COMMUNITY NEWS

SHELBYVILLE TIMES-GAZETTE

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Will the Columbia Dam be reopened?

How does this affect Bedford County downstream?



Bedford County Government photo

Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) will administer the newest Duck River safety grant through the Recreational Trails Program (RTP.) The funding was approved by members of the Tennessee General Assembly this year in the 2025-26 state budget. From left, Assistant Chief Brian Cantrell of Bedford County Fire Department, representing Chief Mark Thomas; County Finance Director Robert Daniel; County Commissioner Linda Yockey; David Kitchens, director of Bedford County Emergency Management Agency; citizen and activist Van Ayers, who wrote the grant application; and county commissioner / former EMA director Scott Johnson. Not pictured is Highway Superintendent Mark Clanton.

By Dawn Hankins
dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net

Columbia Dam Now, a grassroots organization of stakeholders, is proposing, as a matter of water solutions on the Duck River, to rebuild the Columbia Dam in Maury County. Just how does this affect Bedford County?

The Columbia Dam Now group notes that this proposal for rebuilding of the dam is to assure better infrastructure, not just for Columbia, but for the health of the Duck River across the region. At least seven utilities from across the region currently draw massive amounts of water from the Duck River each day.

That includes Shelbyville and Bedford County.

The group further notes

See COLUMBIA, 2A

Tennessee House Speaker Pro Tempore Pat Marsh, R-Shelbyville, has announced $300,000 in funding for Bedford County to improve safety along the Duck River.

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) will administer the grant through the Recreational Trails Program (RTP). The funding was approved by members of the Tennessee General Assembly this year in the 2025-26 state budget.

"The Duck River is a vital resource and important waterway in our community that offers exceptional recreational opportunities. This funding will help Bedford County implement crucial safety measures to ensure residents and visitors can confidently enjoy the river," said Marsh. "I thank the many local leaders who advocated for these improvements and helped secure this critical grant."

The RTP grant will help fund the installation of new signage and markers along the river and assist with securing essential water rescue equipment. The TDEC program provides federal funding to match local government investments in trailhead support facilities, land acquisition for trails, and trail construction, rehabilitation and maintenance.

More than $22 million has been administered to 33 communities across the state by TDEC this year through the RTP program, Local Parks and Recreation Fund program (LPRF) and the Tennessee Recreation Initiative Program (TRIP).

The Duck River is one of the most biologically diverse in the world and the longest located entirely in Tennessee, flowing 284 miles and providing drinking water to 250,000 Tennesseans.

State Rep. Marsh represents District 62 in the Tennessee House of Representatives, which includes Bedford, Moore and part of Lincoln Counties.

On Nov. 20, 2024, Gov. Lee issued Executive Order 108 about the Duck River – a 284-mile river flowing exclusively within Tennessee and recognized as one of the most aquatically diverse waterways in the nation. As the Duck River is also the drinking water source for more than 250,000 people in nine growing counties south of Nashville, EO 108 established the Duck River Watershed Planning Partnership and provided directives for TDEC, other agencies, and partners acting in the Duck River Watershed. Gov. Lee placed particular emphasis on regional approaches to water supply and the potential of identifying solutions for the Duck River to be a model for statewide water management and other watersheds in Tennessee.

Daniella Beckman is new Liberty School principal



New Liberty School Principal with husband, Cory, and their son.

"Liberty has great students and families who I hope will continue to partner to make Liberty School the best it has ever been!" recently said Daniella Beckman, newly hired Liberty principal.

Bedford County Schools (BCS) has announced that Daniella Beckman will begin her first full year as principal of Liberty School during the 2025–2026 school year. This comes after stepping in as interim principal in December 2024 and being officially named to the role in April 2025.

"Dr. Beckman has established a strong presence at the school," commented BCS Superintendent Dr. Tammy Garrett. "And now, she prepares to lead Liberty into a new academic year with vision, energy and a deep commitment to students and families."

Beckman brings years of instructional and leadership experience to her role at Lib-

See BECKMAN, 2A



SCHOOL SYSTEM CHOSEN FOR GREAT HONOR

School System photo

Julie Haynes, left, and Lindsay Wiley of Bedford County School System recently accepted an "exemplary" award on behalf of the local school district! See what that's all about on page 12 today.

Tony Rice Center TWHNC food booth is 'Talk of the Town'

Some say it's a 'Shocker' how good the food is

By Dawn Hankins
dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net

While "strolling" the Celebration grounds in your "Cavender" boots during the upcoming Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration or while just "bumin' around," you'll want to check out the food booth manned by the men of the Tony Rice Center."

The TWHNC is planned for Aug. 20-30 at the Celebration Grounds.

The booth, in its second year of operation, will be located on the southwest corner, under the stadium grandstand, by the Boosters Club booth. Guest servers will include local and state politicians.

TRC volunteer Chris Clay advised that for every $20 or more spent in a single visit, a booth customer will be entered into a drawing for a special gift of appreciation from the TRC Board of Directors, administrators, staff and clients.

Each food vendor during the TWHNC has its own specialty-barbecue, pizza, etc. As for the TRC booth, guests can be sure to find golden-fried fish filet sandwiches, fish meals and "Let 'Em Walk On Walking Tacos." Desserts will include crispy rice treats. (See the full menu ad on page 12 today.)

One big draw, according to TRC organizers, will be the TRC's fresh pork rinds-original, sweet BBQ, hot and spicy and smoky bacon. Soft drinks and coffee will also be available.

Proceeds will be used toward Tony Rice Center programming and events.

Established in 1990, the Tony Rice Recovery Center continues as a non-profit, tax-exempt, co-occurring disorders rehabilitation facility. The center is licensed and funded by the Tennessee Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services.

TRC utilizes the Recovery Dynamics Model with emphasis on development of early recovery skills and introduction to a 12-step and other help programs. While many of the clients are recovering from alcohol addiction, there are many other addictions and co-occurring disorders that are addressed through the program.

Bottom line, coordinators explain that TRC uses a treatment approach which is aimed at loving the people while they're learning how to fully love themselves. Attention is greatly given to helping the men learn healthier opportunities for success.

From its humble beginnings on Highway 41-A South, TRC still currently serves men from all walks of life. The fa-

See TRC, 2A



SUMMER STROLL OF THE HISTORIC SQUARE

Historic Uptown Photo

The Historic Uptown 4th Friday Fest drew a great crowd last weekend. These folks had the right idea of getting some fresh popcorn to eat while they stroll.

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Red Sand Project

On Wednesday, July 30, Bedford County Health Council held its fourth annual Red Sand Project event.

See Page 5A



UT Football

Former Webb Feet football star, Joel Wyatt, announced his commitment to the University of Tennessee on Monday.

See Page 9A

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Liberty FCE Meeting Report

Liberty Family and Community Education (FCE) Club met July 21, with Ann Spencer reporting.

Judy Smith opened the meeting by reading the hint.

Dorris Turrentine hosted the picnic at her home. There were 9 members present and 5 guests.

Betty Renegar had a birthday this month.

Judy Smith gave the County Council report. Leader training will be July 29 at 10 a.m. at the Extension Office.

Bonnye Catron is going to the Central Region FCE meeting for county presidents and extension agents Sept. 11 in Murfreesboro. State meeting is Nov. 9-12. Each club is asked to provide 5 to 8 quality handmade crafts. They should range from $1 to $10 per person and are due by Sept. 1. Dues of $10 per person are due by Sept. 1. Ardis Rittenberry will send the money to Vicki Faulkner.

Taste and Tell is planned for Oct. 3. Judy Smith is planning to attend.

Whitney asked everyone to cut back on her Christmas gift. A secretary is needed for County Council.

Club demonstrations included: Dorris Turrentine's baby receiving blanket, Ann Spencer's placemat entered into the County Fair.

Clubs need to be thinking about Share Fair next year. One theme suggestion is Christmas in June.

The next Liberty FCE meeting will be Aug. 18, 2025.



A SUMMER BEAUTY AT ITS BEST

T-G Photo by Dawn Hankins

Joyce Smith says sometimes when you just let flowers be, this is how beautiful they turn out.



2025 TN Walking Horse National Celebration food Vendor List

Community Lions Club
East Bedford Civic Club
Kiwanis Club of Shelbyville
Optimist Club
SCHS Band Boosters Club
Purdom's Barbecue
Alfonso's
Sir Pizza
Grindstone Cowboy
Tony Rice Center

BECKMAN

From page 1A

erty School.

She began her career teaching English II and coaching softball at Blackman High School in Rutherford County. She later returned to her hometown of Chapel Hill to teach middle school English Language Arts at Forrest School, her alma mater, where she also coached the middle school cheerleading and softball teams. She eventually transitioned back to teaching high school English II, IV and Journalism before moving into an instructional facilitator role and then serving as assistant principal for seven years.

In 2022, Beckman and her family relocated to Bedford County where she joined the district as the secondary instructional coach. The following year she became assistant principal at Liberty School and was later tapped to serve as interim principal in December 2024. Her leadership and dedication earned her the permanent role as principal less than four months later.

Beckman holds a Bachelor of Science in English and Professional Education from Austin Peay State University where she also played on the softball team. She earned a master of education in administration and supervision from Middle Tennessee State University, a specialist in education degree in curriculum direction from Arkansas State University, and a doctor of education in educational leadership from Tennessee State University.

She lives in Bedford County with her husband, Cory, and their son. Together they own and operate a chicken farm where they raise pullets.

"I am thankful to work in the community where I live and where my husband and I are raising our family," she shared. "I went to a small rural school and am grateful to now work in a similar environment."

Beckman is driven by a strong belief in the power of education; she says, "I believe that all students can learn and should have access to the opportunity to do so. Education can change future generations. I hope that people support public education and this principle."

As she looks ahead to the school year, she shared her excitement about continuing Liberty's positive momentum.

"I am most looking forward to continuing the great things that are happening at Liberty School. It truly is a special place to be, and I am honored to be part of the community!"

She also praised the district and its culture of support when she said, "Bedford County Schools is a great place to work because of the people. I am grateful for the people I work with and the support I have received since I have been in the district in various roles. I was interested in this position because I wanted to be at Liberty School, regardless of the position, because it is such a wonderful place to be."

With a strong foundation already in place and a clear vision for the future, Beckman said she's eager to partner with Liberty staff, students and families.

See more new school administrators on page 9 today.

TRC

From page 1A

cility is now located on Railroad Avenue and just had a ribbon cutting in the spring for a new 28-bed, transitional housing, facility.

Addiction recovery, based on the Alcoholics Anonymous 12 step program, emphasizes focused life skills and spiritual, mental, and emotional healing.

While the 12-steps are rooted in spiritual principles, participants aren't required to be religiously affiliated.

The long-term residential program gives time to the co-occurring dependent man to build self-esteem and learn to better function within the family and to contribute to the community. The mission is to prepare each man for an independent, enriched lifestyle.

