every day
Pastors eat free on Sunday

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All Types of Imports
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Things Happen
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Mullins Insurance Agency
204 N. Main St
Shelbyville, Tn 37160
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Fax: 931-680-0322
Email: Mullins208@yahoo.com

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Shelbyville, TN 37160
931-684-1771 ◆ FAX 931-684-4044

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• Life • Commercial
Kay, Zack & Jennifer
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Ray Brown
Owner
Shop: 931-685-0046
Fax: 931-685-0047
raysquintasbody@yahoo.com
RAYS Paint & Body
931-685-0046
24 Hr. Towing
114 Prince Street • P.O. Box 143 • Shelbyville, TN 37160

COLDWELL BANKER
SOUTHERN REALTY
931-684-5405
1706 N. Main Street
Shelbyville, TN 37160
Don Barnes
Cindy Barnes

JOEL'S TIRE & BRAKE
TIRES, BRAKES, ALIGNMENTS,
TUNE-UPS, CUSTOM EXHAUST & AC REPAIR
931-684-9000
923 COLUMBIA BLVD. SHELBYVILLE, TN
Joel Landers





RISING CHEER STARS

School System Photo

Harris Middle School recently held a 3-day mini cheer camp. Participants learned cheers and stunts. Coach is Tristea Bankston, a volunteer.





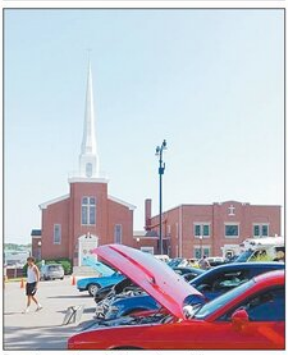
BCSO SPECIAL TRAINING HELD

BCSO Photos

Deputy Aaron Huitt, Sgt. Chris Morton and Lt. Kevin Roddy recently presented an active shooter training class for Bedford County Sheriff's Department. With the start of the school year around the corner, BCSO states this training which incorporated some new tactics, was very timely and valuable.







Recent car show held on the public square near FUMC Shelbyville.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

First United Methodist Church - Shelbyville

Pastor Abe Zimmerman at First United Methodist Church Shelbyville will preach this Sunday, "Giving and Receiving" from Matthew 10:5-8. As Jesus prepares to send out the Twelve Disciples, he tells them this: "Freely you have received; freely give." Let's see what Jesus meant for them and us. 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, experience the service through Facebook or YouTube livestream or tune in to WLIJ 98.7 FM and AM 1580.

Exciting news for CTE heading back into new school year

BEDFORD COUNTY CTE

Bedford County Schools was recently awarded the Perkins Reserve Grant in the amount of $50,000. This was the highest amount received by qualifying districts.

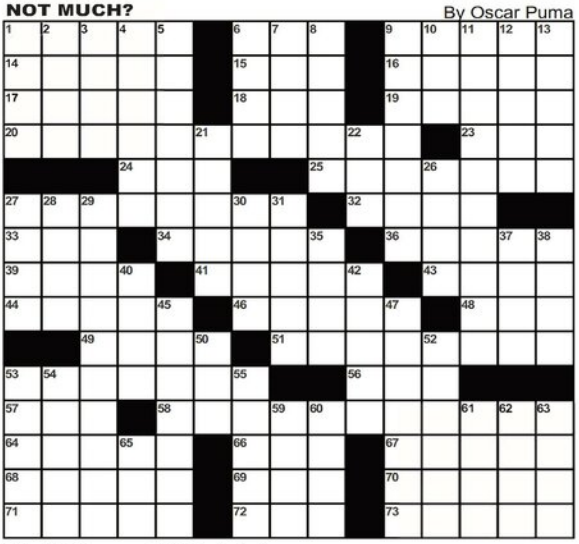
This is a competitive grant that Lori Sexton, CTE director for Bedford County, wrote to support varying CTE programs-those emphasizing career exploration and program implementation. These grant funds will be used to complete the Future Ready Lab at Thomas Magnet School, to purchase fencing materials and feed tubs for the Champion Ag Center at Cascade High School (which is currently being built), and to launch the new Audio/Visual Productions CTE program of study at Shelbyville Central High School.

Tennessee Department of Education - PRG grant awards - support the implementation of programs of study aligned with emerging technology in regionally identified high-skill, high-wage, and/or in-demand occupations or industries, implement STEM in all CTE classrooms, and increase support for special education students. Additionally, the PRG grant opportunity is designed to support districts in rural areas and maintain high CTE student participation rates.

Crossword

NOT MUCH?

By Oscar Puma



CLUES ACROSS

1) Fleeting muscle problem
6) Place to get a massage
9) Exodus mountain
14) Speakers' platforms
15) Dad on "Malcolm in the Middle"
16) Statement of belief
17) Join in a cause
18) Feel below par
19) Apelike
20) Part of some finance deals
23) "Shop_ you drop"
24) Crimson rival
25) Small lozenges
27) Applied first aid, in a way
32) Long-ago days
33) Lead-in for Bravo
34) Less assertive
36) Goldsmith's concern
39) Bachelor's degree
41) Ban
43) Magic charm
44) African antelope
46) Artillery burst
48) Complain incessantly
49) Light source
51) Arranges anew
53) Sports legends Jim and Arnold
56) Polygraph indication, sometimes
57) A long time_
58) Just in time
64) Cut, as wood
66) Commotion
67) Hamilton of "The Terminator"
68) It doesn't hold water
69) Biochemistry abbr.
70) Bar, at the bar
71) Broke off
72) Beanie Babies, e.g.
73) Place to shop

CLUES DOWN

1) Bridge measure
2) Sport played on horseback
3) Mine entrance
4) Expressed relief, in a way
5) Some envelopes
6) Type of rug
7) Stamp for a bill
8) Apportion
9) Dope or dolt
10) Novelist Levin
11) Choice for the super picky?
12) Cliffside dwelling
13) Tranquil scenes (var.)
21) Dusk to dawn
22) Type of humor
26) Study strenuously
27) Breakfast fiber source
28) Breezy
29) Taboo
30) Nestling hawk
31) Prohibit from law practice
35) Hamlet is a common one
37) What a door is when it's not a door?
38) Clothing
40) Bridge or wrestling feat
42) Convex molding
45) Fixed
47) Summer attraction in Baltimore
50) Not an amateur
52) Abstain from
53) Antiquated
54) "Read it_, Mommy"
55) Devour greedily, slangily (with "down")
59) "Giant" author Ferber
60) Kermit's cousin?
61) "I'm_ you!"
62) Aroma relative
63) Back of the neck
65) Eden party

FreeDailyCrosswords.com

Kid Scoop

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

Get puzzle answers, recipes and more at www.kidscoop.com

© 2025 by Vicki Whiting, Editor Jeff Schinkel, Graphics Vol. 41, No. 14

Toon Time



Do you like reading comics or watching cartoons? Have you ever tried to draw a cartoon on your own? Well, today's a great time to try a little 'tooning with *Kid Scoop*'s own artist, Jeff Schinkel.

