COMMUNITY NEWS

SHELBYVILLE TIMES-GAZETTE

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Sheriff Austin Swing stepping down

Bedford County Sheriff Austin Swing will soon make has final radio call as elected sheriff. He made the announcement earlier this week that he has decided not to see re-election next year.

A life-long resident of Bedford County, Swing is now serving his third term as sheriff.

Sheriff Swing last sought re-election and won in 2022.

"After much reflection and consideration, I have decided not to seek re-election for my position as sheriff in 2026. I want to take this moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to the community for the incredible support throughout my 50 years of public service. It has been an honor to serve as your sheriff and work alongside dedicated individuals in law enforcement and the community. Together, we have made significant strides in ensuring safety and fostering a sense of unity. Thank you for trusting me to serve you, and I look forward to seeing the continued growth and success of Bedford County."

Swing currently supervises the entire operations of Bedford County Sheriff's Department. More than 100 county employees operate under his leadership, respectively in Bedford County Corrections, the workhouse, courtrooms/security and schools/resource

See SHERIFF, 2A



Sheriff Austin Swing gives his monthly sheriff's report during the Public Safety Committee meeting at the courthouse as Nikia Elliott, BCSO chief deputy and candidate for the upcoming sheriff's seat, looks on.

Beddingfield receives life sentence for Smotherman murder



By DAWN HANKINS

James Michael Beddingfield, 48, of Shelbyville, was sentenced on Monday, Aug. 18, in Bedford County Circuit Court to life in prison for the murder of Julie Smotherman.

A native of Shelbyville, Smotherman was just 42 years of age at her death. She was the daughter of John Smotherman and Margie Warren Dodson and attended Shelbyville Central High School.

Along with her parents she is survived by her children, Hannah Brooke Smotherman, Aiden Lee Smotherman and Alexander Riley Smotherman and a granddaughter, Stella Rose Jean McBride.

Beddingfield received his sentence decree on Monday from Judge Forest Alexander Durard Jr., as follows: Count 1 (conviction-trial) first degree murder: life; Count 2 (plea) abuse of a corpse: 6 years @ 60%. These sentences are to be served consecutive to one another.

Court documents note that the murder took place on May 10, 2023, and Beddingfield was found by TBI, local law enforcement and Moore County law enforcement on May 19, 2023 and charged with criminal homicide.

A jury trial was held June 23-27, 2025, with the jury returning fairly quick on that Friday with a guilty verdict.

See BEDDINGFIELD, 2A



Laurel Cox of Bell Buckle selected as Durango Boots $30,000 scholarship winner

By Dawn Hankins

This last week, Bedford County's own Laurel Cox has been the familiar face on everything agriculture-related from magazine covers to TV shows. It's a good thing Durango's newest "cowgirl" has plenty of new boots that are "made for walking."

To boot, Laurel was recently awarded a $30,000 scholarship from Durango. During a lot of press conferences this last week, this former Cascade FFA member says she plans to encourage other "cowgirls" to chase their dreams.

She knows a "cowgirl" really has to work hard to earn her spurs in the industry, especially if there's no family legacy in ranching to back you up. Folks at Cascade will tell you Laurel certainly did that when she was involved in the school's FFA.

Mike Swafford, sponsor of FFA, said this week, "Laurel Cox is truly deserving of the "National Day of the Cowgirl" scholarship, sponsored by Durango Boots. She exemplifies dedication, leadership, and passion, serving as an inspiring role model for cowgirls, and young agriculturists striving to make a positive impact in agriculture."

This scholarship is new for the "cowgirls," according to Erin DeLong, marketing manager at Durango Boots. While the "cowboys" have received their fair share of scholarships, she said this marks only the second year this "cowgirl" scholarship has been presented by the company.

"The western industry is rooted in traditions such as faith, hard work, and community, and these principles are the foundations of why we created the National Day of the Cowgirl holiday and scholarship" shared DeLong. "Our second annual scholarship recipient, Laurel Cox, embodies these strong values and we are thrilled to be part of her journey and support system aiding her future as a cowgirl."

Laurel's goal for the future?

"To become a voice for agriculture and the western way of life through storytelling, journalism, and broadcasting," she shared last week.

Laurel told RFD TV recently that she wants to create good communications through her involvement in the agriculture industry. Her voice will include all aspects, she says, from tractor to table.

Laurel says she understands what it's like to have the support needed to reach for your goals both personally and academically. She said she was blessed to have many great mentors along the way.

No doubt one of those mentors is Mike Swafford, Cascade educator and FFA sponsor.

Laurel will tell you that she doesn't have a ranching background nor does her family. But obviously there was some kind of sparkle judges/Durango Boots representatives noticed when she talked about the agriculture industry in which she's become so deeply engrained.