The treatment program begins with an individualized treatment plan tailored to the client's needs.

All clients participate in a daily living skills program to develop a sense of humility, personal responsibility and social accountability-all tools required to function in a sober, responsible manner after he leaves treatment.

If you're someone needing help with addiction recovery, please reach out by calling 931-492-4206.

**Strolling Jim was the very first World Grand Champion in 1939; Talk of the Town 1951-53; Shaker's Shocker 1966; Delight Bumin Around 1973; Cavender 2024.*

Other 2025 TWHNC vendors are welcome to contact the Times-Gazette for display ad opportunities. Call 931-684-1200 or email dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net for pricing opportunities.

COLUMBIA

From page 1A

that rebuilding the dam would provide economic growth in the area. In addition, the group envisions tourism dollars.

To get historical, the Columbia Dam was more than 90% complete in 1983, when TVA pulled the plug on the project. Estimated cost was around $83 million.

David Seal, a writer for the Tennessee Conservative, recently published an article that stated how Maury County is experiencing growing pains and has water issues because of accelerated development. (Seal is writing a series of articles on the proposed Columbia Dam Now project. Permission granted for this information.)

Seal notes in his latest article that at least 8,000 new homes have been approved by Maury County planners. The article also notes that industrial development has been slowed for lack of adequate water resources.

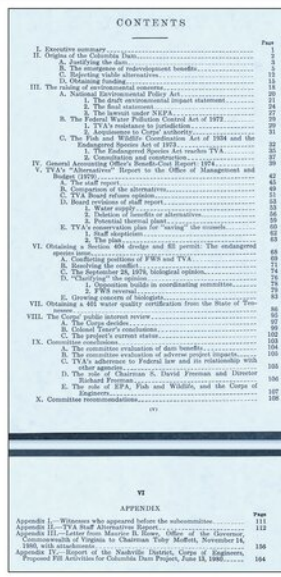
As for Bedford County, Chris White, BC planning director, has served since February on the Duck River Watershed Planning Partnership, established by executive order and Gov. Bill Lee. The group is charged with environmental and habitat conservation-to ensure the long-term sustainability of Tennessee's watersheds.

So White is fortunately gaining a lot of information.

White notes that all of the original infrastructure from the previous Columbia Dam project was required to be reclamated and the lands given to TWRA. White says so the Columbia Dam Now project would be a complete "do-over from top to bottom" should it be reconsidered.

To better understand some of the constraints for the Columbia Dam, interested persons need to really download the congressional report done in 1980 called, "TVA's Columbia Dam Project on the Duck River in Tennessee: Thirty-First Report by the Committee on Government Operations."

It's a long document but explains the natural complexities, and politics, involved as to why the Columbia Dam project-one which goes way back originally in history-was scratched in the 1980s. This is the table of contents page of the document:



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The congressional report outlines some of the problems associated with a dam in that location and with those particular topographic conditions, and those particular soils.

White notes he was assigned to the regionalization committee. Pat Marsh was assigned to the drought management committee. The other committee is the public engagement and environmental protections committee.

"I have been invited to attend a couple of their meetings, and I've taken advantage of those invitations in order to learn more about the larger scope," White recently shared with the T-G.

White said each of these committees are charged to provide an interim summary of the work they've been doing to the full group by November. The full group will have a public meeting at Henry Horton State Park on Aug. 14 at 10:00 a.m.

White said his committee is still in the process of preparing its interim report.

"I will say, there are some incredibly challenging circumstances in which to navigate, the constraints of each are enormous, and some appear to be more viable than others."

"I don't think I've ever learned so many new things in such a short period of time in my life. We're lucky our River is still viable, because the threats are much greater than I ever imagined, or most people could possibly know. So, whatever path the plan takes, everyone should get behind it, because the threats are enormous and the risk for not doing anything is unimaginable."

Opponents called "Don't Dam the Duck" have taken to the media and social media pages, noting they believe the Columbia Dam Project would have detrimental environmental impacts to the biodiverse freshwater river.

Landowners are concerned as well to what kind of land would have to be seized/obtained for this type of project.

In his Tennessee Conservative article, Seal explains that TVA built the Columbia Dam decades ago and it was officially demolished in 1999. Critics, Seal writes, say the "demo was prompted by environmentalists related to unfounded concerns that certain species of fish might go extinct."

The T-G will continue to follow any developments in this project.

Giving a lot of thought to AI these days

There's something to be said for 'natural stupidity'

By Dawn Hankins

While I resisted before, I'm a little closer to acceptance of AI, perhaps. Did I just write that?

I do enjoy having my search questions answered right away, rather than feeling frustrated when Google is like, "What!" Or Siri and her sense of humor.

AI can certainly speed up what might be a lengthy process.

But recently, I began to realize that maybe people are putting too much emphasis on AI. Here's why.

I searched recently the address of a friend. I wanted to send her a "thinking of you" card. But I forgot the number to her road.

I put her name and the road here in to search. What came out from AI was that she was found murdered on her road a couple of years ago.

I sat with my mouth wide open for a few minutes. It was startling.

The computer had obviously confused another series of events, a common name.

But my point is, don't put a full trust in things of this world, especially when it comes to technology. Use it. But know that it only takes a few minutes to lose everything.

I feel for the people being taken in by scammers who are using technology against people, which is wrong. There should be stricter laws, if you ask me.

I was trying to be optimistic and looking toward progress the other day when I heard that Elon Musk was considering putting a tunnel in Nashville to BNA. Lots of crime movies came to my mind. And, some comedies, like the discussions held on Seinfeld about the Turnpike.

The ways of the world can be good. But when it's bad, it's really bad.

Sometimes it does our brains good to use them-separate from machines. Because we all know that AI is no match for natural stupidity.

Natural stupidity, yes, often characterized by illogical decision-making, poor judgment, and lack of common sense. Like it or not, it is an intrinsic part of the human condition. It is what sets us apart from machines and defines our humanity.

From education to public safety, County projects completed

By Dawn Hankins

During the Financial Management Committee last Tuesday, Owners' Representative for Bedford County Government Construction Projects, Jeff Sweeney, gave a wrap up report of some pretty significant project completions and progress of others from education to public safety.

The former County Commissioner said the contract for the new surplus building and the juvenile detention center has been given to Robert Daniel, County finance director. The contract is just over $6 million for both projects.

Sweeney's report stated that it will take about $8,000 to add a half bath to the Soil Conservation Office.

The health department roof repair and HVAC work was started. Repairs continue on the EMA management building.

Roof material has been delivered for the Archives building and that work is dependent on the rain.

Sweeney said yardage is an issue right now with the County gun range. That is a project still being explored.

Regarding school projects, Sweeney said it is hoped that there will be answers for the court date later this month, regarding the Cascade High flooring. This is between the County, the school system and the previous contractors. Mediation is being expected, he advised.

Mayor Chad Graham asked about the cost to repair the flooring. Sweeney said it will likely cost at least $2 million.

"The floor will have to be taken up, sandblasted . . . two summers to do it," said Sweeney.

Other work projects completed include new lighting at schools and concession stand work.

Liberty School additions are complete and teachers are ready to start there. Two additional classrooms are being done by the County.

Thomas Magnet additions are complete. Teachers are ready to start.

The new Ag building at Community High School is under construction. Cascade site prep for its Ag building started this week.

The sewer in front of Cascade Elementary: new sewers starting this week. Water pump repairs are complete and have now been taken over by the Town of Bell Buckle and there are no additional charges.

Sweeney said turf is being installed at Shelbyville Central and lighting work is being completed.

The TCAT building on Madison Street, which will soon be vacated as a new facility is being built off Highway 231 North, is being reviewed by Superintendent Tammy Garrett and Bedford County Board of Education. The school system has expressed an interest in using that TCAT building as the Central Office location.

A one-year walk through has been done at the new Cartwright Elementary. Sweeney said just a few items need to be completed this week.



ANNUAL JOHNSON BACKPACK EVENT ANOTHER SUCCESS

Photo by Marilyn Ewing

The annual Johnson Family Backpack and Supplies Give-a-way was held last Sunday at H.V. Griffin Park. As always, it was a great turnout.

POETS ENJOY TIME TOGETHER

Photo by Shirley Hall

Youth Poet Laureate of the South for 2021 Alora Young visited Bell Buckle and spent time with Margaret "Maggi" Britton Vaughn. Alora has performed her poetry on major news channels. She is also an award-winning author. Maggi, as we all know, is our beloved Poet Laureate of Tennessee, having authored numerous books. A beloved Bell Buckle legend, she is famous for the poetry she's written in conjunction with the state's Bicentennial.



Bedford County property transfers

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

File date: July 22

Location: 319 White St; Seller, Donna L Eyman, Sara Blondell Damron Estate; Buyer, HP Realty Co LLC; Price, $126,000 (Deed).

Seller, May Tory Homes LLC; Buyer, Justeen Baron, Steve Hill, Douglas Reagle; Price, $489,900 (Deed).

Location: 2179 Highway 64 West; Seller, Timothy D Padgett, Nancy N Land; Buyer, DHB R LLC; Price, $78,544 (TRD).

File date: July 23

Seller, May Tory Homes LLC; Buyer, Ashley Notgrass, Taylor Notgrass; Price, $480,000 (Deed).

Location: Unionville Deason Rd; Seller, William Bryson, Tammy Bryson; Buyer, Emilee Heath, Dylan Heath; Price, $225,000 (Deed).

Location: 201 Triple Crown Ct; Seller, Daniel Frost, Elizabeth Schweiger; Buyer, Yousif Ahmed; Price, $290,000 (Deed).

Location: 908 Shelbyview Dr; Seller, Greg Curl, Joey Curl; Buyer, Metthew Chance Bolden; Price, $268,000 (Deed).

File date: July 24

Location: 163 Bryant Rd; Seller, Mark C Peary; Buyer, Laurance Brown, Ariel Parker Zeigler, Zeigler Ariel Parker; Price, $249,900 (Deed).

Seller, Felix Gonzalo Miyagui; Buyer, Antonio Gonzalez; Price, $19,000 (Deed).

Location: 616 Pinkston Rd; Seller, Dean Zambory, Marie Zambory; Buyer, Dean Edward Zambory, Shannon Marie Zambory; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 1837 Hwy 64; Seller, MDM LLC, Girish Amrutlal Panchal; Buyer, All American Fuel Stop LLC; Price, $750,000 (Deed).

Seller, Jones Construction Company; Buyer, JC Builders LLC; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 613 Kingree Rd; Seller, Jaime Alonso Arias; Buyer, Luis Miguel De La Cruz, Luis Miguel Nova De La Cruz, Olga Lidia Vicente; Price, $317,500 (Deed).