TOON TIP #1

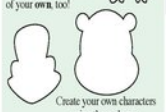
Draw lightly in pencil first. Initially, keep your drawing **loose**, concentrating on the overall **gesture** or **pose** of your character.



TOON TIP #2

Drawing your favorite characters is good practice, but don't be afraid to make up some of your **own**, too!





Create your own characters using these shapes.

Draw five critters in five easy steps:



Standards Link: Visual Arts: Students understand and apply a variety of media, techniques and processes.

TOON TIP #3

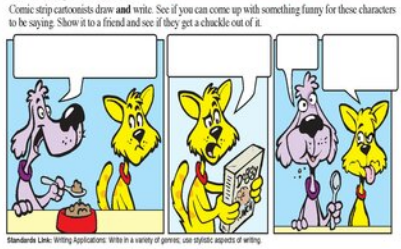
Practice drawing things that can provide a good setting for your cartoons—trees, lakes, rocket ships, desert islands and more!



Try drawing 3 different kinds of chairs in your home.

Toon Talk

Comic strip cartoonists draw **and** write. See if you can come up with something funny for these characters to be saying. Show it to a friend and see if they get a chuckle out of it.



Standards Link: Writing Applications: Write in a variety of genres; use stylistic aspects of writing.

Extra! Extra!

Comic Talk

Select newspaper photos of people or animals. Make up humorous things for each character to say to create a newspaper comic strip.

Standards Link: Writing Applications: Write a variety of sentences.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Crayon Confusion

Whoops! Unscramble the word on each crayon to figure out what color each crayon should be.



Double Double Word Search

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

CARTOONS
CHARACTER
TALK
SCHINKEL
CHUCKLE
PRACTICE
DRAW
LOOSE
GESTURE
STORY
COMIC
SETTING
EVER
POSE
OWN

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

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

From the Kid Scoop Lesson Library

Comic Contractions

Comics have to tell a story in very few words. When possible, cartoonists make two words into one word by making a **contraction**. Circle any contractions you can find in today's newspaper articles, ads or comics.

Standards Link: Word Analysis/Vocabulary: Identify and spell contractions.

Write On!

Toon Opinion

What is your favorite cartoon or animation? Give three reasons why it is your favorite.

Kid Scoop Together:

Comic Character

Comic characters have different character traits. Some are kind, but some are not. Some are courageous, while others are not. What other traits do comic strip characters exhibit?

Select three characters you like from the newspaper comics. Complete the boxes below.

Comic Strip:
Character's Name:
Character Trait:
Action that shows the trait:

Comic Strip:
Character's Name:
Character Trait:
Action that shows the trait:

Comic Strip:
Character's Name:
Character Trait:
Action that shows the trait:

What's a character trait?

Read the list and then see if you can think of any other traits.

responsible, kind, persevering, respectful, honest, capable, compassionate, hopeful, generous, disciplined, community minded

Standards Link: Character Education: Identify positive character traits.

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NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S FORECLOSURE SALE

WHEREAS, Cousin Enterprises LLC executed a Deed of Trust to Momentum Title, LLC, Trustee for the benefit of New Silver Lending, LLC, on April 1, 2022 and recorded on April 6, 2022 in Book TD1048, Page 918, Instrument No. 22002973 in the Office of the Register of Bedford County, Tennessee.

WHEREAS, default having been made in the payment of the debt(s) and obligation(s) thereby secured by the said Deed of Trust and the current holder of said Deed of Trust CWS Investments, Inc. (the "Holder"), appointed the undersigned, McMichael Taylor Gray, LLC, as Substitute Trustee, with all the rights, powers and privileges of the original Trustee named in said Deed of Trust; and

NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable as provided in said Deed of Trust by the Holder, and that as agent for the undersigned, McMichael Taylor Gray LLC, Substitute Trustee, by virtue of the power and authority vested in it, will on August 7, 2025, at 12:00 PM at 1 Public Square, Shelbyville, TN 37160 at the Bedford County Courthouse, Tennessee, proceed to sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash, the following described property situated in Bedford County, TN:

Being Lot No. 170, Covered Bridge Estates Subdivision, Section XII, a Plat of which is of record in Plat Cabinet "A2", Envelope 299, Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee, to which said plan reference is hereby made for a more complete and accurate legal description thereof.

Being the same property conveyed to Randall Cousin and Delicia Cousin, husband and wife, by warranty deed from Ethan Graves, unmarried, of record in Book D370, Page 503, in the Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee, dated December 22, 2021 and recorded on December 29, 2021.

Being the same property conveyed to Cousin Enterprises, LLC, a Tennessee Limited Liability Company, by quitclaim deed from Randall Cousin and Delicia Cousin, husband and wife, dated April 1, 2022, of record in Book D372, Page 876, in the Register's Office for Bedford County, Tennessee.

Street Address: 286 Emily Lane aka 0 Emily Lane, Lot 170, Bell Buckle, TN 37020
Parcel Number: 020LA 002.00 000
Current Owner: Cousin Enterprises LLC, a Tennessee Limited Liability Company

Other Interested Party(ies): Electrical Masters, The Law Office of W. Thomas Bible, Jr.

NOW, THEREFORE, in compliance with Tennessee Code § 35-5-104(a), a true and correct copy of this Notice is displayed online and available for public viewing at www.anchorposting.com.

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.