Durango Boots, in partnership with the Dude Ranch Foundation, definitely noticed a cowgirl spark in Laurel. And graciously presented her the National Day of the Cowgirl Scholarship — a $30,000 annual scholarship designed to support and celebrate the next generation of cowgirls who are "blazing their own trail in the western industry."

Laurel is currently studying animal science and journalism at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. She is an animal enthusiast, especially when it comes to horses.

"There are so many passionate people with powerful stories that need to be shared," Laurel said this week. "I want to be the connection between people in the western industry and the rest of the world. My goal is to tell the full stories of people's lives and encourage cowgirls everywhere to chase their dreams."

Laurel, the daughter of Chris and Kristi Cox of Bell Buckle, recently accepted her award from Durango and said, "It means so much to me as a cowgirl who is finding my place in this industry to know that others believe in me. I am so grateful to Durango for creating the National Day of the Cowgirl holiday and its scholarship to help me pursue my educational goals."

The National Day of the Cowgirl holiday — celebrated every September 15 — honors the strength, spirit, and contributions of women in the Western world. The scholarship was created to carry that same spirit forward, supporting young women pursuing careers in western agriculture, ranching, equine, and western sports industries.

Applications are available for the 2026 scholarship which is open September 15 through December 31, 2025. Eligible first-year undergraduate students with a passion for the western industry are encouraged to reach for the stars and apply.

The National Day of the Cowgirl scholarship, presented by Durango Boots, will be awarded in the amount of $30,000 distributed over three years of continued education. To learn more or submit an application, visit National Day of the Cowgirl.

See more photos on page 12.



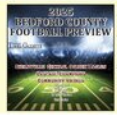


LOCAL FIRE CAUSES LOT OF DAMAGE

Bedford County maintained a fire on the 200 block of Shelbyville Mills Road last Thursday. No reported injuries.

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Football Season

Catch up on local football team schedules, rosters and outlooks in this week's special section.

See Special Section Inside



Viqueens Volleyball

11th-year head coach, Tiffany Klages, is looking to break through in tough District 8-AA for 2025.

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87th Annual Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration Recognized as Official America 250 Event



The 87th Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration, taking place through Aug. 30, 2025, in Shelbyville, has been officially designated as an America 250 event—joining a nationwide initiative commemorating the 250th anniversary of the United States of America.

This recognition celebrates The Celebration's long-standing contributions to patriotism, agriculture, rural America, tourism, history, and Southern culture.

For nearly 90 years, The Celebration has stood as a pillar of Tennessee heritage—bringing together horse enthusiasts, families, and communities to honor the legacy of the Tennessee Walking Horse, one of America's most iconic breeds.

The Celebration proudly reflects the American values of tradition, resilience, and unity.

One of the most deeply moving traditions of The Celebration is the annual Military & First Responders Night, held on the second Friday of the show. On this special evening, the entire arena is draped in red, white, and blue as we come together to honor our nation's heroes — active-duty military, veterans, police, firefighters, EMTs, and all those who serve our communities and our country. The tribute includes patriotic music, special recognitions, and moments of reflection that underscore the heart of The Celebration's values.

"The Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration has always been more than a horse show — it's a reflection of rural America, a testament to our agricultural roots, and a showcase of patriotic values that run deep in our communities," said Warren Wells, CEO of The Celebration. "Being named an official America 250 event is a tremendous honor and reaffirms our commitment to preserving and sharing the unique cultural fabric of Tennessee and the nation."

For more information on the 87th Annual Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration, visit www.twhnc.com

To learn more about America 250, visit www.america250.org.

Let 'Em Walk On!

Federal judge grants injunction against USDA rules at Celebration

Amarillo, Texas – August 19, 2025 – In a major victory for Tennessee Walking Horse owners, trainers, and the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration, a federal judge has issued a preliminary injunction blocking the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) from enforcing several of its controversial inspection rules at the upcoming 2025 Celebration.

The Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration announced Tuesday as a result that it would reopen entries for the 87th Annual Celebration for a limited 24-hour period. Due to the recent federal court ruling granting a preliminary injunction against certain USDA enforcement rules, entries were being accepted until Wednesday, Aug. 20, at 6:00 PM CT.

This extension applied only to classes scheduled for Thursday evening, Aug. 21, and later.

Judge Matthew J. Kacsmaryk of the Northern District of Texas granted the injunction in Gould v. USDA, finding that the plaintiffs – horse owners Tom Gould and Ann Mills, along with the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration Association – are likely to succeed in their challenge to three USDA rules:

The "No-Showback Rule," which barred horses disqualified on one day from competing again during a multi-day show.