Seller, John A Tapocik; Buyer, John A Tapocik, Claudette M Tapocik, Tapocik Family Trust; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 210 Hillview Ave; Seller, SDH Nashville LLC; Buyer, Michael A Kruger, Jenny Lynn Kruger; Price, $348,695(Deed).

File date: July 25

Location: 108 Perry Acres Rd; Seller, Tamara Eileen Mills; Buyer, Philip D Cookson, Briana N Cookson; Price, $365,000 (Deed).

Location: 117 Burt St; Seller, Maria Ester Albarran, Ma Esther Canas Enriquez, Maria Ester Albarran; Buyer, Ma Esther Canas Enriquez; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Cumberland St; Seller, Katie Banks; Buyer, Katie B Felices Revocable Trust; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Cumberland St; Seller, Katie Banks; Buyer, Katie B Felices Revocable Trust; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Ridgewood Lane; Seller, Aso Nejad, Agrin Nejad; Buyer, A & A Construction and Remodeling Inc; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 390 Big Springs Rd; Seller, Jean Obrien; Buyer, Leovigildo Lara Luna, Yolisma Lara; Price, $300,000 (Deed).

File date: July 28

Location: Longview Versailles Rd; Seller, Martha Jane Smith, Ernest Paul Smith; Buyer, Michael H Smith; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 140 Central Ave; Seller, Jacob Curl, Maria Curl; Buyer, Gustavo Hernandez Perez, Maria Graciela Hernandez; Price, $273,900 (Deed).

Location: 114 North Fork Church; Seller, Christopher Brian Elliott, Ariana Elliott, Ariana Duque; Buyer, Dakota Lance Ponder, Meredith Janay Ponder; Price, $340,000 (Deed).

Location: 1460 Cedar Grove Rd; Seller, William Ryan Poole, Ashlyn Poole; Buyer, William Ryan Poole, Ashlyn Poole; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 3252 Highway 130 East; Seller, Robert Frank Cooper, Shannon Flud Cooper; Buyer, Michael Hassan, Patricia Hassan; Price, $1,300,000 (Deed).

Location: Happy Valley Rd; Seller, David L Johnson, Pamela Johnson; Buyer, Samuel Adkins, Alli Adkins; Price, $0 (QD).

Seller, Timothy G Norris; Buyer, Timothy G Norris, Diana Jordan Norris, Wylder Norris; Price, $43,457.75 (QD).

WANTED

8mm film of Shelbyville area for use in a Free Video Project being produced for The Fly Museum

Please submit to Mr. Lytle Hoover
38 Plymouth Drive
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
or olhoover@gmail.com
856-912-2637

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FEATURES FROM THE BIBLE

TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE

A Bronze Snake

Numbers 21

The Israelites traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Sea of Reeds to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way and spoke against God and against Moses. They said, Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the desert? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!"

The Lord sent venomous snakes among them that bit the people and many Israelites died.



They came to Moses and confessed their sin of rebellion and asked that Moses ask to take the snakes away. Moses prayed for the people. The Lord instructed Moses to make a snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, he lived.



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ASSEMBLY OF GOD

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
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HASKINS CHAPEL ASSEMBLY OF GOD
425 Haskins Chapel Rd., Lewisburg
931-368-7191

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
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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

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1404 New Center Church Rd.
931-684-1360

GREEN MEADOWS CHURCH OF CHRIST
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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

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278 Anthony Lane, 931-684-4646

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2220 Patricia Dr., 931-685-1159

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

WHITTAKER CHURCH OF GOD
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423-618-9920

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

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1614 Hwy. 82 S., 931-694-6920

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

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1701 Green Lane, 931-685-9731

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101 Church St., 931-685-9588

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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

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142 Richdale Lane, 931-684-0949

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86 Union St., 931-703-5162

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907 W. Lane St., 931-639-1368

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF PRAYER
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111 Church St., 931-684-4900

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304 Old Nashville Dirt Rd., 931-684-6883

LIVING WATER
3083 Hwy. 41A N. Unionville, 931-993-2477

MIRACLE TABERNACLE
507 Coble Circle, 931-224-5184

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1331 Horse Mountain Rd., 931-685-0337

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Email: Mullins208@yahoo.com

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923 COLORADO BLVD. SHELBYVILLE, TN
Joel Landers

RED SAND PROJECT RAISES AWARENESS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

On Wednesday, July 30, Bedford County Health Council held its fourth annual Red Sand Project event on the historic Bedford County Courthouse grounds on the square.

Bedford County Mayor Chad Graham presented a proclamation to Jennifer Witham of Bedford County Health Department, recognizing July 28-August 2 as End Human Trafficking Week in Bedford County.

Human trafficking, according to the Tennessee Department of Health, is "the use of force, fraud or coercion to exploit someone for labor or sex."

The project, first launched by Molly Gochman in 2014, is a "participatory art installment designed to shed light on human trafficking." Red sand, placed in sidewalk cracks, draws attention to the human trafficking victims who "fall through the cracks" of society daily.

In the United States, it is estimated that a child is bought or sold for sex every two minutes. In 2024, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation received 1,170 human trafficking tips, with over 500 involving minors.

If you know someone who needs help to escape trafficking, contact the Tennessee Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-855-558-6484 or the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888. You can also submit a tip online at http://www.ItHasToStop.com.



Bedford County Government Photos













SHELBYVILLE BEDFORD COUNTY LIBRARY CELEBRATES A DECADE

Library and Chamber photos

Shelbyville Bedford County Library held a special event and ribbon cutting last Saturday morning to celebrate its 10th anniversary at the Jefferson Street location. A groundbreaking ceremony was also held for a new pavilion. A photo of long-time board member Rheaetta Wilson, who passed suddenly last week, was placed at the site. Wilson served the library for 50 years. Children enjoyed a foam party in the afternoon.





PRAYERFULLY STARTING THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

First Presbyterian photo

These children were all smiles following the recent "The Blessing of the Backpacks" service at First Presbyterian Church. All of the students, teachers, and school support staff were given special tags to hang on their backpacks, satchels, briefcases, etc., that say that their church is praying for them.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

First United Methodist Church - Shelbyville

This Sunday at First United Methodist Church Shelbyville, Pastor Abe Zimmerman will preach "Child-Like Faith: Part 3" from 1 Samuel 16:1-13. This series is part of a trial called Generations Worship where our elementary students stay for the whole service. They are aimed to help our young disciples become more comfortable in worship. 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 unable to attend in person, FUMC-S offers a livestream on Facebook and YouTube and a broadcast on WLIJ 98.7 FM and AM 1580.

Crossword

ANYTHING GOES

By Joel D. Meyers



CLUES ACROSS

1) One of the Jackson brothers
5) Lhasa __ (small dog)
9) Four-star review
13) Ancient
14) "Bear of very little brain"
15) Feasts
16) Dignified sobriety
18) To the left, at sea
19) Tisket's partner in song
20) Swedish money
21) Automotive "valve"
22) Meditative martial art
25) Trigonometric function
27) Gambler's marker
29) Musical buildup
31) Jesus, to many
34) Bullets, briefly
35) Opening in a dentist's schedule?
36) Broke the budget
39) "Patriot" add-on
42) It has six sides
43) Casual top
47) Scottish broadswords
50) Arab ruler
51) Eli's school
52) Extremely popular
55) Green climber
56) Braid of hair
58) Poppy plant derivative
60) In pieces
61) Enact
64) "Growing Pains" star
65) Bowl over
66) Listed thing
67) Does simple math
68) Hamlet, e.g.
69) Scatters hay

CLUES DOWN

1) ___ in turkey (spelling lesson)
2) Practical joker's cry
3) Israeli city
4) English 101 readings
5) Breathing problem
6) Kind of license
7) "Emergency!"
8) Sounds of acknowledgment
9) Rest
10) Making amends
11) Open porch
12) Suffix for the very best
15) At considerable distance
17) NASDAQ, for one
20) Broadway's fate?
21) Many computers
23) Caught some shut-eye
24) Cord fiber
26) Emulate a bunny
28) Spanish uncle
30) Bamboozles
32) Egg cell
33) Zinger
37) Pink, as a steak
38) Not just "a"
39) Aloof
40) Gave a high-five
41) Duck type
44) Copy
45) Fastened, in a way
46) "Don't give up!"
48) Desires
49) Japanese leader of yore
53) Express one's view
54) "_ the season ... "
57) Not his or hers?
59) Came down to earth
60) Letters before an alias
61) Thing dropped for trips
62) In-flight info, for short
63) Fat letters

FreeDailyCrosswords.com

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CLAY PLAY

Lay down some plastic and make a batch of newspaper clay. Make some cool things out of the clay.

Make Some Newspaper Clay!

Mold and make hard as rock **pulptures** with clay made from newspaper pulp.

STUFF YOU'LL NEED:
newspaper
large bowl
dry wallpaper paste
measuring cup/spoon
oil of clove

1. **First, make some newspaper pulp.** Fill a large bowl with little squares of newspaper. Make the pieces about 2 inches square.
2. **Cover with warm water.** Let soak overnight. Drain away excess water in the morning.
3. **To make the clay**, squeeze the pulp to remove excess water. Add 2 tablespoons of dry wallpaper paste to one cup of damp pulp. Add a couple drops of clove oil to make your clay smell good. Mix well with your hands until it is pliable.
4. Use the clay to make a **pulpture**. Once dry, your creation can be sanded, painted and sealed.

Palm Tree Pencil

1. Flatten five pieces of clay into palm leaf shapes.
2. Roll out a small piece of clay for a trunk. Push in one end of a pencil to indent.
3. Attach leaves to trunk. Let dry. Paint and glue on pencil top.

Crayon Caddy

1. Make an oval-shaped ball.
2. Make eight rope tentacles. Make a pointy tip on the end of each tentacle.
3. Attach the blunt end of each tentacle to the oval. Add four round disks to form eyes.
4. Curve the end of each tentacle so it can hold a pencil or crayon.
5. After it is completely dry, paint the octopus whatever color you like.

Door Name

1. Form the letters of your name out of thick clay ropes.
2. Let dry overnight. Once the letters are dry, glue the letters together.
3. Paint each letter a different color. Put your name on your bedroom door with an adult's help.

Standards Link: Visual Arts: Students use a variety of media, textures and colors.

Extra! Extra!
Clay Racing

Set a timer for two minutes. With a friend or family member, race through the newspaper to circle words that rhyme with the word **CLAY**. Who found the most? Then, put the words you circled in alphabetical order.

Standards Link: Spelling: Arrange words in alphabetical order.

Kid Scoop Puzzler
Help paint this flower pot by following the maze.
START
FINISH

Double Double Word Search

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

PULPTURES
PASTE
ROPES
BATCH
SOAK
SANDED
BREAK
CREATION
CLAY
HARD
FORM
MOLD
HUNT
THICK

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

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

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Art in the News

Look through your newspaper's online or print edition and find a story about art, artists or creativity in general. Write a review of this art information. Include three facts and three opinions.