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; any matter that an accurate survey of the premises might disclose; any prior liens or encumbrances as well as any priority created by a fixture filing; any deed of trust; and any matter that an accurate survey of the premises might disclose; and

All right and equity of redemption, statutory or otherwise, homestead, and dower are expressly waived in said Deed of Trust. The undersigned will sell and convey only as Substitute Trustee. 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 attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

McMichael Taylor Gray LLC
Substitute Trustee
3550 Engineering Drive
Suite 260
Peachtree Corners, GA 30092
Office: 404-474-7149
Fax: 404-745-8121
MTG File No.: TN2025-00160 (7172lc)

NOTICE

ISABEL CALLES CANSECO

The State of Tennessee, Department of Children's Services, has filed a Petition to Declare Child Dependent and Neglected as to Erick Elias Calles Xum. It appears that ordinary process of law cannot be served upon you because your whereabouts are unknown. You are hereby **ORDERED** to serve upon Stephen Marsh, Attorney for the Tennessee Department of Children Services, 200 Athens Way, 2nd Floor, Suite A, Nashville, TN 37243, 615-838-8129, an Answer to the Petition to Declare Child Dependent and Neglected filed by the Tennessee Department of Children's Services, within thirty (30) days of the last day of publication of this notice, and pursuant to Rule 39(e)(1) of the Tenn. R. Juv. P. you must also appear in the Juvenile Court of Jackson County, Tennessee at Gainesboro, Tennessee on the 2nd day of September, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., for the Hearing on the Petition to Declare Child Dependent and Neglected by the State of Tennessee, Department of Children's Services. If you fail to do so, a default judgment will be taken against you pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 36-1-117(n) and Rule 55 of the Tenn. R. of Civ. P. for the relief demanded in the Petition. You may view and obtain a copy of the Petition and any other subsequently filed legal documents at the Juvenile Court Clerk's Office, Gainesboro, Tennessee. (734tlc)

John R. Walker
vs Angelica Walker
Bedford County Circuit Court **Docket No. 14348**

In this cause it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that the defendant is a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, therefore the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon ANGELICA WALKER. It is ordered that said Defendant enter HER appearance herein within thirty (30) days after August 14, 2025, same being the date of the last publication of this notice to be held at Bedford County Circuit Court at 108 North Creek Drive, Shelbyville, TN 37160 and defend or default will be taken on September 14, 2025. It is therefore ordered that a copy of the Order be published for four (4) consecutive weeks succession in the Shelbyville Times-Gazette, a newspaper published in Shelbyville, Tennessee. July 24, 2025; July 31, 2025, August 7, 2025, and August 14, 2025.

Attorneys for the Plaintiff,
Nashville Law Offices, PLLC
Robert J. Turner/ Jill K. Carpenter
500 Church St, Ste 210
Nashville, TN 37219
(615) 834-3476

NOTICE

LUCIA LORENZO RUIZ AND CIRILO MEJIA BOMACO

The State of Tennessee, Department of Children's Services, has filed a Petition to Declare Child Dependent and Neglected as to Elmer Nehemiah Majia Lorenzo. It appears that ordinary process of law cannot be served upon you because your whereabouts are unknown. You are hereby **ORDERED** to serve upon Elizabeth Spurbeck, Attorney for the Tennessee Department of Children Services, 1500 College Park Drive, Columbia, TN 38401 931-309-5947, an Answer to the Petition to Declare Child Dependent and Neglected filed by the Tennessee Department of Children's Services, within thirty (30) days of the last day of publication of this notice, and pursuant to Rule 39(e)(1) of the Tenn. R. Juv. P. you must also appear in the Juvenile Court of Bedford County, Tennessee at Shelbyville, Tennessee on the 22nd day of September, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., for the Hearing on the Petition to Declare Child Dependent and Neglected by the State of Tennessee, Department of Children's Services. If you fail to do so, a default judgment will be taken against you pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 36-1-117(n) and Rule 55 of the Tenn. R. of Civ. P. for the relief demanded in the Petition. You may view and obtain a copy of the Petition and any other subsequently filed legal documents at the Juvenile Court Clerk's Office, Shelbyville, Tennessee. (7174lc)

ESTATE SALE

Estate Sale
101 Deerpoint Court,
Unionville
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Saturday and Sunday -
9AM-6PM
No early birds please
Miscellaneous items
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- **4-Pay:** Pay 25% down and 25% per month for 3 months.
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CONTRACTING ENDS SEPTEMBER 19, 2025.

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10970 FRANKLIN RD.

HIRING

Advertising Sales Representative
Richardson Media Group, Inc.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Welcome To
BCS Kickoff 2025-26
BCS Bedford County Schools

July 28, 2025 | Shelbyville Central High School | 401 Eagle Boulevard, Shelbyville

SCHEDULE

7:00 AM	DOORS OPEN
8:00-8:30AM	WELCOME BY SUPERINTENDENT DR. TAMMY GARRETT & SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRMAN MICHAEL COOK
8:30-8:45AM	TEACHER GRANT INFO & GIVEAWAYS
8:45-9:45AM	KEYNOTE SPEAKER - CARLOS OJEDA, JR., COOL SPEAK
9:45-11:00AM	KEYNOTE WORKSHOP & ADDITIONAL SESSIONS
11:00AM-12:00PM	LUNCH ON YOUR OWN
12:00-3:20PM	CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Ascend Federal Credit Union | Cooper Steel | Dennis Young Insurance | Elaborate Images | Fav Nutrition | First Community Bank of Tennessee | Heritage South Community Credit Union | Hopkins Farms Broadcasting Inc. (WLIJ, WZING Radio) | J Jordan Boutique | Musgrave Pencil Company | Sam's Club | Shelbyville-Bedford Community Foundation | United Way of South Central Tennessee

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Obituaries

Cynthia Campbell Ferrell



Cynthia Campbell Ferrell, age 79, of Shelbyville, TN, passed away July 15, 2025.

She was born July 25, 1945, to the late Frank and Joye (Pitts) Campbell.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, July 19, 2025, at Doak Howell Funeral Home with visitation from 4:00 – 8:00 PM on Friday, July 18, 2025.

She graduated from Martin High School in 1963. She moved to Shelbyville where she met her husband Charles and got married in 1964.

She worked at several local businesses including Payne & White Realty, Tyson Foods, Dr. Sam Pearce, and Dr. Dale Hasty. She also sold Mary Kay cosmetics for 15 years. She was a member of the Shelby Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, serving as regent from 2013 to 2015. She was a devout member of the Eastside Church of Christ.

Cynthia loved to entertain family and friends, but especially her grandchildren.

She had a green thumb and could grow almost anything. She was a very talented crafter, specializing in needlepoint and knitting. She enjoyed playing Liverpool rummy with friends and family and passed along the thrill of playing to many others.

She is survived by her husband of 61 years, Charles W. Ferrell of Shelbyville, TN; her sons, Jason C. Ferrell of Shelbyville, TN, and Derek S. (Jill) Ferrell of Gallatin, TN; her daughter, Rhonda J. (Bryce) Stanfield of Murfreesboro, TN; her brother, Tim (Glynda) Campbell of Dyersburg, TN; her sister, Tracey (Danny) Armstrong of Rives, TN; five grandchildren, three great grandchildren, two nephews, and 1 niece.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to Monroe Carell, Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt University, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Le Bonheur Children's Hospital, or the Eastside Church of Christ.

The family extends a special thank you to Amedisys Hospice for their help and support during Cynthia's final days.