The "Scar Rule," which mandated disqualification based on criteria even when a horse is not sore.

The inspection and disqualification process, which provided no pre-disqualification review or appeal, leaving horse owners without due process protections.

In his ruling, the judge held that USDA likely exceeded its authority under the Horse Protection Act and that the agency's procedures failed to provide due process. The Court also recognized the irreparable harm caused to horse owners and the Celebration when horses are unfairly disqualified, citing both the loss of property rights and the significant financial and reputational damage to the show.

The injunction applies directly to the plaintiffs in the case, including the Celebration itself, and will prevent USDA from enforcing these rules against them at this year's 87th Annual Celebration in Shelbyville, Tennessee, scheduled for August 20–30, 2025.

BEDDINGFIELD

From page 1A

The state prosecuted and Robert Marlow served as defense attorney.

Tennessee Code Annotated section 40-35-501(h)(2) and (3) state, "There shall be no release eligibility for a person committing first degree murder, on or after July 1, 1995, and receiving a sentence of imprisonment for life. The person shall serve one hundred percent of 60 years less sentence credits earned and retained. However, no sentence reduction credits shall operate to reduce the sentence imposed by the court by more than fifteen percent.

The conviction couldn't have come too soon for Smotherman's daughter, Hannah, who gave her statement in court on Monday during the hearing.

The T-G talked briefly with Hannah late Monday and she said the defense attorney and the DA told her this was "one of the best victim impact statements" they had ever heard.

This is a portion (edited for brevity.) Read more of Hannah's court statement on pg. 9 today.

"I have been working on this speech for the past 2 years and I have changed, reviewed, and read it more times than I can count because I wanted it to be perfect but the truth is that the speech will never be perfect. I will never be able to put into words the full weight of how I feel about this. There are no words that could ever capture the horror of this murder or the sick, dehumanizing things you did to her."

Hannah also said, "Today I speak not only as Julie's daughter but as her voice because she no longer has one. And today, I want to tell you about my mom, about her life, her struggles, and what it meant to love her. I also want to tell you about what it's been like living without her.

My mom was a dialysis technician for quite a few years; she loved her job. She was very good at what she did. But, on the weekends she really was the definition of the life of the party.

"I used to struggle with the fact I did not have a father; she always told me it didn't matter because she could be both. And she was. She taught me everything. She made me who I am today."

SHERIFF

From page 1A

officers.

Swing spent over 40 years serving the community at Shelbyville Police Department, beginning his career as a patrolman.

In 1977, he was named the Jaycees' Outstanding Young Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. Working his way up through the ranks, he was named Shelbyville's Chief of Police in 1993. Swing proudly notes that it was under his leadership the police department received its state accreditation.

In 2007, he was awarded Middle Tennessee Chief of the Year. He served as vice president and board member of the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police and is a charter member of Tennessee Training Officers' Association.

Sheriff Swing is a graduate of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Va. He was the first ever law enforcement officer from Bedford County selected to attend this prestigious training institution. Less than 1% are selected.

In 2014, Swing was awarded a commendation and honored by the FBI for his law enforcement leadership. In addition to his duties as sheriff, he serves on the board of directors for the 17th Judicial Drug Task Force and is a member of the Tennessee Sheriff's Association.

Swing attended one of the first Leadership Bedford classes offered. In 2016, he received the Bedford County Chamber of Commerce award for outstanding leadership in the community. He is a Paul Harris Fellow recipient through Rotary International.

Sheriff Swing graduated from Shelbyville Central High School. He has an associate of science degree from Motlow State Community College and attended the University of Virginia. He and his wife, Karen, have 2 children and several grandchildren.

"Our Sheriff's office runs on teamwork," Swing said back in 2022. "Not only from the dedicated men and women who serve here, but also from our partnership with this community. When coming into office, our goal was to move the sheriff's office forward in both service and professionalism, which we have done. Our Standard Operations Procedure Manual has been updated and rewritten. We have increased courtroom security, increased school security, increased warrant service and increased training with an emphasis on leadership for our men and women."

Also, this week, Nikia Elliott, deputy chief at BCSO, announced that he will be running for the vacant sheriff's seat next year.

Also having thrown his hat in the ring is candidate John Sweeney of Bedford County. Sweeney started out as a corrections officer for the sheriff's office in 2011, and in 2013, he became a court/warrants officer before transferring to the patrol division the following year. He was promoted to the criminal investigations division. In 2018, he earned the title of sergeant before becoming the lieutenant over the CID in 2021.

He is a graduate of the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy, the TBI State Academy, and SWAT school.

All sheriff candidates are invited to contact the Times-Gazette. Email dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net.