Standards Link: Writing Applications: Write expository essays that include fact and opinion.

Write On!

Clay Creature

I molded a silly creature out of clay one day, when suddenly it came to life ...
Finish this story.

Kid Scoop Together:

Paper Clip Project

Decorate paper clips with clay. Just follow these steps:

1. Roll a small piece of clay into a ball.
2. With your thumb, flatten into a disk.
3. Flatten a smaller clay ball into another disk.
4. Place the larger disk face down; press the top of a paper clip into the disk's back.
5. Press the other disk on top, sandwiching the paper clip in between.
6. Let dry and paint a design on the clay disk.

Standards Link: Visual Arts: Students use a variety of media, textures and colors.

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NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND FORECLOSURE SALE

WHEREAS, on October 5, 2012, a certain Home Equity Conversion Deed of Trust ("Reverse Mortgage") was executed by MARGIE L. JACKSON, a married woman, and EDWARD EUGENE JACKSON, as trustors in favor of Harvard Home Mortgage, Inc., as beneficiary and David L. Thurston, as trustee, and was recorded on October 16, 2012 under Clerk's Instrument Number 12006004, Book TD784, Page 159-170 in the real property records of Bedford County, Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the Reverse Mortgage was insured by the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (the "Secretary") pursuant to the National Housing Act for the purpose of providing single family housing; and

WHEREAS, the beneficial interest in the Reverse Mortgage is now owned by the Secretary, pursuant to an assignment dated January 15, 2020, and recorded on January 31, 2020, under Clerk's Instrument Number 20000830, Book TD953, Page 250-251 in the real property records of Bedford County, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a default has been made in the covenants and conditions of the Reverse Mortgage in that the Trustors are now deceased and the property is not the principal residence of at least one surviving borrower; and

WHEREAS, the entire amount delinquent as of September 12, 2025 is $213,019.19; and

WHEREAS, by virtue of the default, the Secretary has declared the entire amount of the indebtedness secured by the Reverse Mortgage to be immediately due and payable;

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to powers vested in Mackie Wolf Zientz & Mann, P.C. by the Single Family Mortgage Foreclosure Act of 1994, 12 U.S.C. 3751 et seq., by 24 CFR part 27, subpart B, and by the Secretary's designation of Mackie Wolf Zientz & Mann, P.C. as Foreclosure Commissioner, recorded in the real property records of Bedford County, Tennessee under Book TD1157, Page 265, notice is hereby given that on September 12, 2025, on or about 11:00AM local time, all real property at or used in connection with the following described premises ("Property") will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder:

BEGINNING at the corner of a chain-link fence at the Northeast corner of the State Garage property and Southeast of a curve in Patricia Drive and being the Southwest corner of the property herein described; thence North 3 degrees East 235 feet to a white post on the East margin of said Patricia Drive; thence South 86 degrees 30 minutes East 71 feet to a Cedar Tree; thence South 54 degrees East 112 feet to a pile of rocks on the East side of a drainage ditch; thence South 86 degrees 30 minutes East 188 feet to a dead Cedar Tree at the corner of a rock fence: thence South 4 degrees 15 minutes West 123 feet to a stake at the corner of a rock fence; thence South 76 degrees West 31 feet to a point in a rock fence; thence South 83 degrees 15 minutes West 211 feet to a Cedar Tree in a rock fence; thence due West 114 feet to the point of beginning, according to survey of Rex Northcutt, dated December 29, 1975, and containing 1.4 acres.

BEING all and the same lot of ground which by Quitclaim Deed dated January 28, 2002, and recorded among the Land Records of Bedford County, Tennessee, in Book D247, Page 284, was granted and conveyed by Dorris W. Boyce unto Margie L. Boyce nka Margie L. Jackson.

Tax Account No. 090-094.02

Commonly known as: 2104 Patricia Drive, Shelbyville, TN 37160.

Tax ID: 03-090-090-094.02-000

The sale will be held in Bedford County, Tennessee at the following location: at the South door of the Bedford County Courthouse, Shelbyville, Tennessee.

The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development will bid $213,019.19.

There will be no proration of taxes, rents or other income or liabilities, except that the purchaser will pay, at or before closing, his pro rata share of any real estate taxes that have been paid by the Secretary to the date of the foreclosure sale.

When making their bids, all bidders except the Secretary must submit a deposit totaling $21,301.92 in the form of a certified check or cashier's check made out to the Secretary of HUD. A deposit need not accompany each oral bid. If the successful bid is oral, a deposit of $21,301.92 must be presented before the bidding is closed. The deposit is nonrefundable. The remainder of the purchase price must be delivered within 30 days of the sale or at such other time as the Secretary may determine for good cause shown, time being of the essence. This amount, like the bid deposits, must be delivered in the form of a certified or cashier's check. If the Secretary is the highest bidder, he need not pay the bid amount in cash. The successful bidder will pay all conveying fees, all real estate and other taxes that are due on or after the delivery date of the remainder of the payment and all other costs associated with the transfer of title. At the conclusion of the sale, the deposits of the unsuccessful bidders will be returned to them.

The Secretary may grant an extension of time within which to deliver the remainder of the payment. All extensions will be for 15-day increments for a fee of $500.00, paid in advance. The extension fee shall be in the form of a certified or cashier's check made payable to the Secretary of HUD. If the high bidder closes the sale prior to the expiration of any extension period, the unused portion of the extension fee shall be applied toward the amount due.

If the high bidder is unable to close the sale within the required period, or within any extension of time granted by the Secretary, the high bidder may be required to forfeit the cash deposit or, at the election of the foreclosure commissioner after consultation with the HUD representative, will be liable to HUD for any costs incurred as a result of such failure. The Commissioner may, at the direction of the HUD representative, offer the property to the second highest bidder for an amount equal to the highest price offered by that bidder.

There is no right of redemption, or right of possession based upon a right of redemption, in the mortgagor or others subsequent to a foreclosure completed pursuant to the Act. Therefore, the Foreclosure Commissioner will issue a Deed to the purchaser(s) upon receipt of the entire purchase price in accordance with the terms of the sale as provided herein. HUD does not guarantee that the property will be vacant.

Other interested Parties: ESTATE OF MARGIE L. JACKSON AND UNKNOWN HEIRS OF MARGIE L. JACKSON AND SECRETARY OF HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND ESTATE OF EDWARD EUGENE JACKSON AND UNKNOWN HEIRS OF EDWARD EUGENE JACKSON.

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

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.

The scheduled foreclosure sale shall be cancelled or adjourned if it is established, by documented written application of the mortgagor to the Foreclosure Commissioner not less than 3 days before the date of sale, or otherwise, that the default or defaults upon which the foreclosure is based did not exist at the time of service of this notice of default and foreclosure sale, or all amounts due under the mortgage agreement are tendered to the Foreclosure Commissioner, in the form of a certified or cashier's check payable to the Secretary of HUD, before public auction of the property is completed.

The amount that must be paid if the mortgage is to be paid in full prior to the scheduled sale is $213,019.19, plus all other amounts that would be due under the mortgage agreement if payments under the mortgage had not been accelerated, advertising costs and postage expenses incurred in giving notice, mileage by the most reasonable road distance for posting notices and for the Foreclosure Commissioner's attendance at the sale, reasonable and customary costs incurred for title and lien record searches, the necessary out-of-pocket costs incurred by the Foreclosure Commissioner for recording documents, a commission for the Foreclosure Commissioner, and all other costs incurred in connection with the foreclosure prior to reinstatement.

Tender of payment by certified or cashier's check or application for cancellation of the foreclosure sale shall be submitted to the address of the Foreclosure Commissioner provided below.

Date: July 25, 2025
By Jason Nabors, Attorney at Law, Bar No. 037937
Mackie Wolf Zientz & Mann, P.C.
Foreclosure Commissioner
Park East
725 Cool Springs Blvd, Suite 140
Franklin, TN 37067
(615) 238-3630
(615) 777-4517 Fax
MWZM File: 25-000010-430-1
TN INVESTORS PAGE: HTTP://MWZMLAW.COM/TN_INVESTORS.PHP (7313tc)

NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE
STATE OF TENNESSEE, Bedford COUNTY

WHEREAS, BETTY BROWN, a single woman, as borrower(s), executed a Deed of Trust to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as beneficiary, as nominee for Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, Lender, and Nationwide Trustee Services, Inc, Trustee(s), which was dated 5/27/2019, and recorded on 6/5/2019, as Instrument No. 19003774 in Book TD932 Page 223, securing the payment of a Note in the amount of $77,132.00 in Bedford County, Tennessee Register of Deeds.

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; Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, (the "Holder"), appointed the undersigned, Vylla Solutions – Tennessee, 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, Vylla Solutions – Tennessee, LLC, Substitute Trustee, by virtue of the power and authority vested in it, will on 9/26/2025, at or about 11:00 AM at the usual and customary location at the Front steps of the Bedford County Courthouse , located in Shelbyville, Tennessee, proceed to sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash, the following described property situated in Bedford County, Tennessee, to wit:

Land situated in Bedford County, Tennessee:

BEING ALL OF THE BETTY BROWN SUBDIVISION, A ONE LOT SUBDIVISION CONSISTING OF 1.20 ACRES, A PLAT OF WHICH IS RECORDED IN PLAT CABINET B, ENVELOPE 170, REGISTER'S OFFICE OF BEDFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE TO WHICH REFERENCE IS MADE FOR A MORE DETAILED DESCRIPTION.

Tax Parcel ID: 11-43-43-9.04-000

Address/Description: 349 ROY MOORE ROAD, UNIONVILLE, TN 37180

Current Owner(s): Leigh Ann Williams Executrix of the Estate of Betty Brown, Deceased

Other Interested Party(ies): Aqua Finance, Inc.; Discover Bank; LVNV Funding LLC; and 3D Financial

If the Internal Revenue Service and/or U.S. Department of Treasury is listed as Other Interested Party above, then the notice required under 26. U.S.C. 7425(b) was timely provided and the sale of the land advertised will be subject to the right of the U.S. to redeem the land as provided in 26 U.S.C. 7425(d)(1). If the Tennessee Department of Revenue and/or the Tennessee Department of Labor and Work Force Development is listed as Other Interested Party above, then the notice required under TCA 67-1-1433(b) was timely provided and for each lien identified, the sale of the land advertised will be subject to the right of The State of Tennessee to redeem the land as provided for in TCA 65-1-1420.

The sale of the property described above shall be subject to all matters shown on any recorded plat; any and all liens against said property for unpaid property taxes; any restrictive covenants, easements or set-back lines that may be applicable; any prior liens or encumbrances as well as any priority created by a fixture filing; a deed of trust; and any matter than an accurate survey of the premises might disclose.

All right and equity of redemption, statutory or otherwise, homestead, and dower are expressly waived in said Deed of Trust, and the title is believed to be good, but the undersigned will sell and convey only as Substitute Trustee.