Doak-Howell Funeral Home is serving the family.

Rheaetta Farrar Wilson



Rheaetta Farrar Wilson, 78, passed away on July 19, 2025. The family will host a visitation at Shelbyville First United Methodist Church on Tuesday, July 22, 10:00-2:00, with the funeral service to follow immediately. The Rev. Eddie Watson, the Rev. Abe Zimmerman, and the Rev. Korley Carson will officiate. Burial will follow at Rosebank Cemetery, Flat Creek.

Rheaetta was born June 27, 1947, to parents Judge Mac and Mable Phillips Farrar of Flat Creek, Tennessee. She was named after a close family friend Ray Gowan, whose home and family had perished in a fire. The name Rheaetta was a nod to close friendships and devotion, a legacy she continued to live out through service to family, church, and community. She, her sister Lolly, and parents lived in a home where love was the only language spoken.

Rheaetta graduated from Shelbyville Central High School, class of '65, and received her BA from Lambuth Methodist College, where she was an initiate of Alpha Omicron Pi Sorority, serving as Panhellenic President. She earned her Master of Education and Masters Plus 30 from Middle Tennessee State University. Rheaetta married J. D. (Bo) Wilson December 22, 1968. After a short stint of teaching English at Lincoln County, Rheaetta and Bo returned to the family farm in Flat Creek. They and their two children, Jimbo and Sarah Mac, grew deep roots in this community, as well as Bedford County as a whole. Rheaetta's education career spanned thirty-nine years as a teacher, a counselor, and an assistant principal. She was born a Methodist and was a dedicated member of Shelbyville First United Methodist Church, where she was the Head Usher, a member of Trustees as overseer of the Martha Del Genio trust, coordinator of Rise Against Hunger, and taught an ever-growing Bible study. Inability to attend church on Sunday, July 13, because of fatigue and illness was a sure sign that all was not right. After a brief illness, Rheaetta succumbed in the early hours of Saturday, July 19, 2025...a shock to her family and community.

In addition to a life of teaching and serving her church, Rheaetta was equally devoted to the Shelbyville-Bedford County Public Library, serving on its board for fifty years. We encourage you to read the tribute posted by the library. She also served on the Board of Directors of Rosebank Cemetery, Flat Creek, currently serving as President. There are simply no better words to describe Rheaetta than, "She walked in dignity." She was a caretaker to many, especially husband Bo who had suffered major medical issues over the past thirty years. She was not only Mother but also Mentor to Jimbo and Sarah Mac. The "apple of her eye" was without question her granddaughter Emmy Rhea. Ya Ya had a consistent supply of dance pictures and videos to share. She counseled hundreds of students through lower and higher education, and she was a spiritual advisor to many. In short, she gave of herself totally, a lesson well learned from her Mother and Daddy.

Rheaetta is survived by her husband of nearly 57 years, Bo Wilson, her son Jimbo Wilson, her daughter Sarah Mac Wilson Young (Waylon), and her perfect and precious granddaughter Emmy Rhea Young. In addition, she is survived by her sister Lauralyn "Lolly" Farrar Watson (Eddie), and several nieces and nephews. Perhaps niece Maggy Lynn summed it up best when as a child she named Rheaetta "Aunt Rhea My Friend." She was a friend to the world and leaves behind a deep abyss. She was preceded in death by her parents, Judge Mac and Mable Phillips Farrar, her nephew Edward Watson, and many Farrar and Phillips aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Pallbearers: P.T. (Biff) Farrar, David Farrar, Mark Farrar, David Pitner, David Segroves and John T. Bobo. Honorary Pallbearers: Rheaetta's Thursday Morning Bible Study.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials to Rosebank Cemetery, P O Box 1904, Shelbyville, TN. 37162; Shelbyville First United Methodist Church, 122 Public Square N., Shelbyville, TN. 37160; or the Shelbyville/Bedford County Public Library, 220 S. Jefferson, Shelbyville, TN 37160.

Doak-Howell Funeral Home is serving the family.

www.doakhowellfuneralhome.com

Carolyn Simmons Matusek



Carolyn Simmons Matusek, age 81, of Shelbyville, passed peacefully from this life on July 16, 2025, while under the skillful care of the nurses at The Heart Remembers along with her loving family.

She was born on October 14, 1943, in Shelbyville, Tennessee, to the late Ezra (E.G.) and Pauline "Polly" McNabb Simmons. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her beloved aunts, Marie McNabb Hoover, Nannie Brown "Brownie" McNabb, and Alberta McNabb Morris, and her uncle, Lloyd McNabb.

Carolyn was a proud graduate of Shelbyville Central High School, Class of 1961, and went on to earn her bachelor's degree from Middle Tennessee State College in 1965 and master's degree in 1967, with a focus in Home Economics and Education.

Her professional career began at Shelbyville Central High School, where she taught Home Economics and sponsored the Future Homemakers of America (FHA) club. She was passionate about teaching life skills—sewing, cooking, decorating, and hosting with grace. She especially enjoyed teaching her students how to set both formal and informal tables and how to carry themselves with confidence. Her love for teaching and nurturing young women left a lasting legacy and, in that process, she formed lifelong relationships with many of her students.

In 1973, Carolyn left the classroom to oversee two of the family businesses, Simmon's Jewelers and Carolyn's Dress Shop, after the sudden passing of her father. With this major life change, Carolyn embraced the world of merchandising and entrepreneurship. She had a natural eye for style and elegance and brought her love of fashion into her work. Her fashion shows became well-known in the community and were often featured in Women's Club events and sorority fundraisers, reflecting her gift for merging business with community service.

Carolyn's interests extended beyond her work she enjoyed creating floral arrangements, needlepoint, and antiques. She was an avid alumna, booster, and fan of sporting events of the Middle Tennessee State University Blue Raiders. Her life's greatest treasure has always been her family, especially her grandsons who were her pride and joy.

She was a lifelong member of First Presbyterian Church and an active participant in many civic and social organizations, including Rotary International, the Shelbyville Woman's Club, Garden Club, and the Beta Iota Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Alpha.

Carolyn is survived by her devoted husband of 60 years, Tony Matusek; sons, Mike (Karisa) Matusek of Shelbyville and Chris Matusek of Nolensville; and three beloved grandchildren, Ean, William, and Andrew.

Due to Carolyn's passion in fostering and encouraging education of young people, in lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to either the Greg Garner Scholarship at First Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 699, Shelbyville, TN 37162, or the annual scholarship fundraiser through Beta Iota Chapter of Epsilon Sigman Alpha.

Funeral services will be held at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 20, 2025, at First Presbyterian Church. Burial will follow at Riverside Cemetery in Woodbury, TN.