The right is reserved to adjourn/postpone the day of the sale to another day, time, and place certain, by verbal announcement at the time and place for the sale set forth above; if the postponement is for five (5) days or more, the postponement announcement will also be posted on website of www.realtybid.com

Except to the extent that the Substitute Trustee may bind and obligate Mortgagors to warrant title the Property under the terms of the Deed of Trust, conveyance of the Property shall be made without any representations or warranties whatsoever, express or implied. It will sell on "as is", "where is".

The entire purchase price is due and payable at the conclusion of the auction in the form of certified funds. Insufficient funds will not be accepted. Amounts received in excess of the winning bid will be refunded to the successful purchaser. This property is being sold with express reservation that the sale is subject to confirmation by lender or Substitute Trustee.

This office is attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Vylla Solutions - Tennessee, LLC, Substitute Trustee
P.O. Box 3309
Anaheim, California 92803
Phone: (888) 313-1969
TS#: 25-35835
Publication Dates: 7/31/2025, 9/4/2025, 9/11/2025 9/18/2025
Online Posting Website and Date of Posting: www.foreclosure-postings.com
Posting begin date: 7/31/2025 Posting end date: 9/18/2025

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.(7174tc)

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

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Paying cash for older sports card collections. Unopened sports card cases and boxes. Comic books and antique sports related items. Shelbyville
931-492-4304

Bedford County Soil and Water Conservation District

The Bedford County Soil and Water Conservation District is looking to hire a **District Soil Conservation Technician.**

Description: This position is responsible for field work activities to plan and implement conservation practices, and to assist with the daily operation of the BCSWCD. Strong organizational, interpersonal, and decision-making skills are necessary to perform job duties. Activities associated with the job include, but are not limited to:

- Inventory and evaluation of agricultural land to document resource concerns
- Assist landowners with the development of whole farm conservation plans.
- Consult with field office staff/ Area office staff to design conservation practices.
- Oversee construction and perform checkouts of planned conservation practices/systems with cooperative landowners according to established policies.
- Provide technical assistance to individuals, groups and governmental entities in a timely manner.
- Assist with educational programs to promote the conservation of natural resources.
- Respond to requests for information and service from Local, State, and Federal Governmental offices and to the public.
- Maintain rental equipment

Rate $15/Hr. (Potential Pay Increase)
Work 40 Hr. per week
Address 2013 Midland Rd Shelbyville, TN 37160
Phone (931) 684-1441 Ext.3

Application/Detailed job description can be picked up at office between 7:00-3:30 M-F

Application and Resume to be turned into office no later than 08/15/2025

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Bid Number: TDEC ARPA #2022-8533 (DW-PDC-1)
Bid Title: Wartrace ARPA #2022-8533 - Water System Improvements (DW-PDC-1)
Category: Public Works
Status: Bidding
WARTRACE WATER SYSTEM (PWSID TN0000730), Bedford County
ESU Project Number: DW20240197

PROJECT: WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS (DW-PDC-1)

Wartrace will be soliciting bids for Wartrace ARPA #2022-8533 - WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS (DW-PDC-1) project located in the Town of Wartrace, Tennessee. This is a Public Works project with several functions for the Town of Wartrace community. The Work includes the replacement of about 5,300 linear feet of 12-inch water main and rebuild of master meter and vault.

Separate sealed bids for the WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS (DWPDC-1) will be received by The Town of Wartrace at 29 Main Street East, PO Box 158, Wartrace, TN 37138, until 2 pm on August 14, 2025 and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud. Any person with a disability requiring special accommodation must contact the Town of Wartrace no later than 7 days prior to the bid opening.

All bid documents may be examined at the following:

1) WARTRACE CITY HALL
29 MAIN ST E, PO BOX 158
WARTRACE, TN 37183
(931) 389-6144

2) HUSSEY GAY BELL, LLC
4117 HILLSBORO PIKE, STE 206
NASHVILLE, TN 37215
(615) 460-7515

3) QUEST CDN PLANROOM
www.questcdn.com

Complete digital project bidding documents are available at www.questcdn.com under Login. You may download the digital plans and contract documents for $22.00 by inputting Quest project # 9807351 in the website's Project Search page. Please contact Quest CDN at (952) 233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in free membership registration, downloading, and working with this project information.

The owner reserves the right to waive any informalities or to reject any or all bids.

A detailed listing of all subcontractors shall be provided by the Bidder.

In accordance with the Contract Documents, documentation that the prospective General Contractor and its subcontractors meet minimum qualifications shall be provided and submitted. Subcontractors must also not appear on Sam.gov disbarment list. Mark-ups on subcontractor work or Cost Plus Overhead will be disallowed for reimbursement.

A bid bond or certified check for five percent (5%) of the total bid amount must accompany each bid. The successful bidder will be required to furnish a performance bond in the amount of his bid and shall, before entering on the work of said contract, be licensed as a contractor of the Town of Wartrace.

Bid Opening Date/Time: August 14, 2025 @ 2 pm
Publication Date: 07/25/2025

The Town of Wartrace hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin in consideration for an award. The Town of Wartrace is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Any contract that uses federal funds to pay for construction work is a "federally assisted construction contract" and must include the equal opportunity clause found in 2 C.F.R. Part 200, unless otherwise stated in 41 C.F.R. Part 60. We encourage all small and minority owned firms and women's business enterprises to participate. No bidder may withdraw his bid within (60) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Let us help you spread the news!

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

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

SHELBYVILLE TIMES-GAZETTE

Obituaries



Margaret Taylor Smith
December 19, 1938 – July 24, 2025

Margaret Taylor Smith, beloved mother, grandmother, and cherished member of the Shelbyville community, passed away peacefully at her home on July 24, 2025, surrounded by the love and care of her family.

Born on December 19, 1938, Margaret was raised on her family's farm at Taylor's Chapel outside of Somerville, Tennessee. She was the daughter of Rhea Venable Taylor Sr. and Jennie Mai Paris Taylor and graduated from Fayette County High School in 1956. She went on to attend the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, earning a degree in Home Economics in 1960. A proud member of Kappa Delta Sorority, it was there she met the love of her life, Louis Stephen Smith. They were married on June 30, 1961, at the Somerville Methodist Church.

Margaret began her professional career in New Mexico with an electric cooperative, teaching basic home economics. While stationed in Atlanta during Louis's service in the U.S. Army, she briefly taught junior high science—an experience that confirmed her belief that her gifts lay outside the classroom, despite her father's insistence that she earn a teaching certificate "as lifestyle insurance."

After Atlanta, Margaret and Louis moved to McMinnville, Tennessee, where they welcomed both of their children. The family eventually settled in Shelbyville, choosing it over a proposed/required move to Buffalo, New York. Here, they invested in and operated the Western Auto store—an enduring local landmark—for decades. Margaret and Louis were the perfect team: he the brawn, she the brains, although both of them possessed ample doses of both. With the help of a family of dedicated team members, and many beloved DECA students, over the years they ensured Shelbyville families that Santa had bicycles for Christmas, lawn mowers for summer, and just about everything in between—from tires and tools to appliances and Radio Shack gadgets.

Margaret's impact extended far beyond the store. She was a committed and active member of her community throughout her life:

- Shelbyville Woman's Club
- Shelbyville Garden Club
- Beta Sigma Iota Sorority
- Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)
- Board Member, Argie Cooper Public Library

A lifelong member of First Presbyterian Church, Margaret served faithfully as a Deacon, Elder, Financial Secretary, and member of Women of the Church. Her devotion to her faith and church family was unwavering.

In her later years, she and Louis founded the family horse trailer business with Richard-Sundowner of Shelbyville, before both eventually retired—though Margaret was known to "unretire" now and then. Like right after Louis retired and came home. They enjoyed time traveling, relaxing at their Monteagle cabin (lovingly built by Louis, with "just a little help"), and making memories at Tims Ford Lake with their children and grandchildren.

Always full of vision, Margaret spent years planning to "downsize." That dream became a reality in December 2020 when she moved into her new home, chosen by her, just for her. There, she delighted in beautiful sunrises from the front porch and warm sunsets from the back—though she was much more likely to be found enjoying the latter. With a scotch in hand.

After a series of health challenges, Margaret was able to return to her home on Mother's Day, where she received loving care from family, the wonderful staff of Home Helpers caregivers, and Alive Hospice. Her final days were spent in the place she loved most—home.

Margaret is preceded in death by her husband, Louis S. Smith; her parents, Rhea Venable Taylor Sr. and Ginny Paris Taylor; her brother, Rhea V. Taylor Jr.; and her grandson, Louis Kerry Smith.

She is survived by her sister, Frances Woody, children, Richard (Kathy) Smith and Mary Margaret (Larry) Taruris; grandsons Taylor Smith of Chattanooga, Gage (Lauren) Smith of Shelbyville, and Jackson Smith of Nashville; and her great-grandsons Knox, Henry, Noah Louis, and Baker Smith.

Margaret will be remembered for her sharp wit, her unshakable faith, her devotion to family and community, and her quiet strength. Her legacy lives on in the lives she touched, the traditions she helped build, and the love she gave so freely.

In lieu of flowers, Margaret would have requested that memorial contributions be made to the Backpack Program at First Presbyterian Church of Shelbyville, a cause close to her heart.

Funeral Service will be held Saturday, Aug 2, at First Presbyterian Church. Visitation with the family at 1 PM in the sanctuary, with Service Of Witness To The Resurrection following at 2 PM.

Private burial with family at a later time.

Mary Ann Rowland



The family of Mary Ann Rowland, with sadness and much love, share that she peacefully passed on Tuesday, July 8th, 2025, at the age of 84.

Mary Ann was born on December 24th, 1940 in Nashville, TN to the late Catherine and Roy Batson. When she was a young girl, her family moved to Shelbyville, TN. She graduated from Central High School in May of 1958. Mary Ann met Wallace Rowland at one of her summer jobs. Their courtship led to marriage. Later, the couple moved to Tullahoma, TN when Wallace took a position with Peoples Finance Company.

Throughout her marriage, Mary Ann was a homemaker and mother to their two daughters, Lisa Rene and Donna Lynn, and supported Wallace during his many years of pastoral ministry. After her children were grown, Mary Ann became a realtor, worked for a local realtor/broker, and eventually began buying and managing local rental properties as part of a privately-owned family business in Tullahoma.

Mary Ann was preceded in death by an infant son, Granville Scott Rowland; mother, Catherine Nelson Batson of Shelbyville; and father, Roy Scott Batson of Nashville. She was also preceded in death by three brothers, Joseph Henderson Arnold of Shelbyville, TN, Samuel Stewart Arnold of Shelbyville, TN and Carl Franklin Arnold of Fayetteville, TN.