Visitation will be held Sunday, prior to funeral services, starting at 1:00 p.m. at the church.

Doak-Howell Funeral Home is serving the family.

www.doakhowellfuneralhome.com

Death Notices

Linda Carol Carter

Linda Carol Carter, age 77, of Shelbyville, passed away July 12, 2025.

Linda was born January 20, 1948 in Nashville, TN to the late James Douglas McDole and Jeanetta Paige Drury McDole. She was a loving wife, dedicated mother, and a registered nurse.

She is survived by her husband, William Ray Carter; her daughter, Donna (Allen) Brown.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Jerry Michael Davis

Jerry Michael Davis, age 71, was born in Shelbyville, TN. He was a proud veteran of the Army, and passed away peacefully at home on July 13, 2025.

Jerry will be remembered for his unbreakable spirit, confident character, and his overwhelming spirit to conquer every day and live for tomorrow.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charles Davis and Maggie Davis. He is survived by his son Michael Davis.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

Robert "Butch" Earl McKinney

Robert Earl "Butch" McKinney of Shelbyville passed from this life on Sunday, July 20, 2025, at his residence surrounded by his family. He was 78 years old. Robert went into the Army right after high school and was also a member of the National Guard. He was born on December 30, 1946, to the late Robert Marshall McKinney and Dorothy Mae Arnett McKinney. Along with his parents, he is preceded in death by his wife of 53 years Charlotte Celeste McKinney.

He is survived by his son; Ben McKinney, daughter; Shannon (Jamie) Ragsdale both of Shelbyville.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

James Mitchell Phillips

James Mitchell Phillips, 60, of Huntsville, Ala., died July 16, 2025. Per his request he was cremated.

He was the son of the late William Donald Phillips and Margaret Faye Jones King.

He is survived by two daughters, Andrea "A.J." Phillips of Fayetteville, Kiera Phillips of Estill Springs.

Hillcrest Funeral Home is assisting the family.

Clara Ruth Parsons

Clara Ruth Parsons, 95, of Shelbyville, passed peacefully from this life on July 20, 2025, while under the skillful care of the nurses at Alive Hospice in Murfreesboro.

She was born April 26, 1930, in Unionville to the late Marvin "Sib" and Willie Rose (Marlin) McGowan. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 47 years, Henry Russell Parsons.

Ruth is survived by her son, Norman (Vickie) Parsons of Shelbyville.

Hillcrest Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Neil Coble Lokey III

Neil C. Lokey III, 81, of Shelbyville, died July 21, 2025. He was born October 27, 1943, in Shelbyville.

Neil was preceded in death by his parents, Neil Coble Lokey II and Nora Jeanetta Philpot Lokey Rogers.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Connie Ann King Lokey; a son, Neil Matthew Lokey of Shelbyville.

Hillcrest Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Juan Rodriguez Escalon

Juan Rodriguez Escalon, 67, of Shelbyville, died July 21, 2025, at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Per his request he was cremated. He was born December 31, 1958, in San Antonio De Las Trojes, Mexico. He was preceded in death by his father, Alfonso Rodriguez and mother, Ma.De La Luz Escalon. He is survived by his wife, Jo Ann Morgan Rodriguez; 5 children, Maria Esther Rodriguez Barrera, Juan Alfonso Rodriguez Barrera, Sandra Lizeth Rodriguez Barrera, Jose Alfredo Rodriguez Barrera, Jimena Rodriguez Barrera.

Hillcrest Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Alzheimer's Tennessee

HELPLINE

1(800) ALZ-GATE

259-4283

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE

1-800-273-TALK (8255)

suicidepreventionlifeline.org

PEOPLE AROUND THE TOWN SQUARE

The historic square is a place for activity and always has been. Most of these folks gathered for the car show and chili festival last week. More events, including a haunted tour, are planned. Sometimes just a Sunday afternoon of lunch and fellowship is great too.









Business Spotlight

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

Dixie Doodle Boutique in Unionville has fine list of Saturday vendors



T-G Photos by Dawn Hankins



Personalized soaps

Sudzy Mama is just one Saturday vendor at the farmer's market at Dixie Doodle Boutique, located right off Highway 41A North in Unionville. Luxurious soaps made with care and botanicals. Sudzy Mama, a local business owned by Rachel Ellen Swander, has hand-crafted soaps you'll love. Ditch the extra chemicals commercial soaps have to use, and join Sudzy Mama – where Rachel says the fiercest ingredient is a mama's love.

Sweets for the Early Birds

Friends and visitors are enjoying the café which is open at Dixie Doodle Boutique in Unionville on Saturdays. Pastries are made by Hannah Sakich and Tena Smith. See DixieDoodle on Facebook.



Fresh vegetables available

Fresh produce is abundant at the Famer's Market, located on the lawn at Dixie Doodle Boutique on Saturdays.

NOT MUCH? By Oscar Puma

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Six to be inducted into Blue Raider Hall of Fame on Sept. 19

MT ATHLETICS

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – The Middle Tennessee Athletic Department has announced the Class of 2025 Blue Raider Hall of Fame inductees. The six new class members this year will bring the total number of Blue Raider Hall of Fame members to 193. This year's induction will take place in the SRM Concrete Club inside the Stephen and Denise Smith Athletic Performance Center.

The six individuals will be inducted into the Blue Raider Hall of Fame during a ceremony Sept. 19 prior to the football game against Marshall on Sept. 20. The time of the ceremony will be announced at a later date with a cocktail reception in the Hall of Fame Building prior to the induction.

The Class of 2025 includes:

Ashley E. Adams, Volleyball (2005-07) – Sun Belt Conference Player of the Year, 2007; Sun Belt Tournament Most Outstanding Player 2006 & 2007; All-Sun Belt Conference 2005 (2nd Team), 2006 & 2007 (First Team); AVCA All-American HM 2006 & 2007; AVCA All-South Region 2006 AVCA All-South Region HM 2007 ... Led team to the Sweet 16 in 2007.

Kevin Byard, football (2012-15) – 2024 – Named to the CUSA Hall of Fame ... 2015 – Named a permanent team captain ... Invited to the 2016 Senior Bowl ... Named First Team All-CUSA ... Voted Preseason First Team All-CUSA ... Named to Jim Thorpe Award Watch List ... Named to the Senior Bowl Watch List ... Earned the "Grinder Award" for safeties following spring drills ... 2014 – Named First Team All-CUSA ... Voted the CUSA Special Teams Player of the Week on Sept. 29 ... Named the TSWA Defensive Player of the Week on Sept. 30 ... Named Preseason First Team All-CUSA ... Named to Jim Thorpe Watch List ... 2013 – Voted Honorable Mention All-CUSA ... Named to Jim Thorpe Watch List ... Named the TSWA Defensive Player of the Week on Nov. 12 and Nov. 25 ... 2012 – Named FWAA Freshman All-American ... Voted Second Team All-SBC ... Named First Team All-SBC by CollegeSportsMadness.com ... Named the SBC Defensive Player of the Week on Nov. 26 ... Voted the College Performance Awards National Defensive Back of the Week on Nov. 25 ... Earned Named the Most Improved Safety at the conclusion of spring drills.



Photo courtesy of MT Athletics.

Ann Dudley, track (2009-12) – Four-time NCAA Division I All-American ... 2011-12 – Named Sun Belt Conference Athlete of the Week three times ... 2012-13 – SBC Indoor Outstanding Field Performer/Field Athlete of the Year.

Warren "Big Cat" Kidd, men's basketball (1991-93) – 1990-91 – First Team All-OVC ... First Team TSWA ... 1991-92 – Second Team All-OVC ... 1992-93 – First Team All-OVC ... Only player in MTSU history with at least 1,000 points and 1,000 rebounds.

Garth Petrilli, football (1991-94) – Earned First Team All-OVC honors in 1991, 1992, 1993 and 1994 ... Named to the Ohio Valley Conference Half Century Team ... At the time of his graduation, Garth Petrilli was the all-time leading scorer in Middle Tennessee football history ... His 100 consecutive extra-point kicks made record stood for 21 years until it was broken in 2015.

Jerry Singleton, track – When legendary coach Dean Hayes was hired to lead the Middle Tennessee track and field program in 1965, he immediately returned to his home city of Chicago. He convinced Jerry Singleton to become a Blue Raider. Jerry was a pioneer in a sense as he became the first black scholarship athlete ever to compete in any sport at Middle Tennessee. His presence was immediately felt as he scored points in all of the middle-distance events. When he left Murfreesboro, he held records in the 800 meters at 1:49.74, and the 400 meters at 47.2, both records which stood for many years.

Five Blue Raiders recognized by CUSA in Preseason Watch List

MT ATHLETICS

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – Conference USA released the 2025 preseason watch list, as selected by the league's 12 head coaches on Friday. Five Middle Tennessee student-athletes were recognized as key players to watch ahead of the 2025 season.

Quarterback Nicholas Vattiato, offensive lineman Ellis Adams, linebacker Parker Hughes, defensive end Anthony Bynum and running back Jekail Middlebrook were all honored. Check out GoBlueRaiders.com for each player's complete and updated bio.

The Blue Raiders' 2025 slate opens at home on Saturday, Aug. 30 against Austin Peay. The game is being promoted as a White Out, #BLUEnited Community Day and Faith and Family Day. Kickoff is set for 6 PM CT.

OFFENSE

QB Keyone Jenkins, FIU
QB Dexter Williams, Kennesaw State
QB Nicholas Vattiato, MTSU
QB Jacob Clark, Missouri State
QB Logan Fife, NM State
QB Maverick McIvor, WKU
RB Cam Cook, Jax State
RB Hahsaun Wilson, UTEP
WR Jmariyae Robinson, Missouri State
WR Michael Phoenix II, Sam Houston
TE Jacob Jenkins, Liberty
OL Fintan Brose, Delaware
OL Anwar O'neal, Delaware
OL Jaheim Buchanon, FIU
OL Bubba Grayson, Jax State
OL Nikola Milovac, Kennesaw State
OL DJ Geth, Liberty
OL Hayden Christman, LA Tech
OL Landon Nelson, LA Tech
OL Ellis Adams, MTSU
OL Cash Hudson, Missouri State
OL BJ Tolo, NM State
OL James Dawn II, Sam Houston
OL Mark Robinson, UTEP
OL Marshall Jackson, WKU

DEFENSE

DL Kenton Simmons, FIU
DL Talan Carter, Jax State
DL Marcus Patterson, Kennesaw State
DL Bryce Dixon, Liberty
DL Anthony Bynum, MTSU
DL Davon Townley Jr., Missouri State
DL Gabe Peterson, NM State
DL Zeiqui Lawton, Sam Houston
DL Derek Burns, UTEP
DL Harper Holloman, WKU
LB Gavin Moul, Delaware
LB Kolbe Fields, LA Tech
LB Parker Hughes, MTSU
LB Tyler Martinez, NM State
LB Micah Davey, UTEP
DB KT Seay, Delaware
DB Brian Blades II, FIU
DB Trevor Woods, Jax State
DB JeRico Washington Jr., Kennesaw State
DB A'Khori Jones, Liberty
DB Cedric Woods, LA Tech
DB Emon Allen, Sam Houston
DB Demarko Williams, WKU

SPECIAL TEAMS

K Nate Reed, Delaware
K Garrison Rippa, Jax State
K Yousef Obeid, Missouri State
K RJ Lopez, Sam Houston
P Max Morgan, Liberty
P Noah Botsford, UTEP
P Cole Maynard, WKU
KR C'Quan Jnopierre, FIU
KR Jekail Middlebrook, MTSU
KR/PR TK King, NM State
PR Gabriel Benyard, Kennesaw State

Blue Raider Athletics celebrates 10 years of the Adams Tennis Complex

MT ATHLETICS

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – Middle Tennessee Athletics is celebrating the 10-year anniversary of the Adams Tennis Complex on Tuesday, July 15.

Since its grand opening, the ATC has served as the home for both the MTSU men's and women's tennis programs, providing a vital facility for indoor competitions. The complex features eight indoor courts, allowing the Blue Raiders to compete year-round—rain or shine—and minimizing weather-related disruptions.

Spanning more than 70,000 square feet, the $5.8 million facility remains a cornerstone of MTSU Tennis and a point of pride for Blue Raider Athletics.

"The Adams Tennis Complex has been one of the most impactful facilities we've opened at Middle Tennessee," said Director of Athletics Chris Massaro. "Over the past decade, it has not only elevated the level of competition for our men's and women's tennis programs but has also created a special connection between MTSU and the local tennis community. We're proud of the championships, the development, and the memories made at the ATC. We thank the city of Murfreesboro for its partnership in building and operating the facility, all the donors, staff members, and others that made this magnificent facility possible."

Since the ATC opened, the men's team has won six consecutive Conference USA championships beginning in 2019. The Adams Tennis Complex has also hosted three men's and two women's Conference USA Championships.