Mary Ann is survived by her husband, Wallace Rowland of Tullahoma; daughter, Lisa Rene Devine (Alan) of Franklin, TN; grandsons, John Nelson Devine (Stacey) of Nashville, TN, and Steven Chase Devine of Franklin, TN; daughter, Donna Lynn Sassaman (David) of Fort Worth, TX; grandson Kevin David Sassaman (Marisa) of Arlington, TX; granddaughters, Kelly Nicole Reeder (Lane) of Fort Worth, TX, and Katelyn Mary Patterson (Chris) of Fort Worth, TX; five great-granddaughters, Aslyn, Avery, Leoni, Emery, and Margot; and two great-grandsons, Barrett and Archer.

Visitation for Mrs. Rowland was held on Sunday, July 13th, 2025, from 12:00-2:00pm. Funeral services followed in the Kilgore Funeral Home chapel with Bro. Tim McGehee officiating. Burial followed at Willow Mount Cemetery in Shelbyville with Kevin Sassaman, Nelson Devine, Chase Devine, LeeRoy Cunningham, Marty Scott, and John Rickman serving as pallbearers.

For those who wish, the family asks that donations in Mary Ann's memory be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital- 501 St. Jude Pl. Memphis, TN 38105-9959.

Kilgore Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Death Notices

Dorothy "Ellie" Gentry Castile

Dorothy Elezabeth (Ellie) Gentry Castile, age 30, passed away July 24, 2025.

Dorothy was born October 12, 1994, in Tullahoma. She was preceded in death by her mother, Renee Gentry McCormick; her grandfather, Mike Gentry; great grandparents-Ward and Dot Coats, Jr.; George and Marie Gentry.

She is survived by her husband, Trevor Castile; children, Harley, Rylan and Charlie Castile, of Shelbyville; her grandmother, Brenda Coats (Graham) Bland of Wartrace; her chosen brother, Brandon Boston of Dunlap; her father-in-law, Charles Castile, of Normandy.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Shirley Kay Alford Rodrugeaz

Shirley Kay Alford Rodrugeaz, of Shelbyville, died July 23, 2025, at the age of 65. She was the daughter of the late John William "Bill" Alford and Rosie Mai Gregory Smith. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a daughter, Brandy Newman.

She is survived by two daughters, Jennifer Kay Lovvorn of Manchester, Amy Shantelle Merlo of Pinson.

Hillcrest Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Ida Belle Gordon

Ida Belle Gordon, 93, of Wartrace, died July 27, 2025. She was born January 1, 1932 in Giles County and was a retired employee of Tennessee Apparel Corp. and a member of Wartrace Church of Christ.

She was preceded in death by her parents, John Allen McNeese and Audrey Bernice Hodge McNeese; her husband of 73 years, James Edward Gordon; a son, James Edward Gordon Jr. and daughter-in-law, Gail Pauline Gordon.

Ida is survived by her children, Elizabeth Ann (Jeff) Floyd, Billy Mark Gordon of Wartrace, Robert Allen (Dinah) Gordon of Mt. Dora, Fla.

Hillcrest Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Randall Keith Vandergriff

Randall K. Vandergriff, 69, of Shelbyville, passed away Thursday, July 25, 2025, in Murfreesboro, with his family by his side. Randall is preceded in death by his parents, Wade Anderson and Maybell Gordon Vandergriff.

He is survived by his brothers, Paul Vandergriff (Lisa Locke), and William Vandergriff; sisters, Peggy Throneberry, Wanda G. McPeak (Ricky), and Debra K. Evans.

Gowen-Smith Chapel is serving the family.

Eva Kay King

Eva Kay "Mom" King, age 73, of Chapel Hill, died Saturday, July 26, 2025, in Nashville.

Kay was born in Bedford County and was one of 17 children to the late Bessie Mae Fagan and Jolly Walls, Sr.

Mrs. King is survived by her husband of 55 years, Jackie King, Chapel Hill; sons, Jolly Joe "J J" (Vicki) King, Rodney Ryan (Ali) King and Jackie (Rainey) King, II, all of Chapel Hill.

Lawrence Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



In Memory

Submitted Photo

Tennessee Walking Horse trainer/exhibitor/industry legend, Jimmy McConnell, has passed away. Arrangements are forthcoming. McConnell started training horses as a kid with his father, Odell McConnell, and brother, Jackie McConnell, in Union City. With a loyal fan base supporting him over the years through the TWH industry's ups and downs, McConnell would go on to win just about every honor, including Trainer of the Year. One of his best rides, though there were many, might be with The Dark Night Shade from 2004. Jimmy owned Formac Stables in Shelbyville.

ANYTHING GOES By Joel D. Meyers

1 T	2 I	3 T	4 O		5 A	6 P	7 S	8 O			9 R	10 A	11 V	12 E
13 A	G	E	D		14 P	O	O	H		15 F	E	T	E	S
16 S	O	L	E	17 M	N	E	S	S		18 A	P	O	R	T
	19 T	A	S	K	E	T			20 K	R	O	N	A	
21 P	C	V		22 T	A	I	23 C	24 H	I		25 S	I	N	26 H
27 C	H	I	28 T			29 C	R	E	S	30 C	E	N	D	O
31 S	A	V	I	O	32 R		33 A	M	M	O		34 G	A	P
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38 I	39 S	40 M		41 U	T	A	H		42 T	S	H	43 I	44 R	45 T
46 C	L	A	47 Y	M	O	R	E	48 S		49 E	M	I	R	
50 Y	A	L	E		51 R	E	D	H	O	T	52	53 I	V	Y
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57 A	P	A	R	T		58 L	E	G	I	S	L	A	T	E
59 K	E	R	N	S		60 S	T	U	N		61 I	T	E	M
62 A	D	D	S			63 D	A	N	E		64 T	E	D	S

Former Webb Athlete Joel Wyatt Commits to Volunteers

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – Former Webb Feet football star, Joel Wyatt, announced his commitment to the University of Tennessee on Monday.

The No. 2 prospect in the state of Tennessee according to the 247Sports Composite Rankings recently transferred to Oakland High following the cancellation of The Webb School's football program. A season ago, Wyatt helped lead the Feet to a 6-5 record – the program's first-ever winning season – along with its second-ever playoff appearance.

The 4-star athlete was a two-way star for the Feet, leading the team in receiving a year ago with 44 receptions for 890 yards and 10 TDs. Defensively, Wyatt was second on the team in total tackles with 31, and was tied for the team-lead with 3 TFLs.

The 6 '4, 195lb Wyatt is currently ranked as the No. 5 athlete in the country heading into his senior season at Oakland High, and is ranked No. 48 overall nationally according to the 247Sports Composite Rankings.

With his commitment, the Vols now move into the Top 15 nationally with the No. 12 recruiting class for the 2026 cycle. Wyatt is the third-highest ranked recruit committed behind a pair of 5-stars in QB Faizon Brandon from North Carolina and OT Gabriel Osenda from Baylor School in Chattanooga.



Joel Wyatt (14) strolls into the end zone in a preseason scrimmage before the 2024 campaign against Cascade while at The Webb School. *Photo courtesy of The Webb School.*

MTSU's Trace Phillips signs with Tampa Bay Rays

MT ATHLETICS

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – Middle Tennessee baseball's sophomore two-way standout Trace Phillips has signed with the Tampa Bay Rays as an undrafted free agent, announced Monday.

A native of Spring Hill, Tenn., Phillips made an immediate impact as a true freshman in 2024, appearing in 55 games and making 13 pitching appearances. He batted .313 with 61 hits, 47 RBIs and 13 home runs, ranking second on the team in long balls.

On the mound, he started nine games, logging 42.2 innings — fourth most on the team — and solidified a weekend starter role down the stretch. His performance earned him Conference USA Second Team and All-Freshman Team honors.

This past season, Phillips opened as the Blue Raiders' Friday starter, hitting 97 mph in his debut against Bowling Green. He tossed six scoreless innings in that outing, and on Feb. 21, he was named Conference USA Pitcher of the Week after striking out nine while walking just one in six shutout frames against FDU. Phillips began the year with 12 consecutive scoreless innings before injuries would sideline him for the majority of the season.

"We are very happy for Trace and his family," said Head Coach Jerry Meyers. "It is an opportunity well-deserved and earned for him, and I know he will do extremely well as a professional. As talented as he is, the Tampa Bay Rays are getting an even better human being. We wish him well as he embarks on his life-long dream of making it to the Big Leagues. He will always be a big part of Blue Raider Baseball."

The Rays, who reached the 2020 World Series and remain a consistent contender in the American League East, add Phillips as a promising two-way talent to their system.

MTSU officially opens the Stephen and Denise Smith Athlete Performance Center

MT ATHLETICS

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – Middle Tennessee State University officially cut the ribbon today on the Stephen and Denise Smith Athlete Performance Center, a transformational $66 million, 85,000-square-foot facility that will reshape the future of Blue Raider Athletics and elevate the daily experience for all MTSU student-athletes.

Located at the north end of Floyd Stadium, this new facility serves as the permanent home for MTSU Football, while also offering a centralized hub for performance, preparation, and recovery across every aspect of the student-athlete journey for MTSU's 17 teams.

"This facility is a testament to the wide-ranging success of our men's and women's athletic teams and to the remarkable community support we enjoy here at MTSU," said MTSU President Dr. Sidney A. McPhee. "It is also a fitting tribute to the many contributions of Steve and Denise Smith to the betterment of our university and the continued growth of our athletics program."

One of the marquee spaces within the center is the Kevin Byard Strength and Conditioning Center, named in honor of the MTSU legend and current NFL standout Kevin Byard. The world-class training space includes cutting-edge equipment, technology, and space designed to maximize performance, health, and development. Byard, a former Blue Raider All-American and longtime NFL star, remains one of the program's most iconic success stories.

"This is the most impactful project in the history of Blue Raider Athletics," said Director of Athletics Chris Massaro. "With this facility, we've created an environment that rivals any in the country. From the Kevin Byard Strength and Conditioning Center to the SRM Concrete Club to the TOA Athletic Training Center, every square foot of this building was designed with our student-athletes in mind. We're grateful for Steve and Denise Smith, our other generous donors, and every Blue Raider who believed in this vision. Let this be the day we remember as the moment MTSU Athletics truly stepped up to the next level."

Additional features include:

The SRM Concrete Club, a state-of-the-art hospitality and viewing area for fans and donors

A team meeting room with integrated audiovisual technology for full-squad sessions

The TOA Athletic Training Center to advance recovery and wellness

A sleek, high-performance team locker room and dedicated players lounge

Numerous position-specific meeting rooms and coaching offices designed to enhance day-to-day operations

"Today is about vision becoming reality," said Head Football Coach Derek Mason. "The Stephen and Denise Smith Athlete Performance Center—and the Kevin Byard Strength and Conditioning Center in particular—represents an elite commitment to excellence. This is a game-changer for our players, our staff, and our future. It shows our program is serious about building something special, and I'm thrilled for what's ahead."

The ribbon cutting ceremony drew a large crowd of fans, supporters, alumni, student-athletes, university leaders, and community members. The event celebrated not only a long-awaited facility but a bold step forward in MTSU's pursuit of championship-level performance on and off the field.



Photo courtesy of MT Athletics.

Following is a list of named areas to-date inside the Smith Athletic Performance Center, determined by generous contributions to the Build Blue Campaign:

First Floor:
Tommy & Judy Smith Lobby
Kevin Byard Strength & Conditioning Center
Volunteer Bank Strength & Conditioning Director's Office
Josh Gregory Strength & Conditioning Bullpen
TOA Athletic Training Center
The Massaro Family A.T. Bullpen
Amada Senior Care Exam Room
Dr. Walter & Denise Chitwood Assistant Athletic Trainer's Office
Brian & Malinda Kidd Players Lounge
KAAT, LLC Assistant Equipment Manager's Office
Doug & Susan Young Nutrition Station
Bill & Kathy Jones Elevator Lobby

Second Floor:
Joey Jacobs Football Operations Center
Enterprise Solutions/Seabury Family Football Reception Area
Martha & Tom Boyd Head Coach's Office
The Gatewood Family Offensive Coach's Office
Russell Barnett Automotive Family Offensive Coach's Office
Dusty Gray Offensive Assistant Coach's Office
John & Melissa Ciprian Defensive Assistant Coach's Office
Johnny & Julia Sullivan Assistant Coach's Office
Michael and Kim Gaines Office
Michael & Kimberly Wade Office
Zeke Anderson Special Teams Coordinator's Office
Blunt Family Director of Football Operations Office
Pamela Wright Defensive Team Room
Benny Cunningham Running Back Meeting Room
Victory, Reed, Bell & Slate Family Men's Staff Locker Room
Charlie & Nancy Pigg Recruiting Hospitality Room
Jonathon & Vickie McGuire Video Bullpen
Philip & Brenda Lewis Graham Media Room
Chip Walters Control Room
Dr. Liz Rhea Entrance
Third Floor:
SRM Concrete Club
Uncle Nearest Bar
Dr. David & Jennifer McKnight Mother's Room

Golden Eagles' Soccer Star Signs With Lincoln Memorial

BY NOAH MADDOX
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SHELBYVILLE, Tenn. – Shelbyville Central star forward Emmanuel Leyva signed with Lincoln Memorial University last Monday, joined by his parents along with friends, other family, teammates, and coaches.

"I want to thank my parents, Uncle Ivan and Uncle David, my grandparents, Coach Fritz, my cousin Victor, one of my friends, Daniel Torres aka Pee Wee, and I want to thank God for letting me have this opportunity and being able to be here to continue my journey," said Leyva.

Lincoln Memorial, a DII university located right on the Tennessee-Kentucky border about 90 minutes north of Knoxville in Harrogate, TN, currently competes in the South Atlantic Conference. The Railsplitters qualified for the NCAA Tournament in 2023 by going 11-5-3 before finishing last season with a 9-4-3 record overall, seeing its season come to an early ending in the Quarterfinals of the SAC Tournament against Mars Hill.

Leyva says the recruiting process with LMU came about as recently as mid-May, and two months later, he has found his next destination to progress his career.

"I got a text message in May – like right before our graduation – from an assistant at Lincoln Memorial, and he just said that he had seen my highlight tape and was interested so we started talking," he explained.

"I had some other schools, but I wasn't really fully interested in any of them. As soon as LMU came in, I was very interested. It's a very calm place with a lot of nature and I really like the campus."

Chris Fritz has coached Emmanuel for not just all four years of high school, but in rec league and travel ball when Leyva was a young player, and spoke on how impactful Leyva has been in his time in Shelbyville.

"This is all pretty special considering I coached him in rec league and travel and watched him grow; I actually have a ball in my office with Emannuel's name on it that he gave to me when he was a little kid from the first time I coached him in rec," Fritz said. "It's just neat to watch a kid like that who has so many ties to the program and the community and that you've known for so long...it's really fulfilling."

"His dedication of being at practice all the time, not missing summer practice, not being able to carry the burden of the team at his position," he continued. "I'm not sure what position he'll play in college – I'm sure he'll wind up playing a lot of positions – but his particular position he wears a lot of the weight of the team. He's not afraid to have that, and he has the humility to do the dirty work, to share the ball, to be a good teammate, and he has the skillset to go along with that, but his ego isn't driven by individual performance. He individually crafts his game, but it's for the sole purpose of helping the team succeed more. You add that with the work ethic, and you kind of have the ideal player."

Leyva helped lead the Golden Eagles to the program's most successful four-year run in its history. For starters, his class won four consecutive District Championships. In his freshman year, Leyva was part of a run to the TSSAA Class AAA State Tournament where the Golden Eagles fell to the eventual state champions, Brentwood, while finishing 11-9 overall. Shelbyville Central finished 2022 as the Region 3-AAA Champions as well after defeating Ooltewah in the final, 2-1.

In his sophomore year, SCHS once again won its district championship, but fell to Cleveland in the Region Tournament, finishing 12-8-2 overall. In the spring of 2024 – Leyva's junior season – Shelbyville Central's season ended once again at the hands of Brentwood, but this time in the Region 5-AAA semifinals. Finally, this past season saw Leyva's and so many other seniors' careers end at home against Ravenwood in the Region 5-AAA semifinals, finishing with a 14-4-2 record overall to go along with winning the program's fourth district title in a row.

A major factor in Shelbyville's success with Leyva spearheading the attack was his incredible versatility and ability to play with and off of his teammates.

"He knows how to play a lot of different roles because he understands how to move off the ball really well," Fritz explained. "If you need him to play wide, he can play as a wide player. If you need him to play inside, he can play inside. If you need a forward that can make runs, he can make runs. The one commonality in all of this is he can press, and every team wants to press and win the ball. He's an active player, and that's going to help any team up front that's active like that."

"I'm just excited to be able to watch him go do his thing and see how he succeeds at the next level."

After a prolific high school career, Leyva says the moment where he was putting pen to paper was a realization of everything he has been working towards his entire career.

"It was kind of overwhelming at first just because of all the years I've played and all the work I've put in, but it was just a really good moment to be with my family, friends, and teammates. I've always wanted to continue playing soccer since I was a little kid, so this was special to me," Leyva concluded.

Leyva hopes to crack the varsity lineup at some point during his freshman year, beginning on Thursday, September 4th, at the University of Indianapolis at 6:30 p.m. This match will be streamed live on the GLVC Sports Network at glvcsn.com/uindy/. For the rest of LMU's matchups, FloSports will stream the majority of the Railsplitters' games during the season.



Emmanuel Leyva (middle) after signing with Lincoln Memorial University last Monday with his parents at his side for the special occasion. *Submitted Photo.*

Three Blue Raiders Named Cobalt Golf All-America Scholars

MT ATHLETICS

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – Middle Tennessee men's golfers JJ Zimmer, Carter Maneth and Luke Perkins have been named 2024-25 Cobalt Golf All-America Scholars, as announced by the Golf Coaches Association of America (GCAA) Tuesday afternoon.

The honor recognizes student-athletes who excel both on the course and in the classroom. A total of 556 NCAA Division I golfers from 190 schools were selected this year.

"I want to congratulate JJ, Carter, and Luke on this distinction," said Head Coach Mark McEntire. "It is great to see them excel in the classroom as well as on the course."

Zimmer, a senior from Jackson, Tenn., boasts a 3.866 GPA as an Integrated Studies major. Maneth, a redshirt junior majoring in Accounting with a minor in Business Administration, holds a 3.625 GPA. Perkins, a junior, leads the Blue Raiders academically with a 3.974 GPA while majoring in Business Administration and minoring in Economics and Finance.

To qualify for Cobalt Golf All-America Scholar status, student-athletes must be at least a sophomore both academically and athletically, maintain a minimum career GPA of 3.2, participate in at least 50% of their team's competitive rounds, and record a stroke average below 76.0. Recipients must also be of high moral character and in good standing at their university.

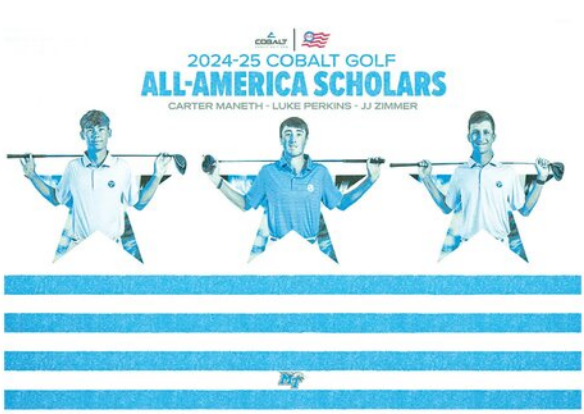


Photo courtesy of MT Athletics.

Bedford County Schools announce new assistant principals for 2025–2026

Bedford County School Superintendent Tammy Garrett recently announced the appointments of **Amber Coe Richard** as assistant principal of Cascade Middle School and **Brad Brown** as assistant principal of Community Middle School for the 2025–2026 school year.

They are joining two other assistant principals, **Rachel Grijalva**, Shelbyville Central High School, and **Melynda Whitaker**, Liberty School, who were appointed in the spring semester.

"These individuals bring a wealth of experience, deep passion for student success and strong ties to their communities, making them excellent additions to their respective schools' leadership teams," said Garrett.

Brad Brown is no stranger to Community School; he is a proud Community graduate from the Class of 2007. After earning his bachelor's degree in English from Middle Tennessee State University and his master's in educational leadership from Austin Peay State University, Brown spent 11 years teaching English and journalism at Community High School and most recently served as dean of students there.

He and his wife, Meghan, a kindergarten teacher at Community Elementary, have two children, Amory and Waylon, both students at CES.

"If I'm not at school, I'm probably coaching one of my kids in baseball or softball," Brown said.

A passionate educator and lifelong learner, Brown said he's excited for the opportunities and challenges that come with serving at the middle school level.

"Middle school is such a unique stage; students are discovering who they are, developing independence, and learning how to navigate social and academic challenges. I'm excited to build strong, supportive relationships and help students grow in confidence."

Reflecting on his time in the district, Brown shared, "Bedford County Schools is a great place to work because everyone is always willing to do whatever is needed to help kids. From the superintendent to administrators, there's always someone offering support and guidance. I'm especially thankful for the mentorship of Dr. Robert Ralston, who encouraged me to grow as a leader."

Now, as he steps into the assistant principal role at Community Middle, Brown said he's looking forward to working alongside new principal Jennifer Cook.

"From my first conversation with Dr. Cook, it was clear she has a strong vision and is ready to hit the ground running. I'm excited to be part of that vision and to contribute to the continued success of Community Middle School."