"The ATC has been an absolute program changer," said men's tennis head coach Jimmy Borendame. "The impact is immeasurable. Recruiting has improved, student-athlete experience, player development, the crowds we have been able to attract—I can keep going. The best part is the opportunity to grow tennis in our community as a shared space. I love crossing paths with local players and intermingling the team and community as much as possible. The best part of this partnership is that it is thriving and continuing to get better for Middle Tennessee and our community."

The women's team has posted a 56-22 record on the ATC's indoor courts, while the men are just shy of the century mark at 97-20 in indoor matches.

"We are so fortunate to have a facility like the ATC," added women's head coach Tayo Bailey-Duvall. "Our teams have the resources to allow them to reach their potential and our indoor facility is key to our overall success. While the ATC helps drive recruitment, letting them know they always have a place to train no matter the weather, it also offers a wholesome fan base. Our local tennis fans are members of the ATC and have connections to our teams that a lot of programs cannot attest to. We are very humbled and grateful for our facility and look forward to the coming years of great tennis within its walls."

The outdoor courts have also remained available to both teams during the construction of the new on-campus tennis facility, which began in 2017 and completed in 2024.

Support the continued growth of MTSU tennis by contributing to the Men's and Women's Excellence Funds or the Build Blue campaign.

Keon Johnson Holds Free Basketball Camp For Youth at The Webb School

THE WEBB SCHOOL

BELL BUCKLE, Tenn. – For the third straight summer, the Brooklyn Nets' 6'5" starting guard, Keon Johnson – a Class of 2020 alumnus from The Webb School – returned to his alma mater in Middle Tennessee to offer a free basketball camp for young athletes ages eight through 18. Remembering his roots and carrying The Webb School culture and standards with him to this day, Johnson prioritizes paying it forward. He finds joy in mentoring the next generation of young athletes in his local community.

"No matter where I was in my career, I've always wanted kids to feel like they could come to me," said Johnson, who often wished the older, more experienced players in his hometown had been equally as accessible when he was growing up.

A native of Shelbyville, Tenn., Johnson, joined by his family, Nets affiliates, area coaches and former teammates, has returned to his roots since 2023, offering everything from gear to meals and snacks as well as personalized instruction to campers of all skill levels. Due to its growing popularity, the camp – available to athletes in grades three through 12 – has since been split into two day-long sessions divided by age. The 2025 clinic at Webb began with younger campers in grades three through eight on Wednesday, July 23, and concluded with a session for older athletes in grades nine through 12 on Thursday, July 24.

For over 155 years, The Webb School has been guided by a singular mission: "to turn out young people who are tireless workers, and who know how to work effectively; who are accurate scholars; who know the finer points of morals and practice them in their daily living; and who are always courteous [without the slightest trace of snobbery]."

"Keon has always had a heart for the youth, and his dedication to serving his community is a testament to his character and values he developed during his time as a Webb student," said The Webb School's Associate Director of Athletics and Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach James Garcia.

Johnson first turned his focus to basketball during his sophomore year at Webb. At first eager to find a sport that would ultimately fund his college education, he later considered the transition from baseball to basketball his saving grace.

"That was my big leap into who I wanted to be and what I wanted to do in the future," he said. When asked why he gives back, Johnson added, "I won't be able to play this game forever, but I'll always know how, and hopefully I'll be able to see someone just like me and guide them on the right path."

Today, Johnson's #23 high school basketball jersey has been retired and proudly hangs in Webb's state-of-the-art Barton Athletic Center.



Former Webb star, Keon Johnson, standing underneath his now-retired jersey inside the Barton Athletic Center. Johnson hosted his now-annual basketball camp for the third consecutive year on Wednesday, July 23, and Thursday, July 24. *Photo courtesy of the Brooklyn Nets*

Adell Harris joins Blue Raider Men's Basketball staff

MT ATHLETICS

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – Ahead of the 2025-26 Middle Tennessee men's basketball season, Adell Harris has joined the Blue Raiders as the Assistant Coach – Director of NIL & Program Operations, announced by head coach Nick McDevitt Monday.

In her role, Harris works closely with McDevitt and his staff to execute the program's NIL vision, design systems that maximize MTSU's resources and brand and deliver financial education to help student-athletes establish a strong economic foundation for their future.

As a primary liaison for NIL matters, Harris will also support communication between the coaching staff, administration and the student-athletes – ensuring alignment around NIL strategy, player well-being and overall program vision. Additionally, she oversees all aspects of program operations and logistics.

"I am super excited about adding Adell Harris to our staff and our basketball program," said Coach McDevitt. "She is highly intelligent, very creative and drive; all qualities that will serve our student-athletes well. She's a great addition to the Middle Tennessee community."

Prior to joining Middle Tennessee, Harris served as Chief of Staff for the Vanderbilt men's basketball program for five seasons. In that capacity, she became the first female Chief of Staff in men's college basketball – a trailblazing milestone that has created new pathways for women in men's collegiate sports.

While at Vanderbilt, Harris partnered with head coach Jerry Stackhouse to provide strategic counsel, drive program goals and support key initiatives. Harris supported all facets of program operations, including internal and external communications, student-athlete welfare and academic success. Harris created and implemented Vanderbilt Basketball's "Academic Excellence Plan", resulting in significant academic achievements, earning increased SEC Academic Honor Roll selections, back-to-back SEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year awards and multiple College Sport Communicators Academic All-District honorees.

Harris also spearheaded name, image and likeness strategies, leveraging her expertise to enhance branding, marketing and fundraising efforts. She was instrumental in the foundational launch and growth of the Anchor Impact Collective.

Harris oversaw alumni relations – strengthening Vanderbilt Basketball's alumni presence by creating new events like the #ProsPlayHere alumni celebration, an annual event that attracted former and current NBA players Festus Ezeli, Charles Davis, Aaron Nesmith, Luke Kornet and Darius Garland.

She helped the Commodores reach a pair of NIT appearances, as well as a 22-win season in 2022-23. The 2022-23 squad placed fourth in the SEC, the program's best finish in 13 season while Stackhouse garnered SEC Coach of the Year honors in the process.

Prior to Vanderbilt, Harris spent 19 years in women's college basketball, including head coaching tenures at UNC Wilmington (2012-17) and Tusculum University (2009-12). At UNCW, Harris was one of the nation's youngest NCAA Division I head coaches at age 31, amassing more than 100 career wins as a head coach and graduating every senior who played for her. During her time at Tusculum, she led the program to unprecedented success – earning one regular-season South Atlantic Conference title, two tournament championships and reaching the school's first-ever NCAA Division II Elite Eight.

"I am both excited and thankful to join Coach McDevitt's program and the Middle Tennessee Athletics Department at such an exciting time," said Harris. "I will work relentlessly to help our student-athletes maximize their potential, support our staff and continue the proud tradition of success this program has built and fostered across decades."

A published author, motivational speaker and career coach, Harris wrote the Amazon best-seller Refuse to Lose – 7 Steps to Make Adversity Your Advantage.

A native of High Point, N.C., Harris played four seasons at Wake Forest University from 1998-2002, appearing in 106 career games. As a team co-captain in her senior season, she averaged 4.6 points per game and led the Demon Deacons with 108 assists during her final season. Harris earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from Wake Forest in 2002.



Photo courtesy of MT Athletics.

LOTS OF GREAT ENTRIES AT THE BC FAIR

Photos by Marilyn Ewing

How do judges decide who gets a blue ribbon at the BC Fair? It's not easy but here's a few that came out winners this last week. SR. Day was held last Wednesday.











BARTLEY

From page 1A

Kay was a Hoover; her grandfather, A.M. Hoover, ran a funeral home in Bell Buckle during the 1940s.

She says her husband as well felt comfortable living here. It's been a great fit for them both.

"Bart," as he's affectionately known by Kay, would finish his doctorate at MTSU and go to work at Motlow College where he would spend the next 35 years. Kay has a degree in elementary education but decided not to teach here.

Instead, she immersed herself into rearing her children and doing volunteer work. When her children were in public school, she organized and worked with PTOs and 4-H.

Serving people in need, she believes, is a real calling on her life. When it comes to community service needs, her name generally comes up, because of her time invested in nonprofits.

Over the years, Kay has served on the Friends of the Library Board and other groups.

But perhaps she might be most remembered for her work with helping to start the Shelbyville Community Soup Kitchen. Kay says she cooked the very first meal nearly a decade ago.

She and "Bart" had previously worked with a soup kitchen in Washington, D.C.

"That honed my teeth for helping here," she says.

While at the Pentagon, "Bart" had a duty assignment with Martha's Table through a church. She says with a smile that duty became their Saturday night out-one which was filled with driving an ice cream wagon loaded with soup and sandwiches for the needy.

While "Bart" was stationed in the military, Kay had the opportunity to teach GI classes. Whether administering tests or helping with GEDs, she says the bottom line is that this stint helped "push" her toward following God's greatly designed path for her life.

Nine years ago, Kay became an SCSK charter board member, serving people outdoors via drive up fashion at the old Save A Lot near the Duck River Bridge. She believes it was there that many of her God-given talents were used.

She was a spoke in a large wheel that was instrumental in the work and organization needed to get the SCSK into its current facility on South Cannon Boulevard.

"I'm really a spark," she told the T-G this week. "I have a God-given gift of loving people. If I can plant that spark, then all I have to do is be a long-distance operator."

Kay's really been deeply rooted in her home church, singing, VBS, etc., all her life. In fact, she believes that she's probably now one of, if not the, oldest living member at Shelbyville First United Methodist.

The church had planned a going away service for them last week but sadly, members suddenly entered a time of mourning with the passing of her long-time friend, Rheaetta Farrar Wilson (See obit page 8.)

Kay said she and "Bart" were so glad they were still here to comfort those at the church during their time of grief. Wilson was a great friend.

One of the more recent areas of service that Kay has been involved in is the MRT program at the local jail. The therapy program began in 2022; she's gone all in since to help any way she can.

It was difficult to say goodbye to the MRT family, she admits. The ladies gave her a bouquet of flowers from their garden, which she says meant more to her than they'll ever know.

"I'm so much richer in my heart and soul for having helped them and being in communication with them," says Kay.

Kay has since helped organize everything from a MRT crochet club to a book club.

She's encouraged others to commit to the program.

She realizes now that MRT is much more than classroom learning. The time the women and volunteers spend together, the cathartic way they talk over life as they chain stitch in crochet class, is immeasurable, Kay explains.

The same can be said for the time the women and volunteers spend planting and grooming their on-site garden. Kay was in the garden recently when the women harvested loads of produce, including a 78-pound pumpkin. (See picture inside today.)

MRT is a time set aside for the ladies to be loved. But volunteers like herself can also hold them accountable in a constructive way.

Being involved in such programs at MRT and SCSK here sparked Kay to form a nonprofit advisory group, which now maintains a list of 87 groups.

Anyone who's spent time with Kay knows that she loves all people. She's a nurturer. She's referred to as lady organization.

Kay believes that a person in service has to be passionate about their mission. And most of all, they must stay positive to be blessed.

Kay admits how she chooses to see "the glass half full." She wouldn't be happy in her skin any other way because she believes it's the way God made her.

"I think God gives us skills and abilities and He leads you into where you can best use those."

Realizing how fulfilling God's plan can be, for those who chose to faithfully serve, Kay notes, "I hope I've done a little good. I've gotten back more than I've given. That's a little selfish, almost."

She proudly admits that she "lives in a glass house." She says she might be referred to as foolishly optimistic-a Pollyanna of some sorts. But that works for her.

"I'm glad I'm not a downer girl. That's not me. I like to see the good."

Kay's library involvement has given her the chance to read a lot of stories to children over the years.

One might even venture to say that her life is kind of reminiscent right now of the last book written by Dr. Seuss, "Oh, the Places You Go." You see, this book has an open ending.

The book assures the reader that in order to succeed, and to navigate life, one must be confident and have faith. Dr. Seuss says: "You'll move mountains. Today is your day. Your mountain is waiting. So, get on your way."

Kay and Randall Bartley get that.

They pray that others, as long as God plans for them to be here, involve themselves in the things that really matter to the welfare of this community.

The couple have worked to plant seeds that will hopefully grow in abundance for many years to come.

Kay will no doubt stay busy. She says with a laugh that her son told her not to worry; he's already found her a soup kitchen in Arkansas.

Kay believes "God chooses the idea" for our missions. It's up to us, she adds, to have the faith to do His will and purpose for our lives.

Blessings, "Bart" and Kay from your T-G friends.



BARTLEY RECEIVES A LOT OF GOODBYE NOTES

Parting is really sweet sorrow when you're saying goodbye to someone who's been a friend and leader. Bartley said goodbye recently and encouraged the women of the MRT program at BC Corrections to keep seeing the glass half full.



KEEPSAKES FOREVER

MRT volunteer Kay Bartley says a most meaningful MRT activity is the crochet club. Several goodbye gifts were recently presented to her from the group, including this crochet bag.



WHAT A HARVEST!

Submitted photo

The MRT garden at BC Corrections just keeps growing with thousands of pounds of produce weekly for the corrections kitchen. Last week, the women harvested a 78-pound pumpkin! Volunteer Kay Bartley who is moving out of state said she was so happy to end her work in the garden on such a sweet note.