A native of Murfreesboro, **Amber Coe Richard** comes to Bedford County with 14 years of experience in education. She earned her bachelor's degree in education from Lipscomb University and a master's degree in instructional leadership from Bethel University. Most recently, she served as assistant principal at Stewarts Creek Elementary, where she previously taught second and third grade and worked as the K–5 instructional coach.

Richard is mom to two, Eleanor and Hank, and is relocating to Bedford County along with her extended family.

"We're excited to all live on the same property soon and are already feeling the warmth of this community," she said.

Her philosophy centers around relationships and student-centered advocacy: "In any role I've ever had in education, I have always been an advocate for kids first and a teacher second. Relationships are so important in building a positive school culture and helping students reach their full potential."

As she joins Cascade Middle, Richard said she's most excited to begin building relationships with staff, students, and families.

"Everyone has been so welcoming, and it is so appreciated. I am eager to help in growing Champions and to support our teachers instructionally."

She adds that the sense of community in Bedford County drew her to this position.

"Cascade is known for its tight-knit community. I'm excited for my children to grow up here, surrounded by lifelong friends and strong values."

Rachel Grijalva stepped into the role of assistant principal at Shelbyville Central High School in March 2025. A Tullahoma native and honors graduate of the Class of 2004, Grijalva has called Bedford County home for the past 15 years. She brings a strong academic background with dual bachelor's degrees in political science and philosophy from Mercer University and interdisciplinary studies from MTSU. She also holds a master's in educational leadership from Lipscomb University and is currently completing her doctorate (EdD) in learning organizations and strategic change with graduation anticipated in December.

Grijalva began her career in retail management before moving into education, spending a decade in the classroom at Thomas Magnet School. There, she taught various levels of math and science, helped lead the Drama Club for many years, and was instrumental in launching several student programs including a running club and the TMS Renaissance Program.

A passionate advocate for relationship-centered leadership, Grijalva said she believes in fostering a collaborative environment where all students feel seen, heard and valued.

"Shelbyville Central is deeply rooted in excellence, tradition and pride," she said. "I'm honored to serve a school that invests in student voice, service and belonging. Everyone has a place to belong at SCHS; the opportunities to get involved in athletics, academic clubs, service organizations, intracurricular and extracurricular organizations or professionally focused clubs are vast."

Grijalva added that she has a personal mission to learn the names of as many of the school's 1,650+ students as possible.

She and her husband, Michael, a Tennessee State Trooper, are proud parents of four children-all of whom attend Bedford County Schools.

Melynda Whitaker joined Liberty School as assistant principal in January 2025. She previously served as the instructional coach at Southside Elementary and has taught grades 5 through 8 at Harris Middle, Thomas Magnet and Christiana Middle School, with a primary focus on mathematics.

Beyond the classroom, Whitaker has supported statewide professional development as a State Standards Training Facilitator for the Tennessee Department of Education and was a reviewer for the state's most recent math textbook adoption.

Whitaker holds both bachelor's and master's degrees from Middle Tennessee State University and earned her education specialist degree in leadership from Trevecca Nazarene University in 2023.

She and her husband of 23 years, Brad Whitaker, a fourth-grade teacher at Eakin Elementary, are parents to two children. Their daughter, Caroline, will begin her senior year at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville this fall, and their son, Thomas, is preparing to begin an electrician apprenticeship.

Whitaker said her approach to education is grounded in honoring childhood, which she believes is a sacred season that should be treasured and protected.

"Children thrive when they are deeply loved, consistently supported and meaningfully challenged to work hard, think deeply and stay curious about the world around them. My life's work is to develop young people who can become the people they are meant to be."

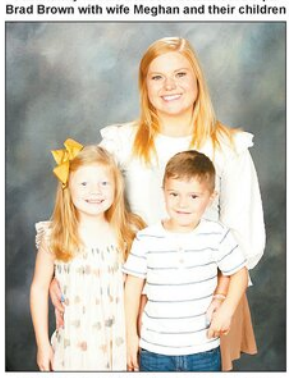
She said she's especially excited for what's ahead at Liberty. "I'm looking forward to having all our middle school students together under one roof in our new wing. With the flexibility of our updated schedule, we've been able to design engaging opportunities for students during the school day, and I'm excited to see how they grow and thrive as a result."

Whitaker also praised the school system as a whole. "In Bedford County, students are the heart of every decision we make. This is a place where children are known, supported and challenged - and where the joy of learning is alive in every classroom. It's also a district where educators are genuinely valued, not just for what they do but for who they are. Bedford County invests in its people, celebrates individual strengths and fosters a true sense of community. I feel incredibly grateful to live and work in a place so deeply committed to both student success and educator growth."

Superintendent Garrett said recently, "We look forward to the impact these assistant principals will make in their schools and across the district as we continue working together to support every student, every day."



Community Middle School Assistant Principal Brad Brown with wife Meghan and their children



Cascade Middle School Assistant Principal Amber Coe Richard with her children



SCHS Assistant Principal Rachel Grijalva with husband Michael and their children



Liberty School Assistant Principal Melynda Whitaker with husband Brad and their children

Back to school breakfast treat

(Family Features) Heading back to school means stocking up on pencils, notebook paper and the like, but there's more to getting ready to ace a new school year than basic school supplies. Gearing up for a great year means having the right tools to take you from a refreshing slumber, through lunch and all day long.

To make the first day back to school special, start with a good breakfast.

Filling morning meals help your family power through each busy day.

Paired with a healthy lifestyle, an 8-ounce glass of 100% orange juice includes key nutrients such as vitamin C, folate, thiamin and potassium, as well as calcium and vitamin D (in fortified juices), that help support the immune system all year long. Sugar-free options suggested.

While delicious and nutritious on its own, an option like Florida Orange Juice can also be enjoyed as part of morning favorite recipes like French toast. As a meal that can satisfy the entire family, this Orange Juice French Toast with Infused Whipped Cream offers a twist on a breakfast classic.

As a delicious addition to any diet, 100% orange juice is a perfect way to sit down together at the table before tackling the day's adventures.

Orange Juice French Toast with Infused Whipped Cream

Recipe courtesy of the Florida Department of Citrus

- 4 eggs
- 1/2 cup milk
- 3/4 cup, plus 1/4 cup, Florida Orange Juice, divided
- 10 slices milk bread
- 1 cup heavy whipping cream
- neutral oil
- maple syrup, for serving

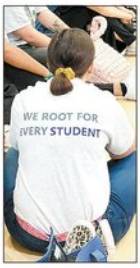
1. In shallow dish, whisk eggs, milk and 3/4 cup orange juice.
2. Dunk each slice of bread in egg mixture, letting it soak in.
3. While bread soaks, whip heavy cream until it reaches stiff peaks, about 3 minutes. Gently fold in remaining orange juice until well combined.
4. On hot pan over medium heat, in small amount of oil, fry both sides of each bread slice. Remove from heat when golden brown.
5. Serve French toast in stacks with dollop of whipped cream and drizzle of maple syrup.



WELCOME BACK PARTY FOR TEACHERS, STAFF, SCHOOL LEADERS!

School System Photos

Bedford County School System held its annual district-wide kickoff on Monday at Shelbyville Central High School. Organizers said the day was filled with energy, inspiration and community spirit. Friday, Aug. 1, is an abbreviated school day. Full class schedule starts Monday, Aug. 4. The TWHNC break will be Aug. 25-Sept. 1 (Labor Day.)











BC AWARDED FOR EXEMPLARY COMMITMENT!

Photo by Carol Garrette

Bedford County Schools has been named a 2025 Project Raise Exemplary School District!

The system was recognized for its exemplary participation and unwavering commitment to recruiting and retaining school-based mental health professionals in rural communities — a vital investment in the wellbeing of its students. Julie Haynes, left, and Lindsay Wiley accepted the award on behalf of the district!







TONY RICE
RECOVERY CENTER
MENU

ENTREES

FISH SANDWICH $ 6
A golden-fried fillet served hot on a savory bun with American cheese, crisp lettuce, and tangy tartar sauce. Light, flaky, and packed with flavor—it's comfort food done right.

FISH SANDWICH MEAL $ 10
Golden-fried fillet with a side of chips and an ice-cold drink of your choice. A classic, satisfying catch you won't forget!

LET 'EM WALK ON! WALKING TACO $ 8
A fun, portable twist on taco night! Crunchy Nacho Cheese Doritos topped with fresh, seasoned ground beef, crisp shredded lettuce, tomatoes, onions, sour cream, and cheese—all served right in the bag for easy, delicious dining on the go!

CHIPS $ 1
Classic Lay's Potato Chips – Crispy, golden, and perfectly salted for that timeless snack you love.

DESSERTS $ 3

OOEY-GOOEY RICE CRISPY TREAT
A nostalgic favorite made fresh with crispy rice cereal, gooey melted marshmallows, and a touch of real butter. Soft, chewy, and irresistibly sweet—just like grandma used to make.

OOEY-GOOEY FRUITY PEBBLE TREAT
A colorful twist on the classic! This homemade delight combines gooey, buttery marshmallows with crunchy Fruity Pebbles cereal for a vibrant, chewy treat bursting with nostalgic flavor. Each bar is hand-cut and packed with sweet, fruity goodness in every bite. Perfect for kids—and kids at heart.

FRESH PORK RINDS
$3 TRAY • $8 BAG

THE ORIGINAL OG
Light, crispy, and irresistibly savory. Our original flavor pork rinds are freshly cooked in small batches for maximum crunch and flavor. Seasoned to perfection with just the right touch of salt, these golden bites deliver that classic satisfying snap with every mouthful. Perfect on their own or paired with your favorite dip.

SWEET BBQ
Our Sweet BBQ Pork Rinds are the perfect balance of smoky, sweet, and savory. Each bite delivers a satisfying crunch, coated in our signature BBQ seasoning with hints of brown sugar, paprika, and a touch of heat. Irresistibly bold—perfect for snacking.

HOT 'N' SPICY
Freshly made and crackling with flavor, these pork rinds pack a bold, fiery punch. Light, crispy, and dusted with a signature blend of cayenne, paprika, and savory spices—each bite delivers mouthwatering heat that lingers just right. Perfect for heat lovers who crave a satisfying crunch with a serious kick.

SMOKY BACON
Crisp, golden pork rinds fried fresh to order and dusted with our signature smoky bacon seasoning. Each bite delivers a bold crunch and rich, savory flavor with just the right hint of smoke—an irresistible snack that's packed with southern soul and serious bacon attitude.

BEVERAGES

ICE COLD DRINKS $ 3
Coca-Cola® Sprite®
Diet Coke® Dasani®

HOT COFFEE $ 1
Perfectly brewed for a jolt of energy or just staying warm on cool Celebration nights.
Creamer & Sugar provided

SEE YOU AT THE TWHNC!