MORE DETAIL ADDED TO COOPER CHRISTIAN SITE

T-G Photo by Noah Maddox

The iconic bell tower was erected Tuesday morning at Cooper Christian Academy at 1012 Madison Street. Construction continues on the new private, Christian facility and students are expected to enter the building next year.

U.S. SEN. MARSHA BLACKBURN VISITS WITH MAYOR GRAHAM

Bedford County Government Photo



Marsha Blackburn, senior senator for Tennessee and the first woman to represent the Volunteer State in the United States Senate, visited Bedford County Mayor Chad Graham last week. Mayor Graham told the T-G, "She and I have had a great relationship during my tenure as Mayor and she has been a champion for the horse industry as well.... Our conversations centered around the Big Beautiful Bill and the need for county governments to have options "other than property tax" to generate needed revenues to help manage rapid growth here in Tennessee." Blackburn serves on the Deputy Whip Team and is a member of the Finance Committee; the Commerce, Science & Transportation Committee; the Veterans' Affairs Committee; and the Judiciary Committee. Graham, who announced recently he's not running for re-election next year, responded this week- when asked if he might be considering a higher governmental position- that he's looking forward to being out of the public limelight.

Chris White gives 'unofficial Duck River report' to Rules Committee

By Dawn Hankins

During the County Rules Committee meeting Tuesday afternoon, Commissioner Greg Vick asked Chris White, planning director, to discuss any new Duck River developments. White was appointed in 2024 to the state's Watershed Planning Partnership.

White said an interim report is expected in November, for the 2-year project, and it will then go on to Gov. Bill Lee.

"I don't want to get ahead of a report that hasn't been written yet," White told Rules Committee members and those present for the meeting.

But it is obvious that White has really studied the needs of the Duck River. He has told the Times-Gazette changes must be made.

So, he discussed in detail much of what has been in committee thus far.

Two items, he said-one which he considers "low hanging fruit," concerns the proposed rebuilding of the Columbia Dam. He said in the past, the project has been held back, due to the concerns of a possible endangered snail darter. This concern was determined to be misinformation as that the darter later was determined not to be endangered but a common perch.

Commissioner Bill Anderson, who does a lot of fishing, backed up that statement and said yes, that was misinformation.

White further advised that the real issue is the river's soil and topography-the soil containing a lot of nitrates and tending to turn to sludge. Winter pool will cause a lot of turbidity or cloudiness in the water, that is, everything downstream from Columbia.

"It's going to affect the water quality, significantly," said White. "That's the main reason the project was turned down [in 1980s.]

White said he's read all the commission hearings on the former Columbia Dam project proposal to educate himself. He said there continues to be major water quality issues even today.

"If they build a dam there, essentially half a year it will be mostly empty. And the other half of the year, it will be full of water."

White said while the revised Columbia Dam proposal is gaining a lot of support in Columbia, the band wagon or latest mantra is: "Normandy Dam Now" and "Columbia Dam Later."

"Everybody's kind of on a band wagon now that the Normandy Dam-the raising of the Normandy Dam-really needs to take precedence."

Engineering studies from 2014, White advised, now have to be redone. "Those engineering studies look at raising the dam 5 feet which would give us 5 billion gallons of water in the summer pools more than we have now. That's significant."

White said the Corps of Engineers own the land around Normandy Dam, so there's no purchase necessary. There is some bridge work, he said, which will have to be done-work necessary for boats to transverse through summer pool.

He said more discussion surrounds why the Normandy Dam isn't raised 8 feet, instead of 5 feet, as advised in 2014. He foresees engineering studies to include that move so cost estimates will be available. And that's a potential project in agreement by most everyone, according to White.

Commissioner Anderson, who said he's fished many years at Normandy, asked, "Why can we not get TVA to quit dropping the lake in the winter the way they do?

He added, "Ever since they worked on the dam, they're dropping it another 15 to 16 feet from what they used to. That's why in 2007; the lake nearly went dry . . . don't get spring rains if you drop that lake so far."

He used the example of Woods Reservoir (dropped just a few feet.) He asked White if that's been discussed by the committee.

White said it's been discussed. He said the goal of TWRA and Corps of Engineers is to "try to mimic" the river's natural state. Wildlife of course depends on free-flowing water. The species also need to be "challenged."

"They're trying to mimic the stress that would originally be put on those species, naturally. That's why they drop it down low. It's for a good reason."

White added, "They don't want it to become an aquarium."

He just learned, since being on the partnership with state, that two consecutive yearly droughts can completely kill the Duck.

"The river is a lot more vulnerable than we can imagine. That's why the governor has really stepped up to really look at it."

White said there have been a lot of DRA reports in the past. Sadly, he said reports haven't been implemented into projects. Hopefully, that's changing.

Commissioner Anderson asked about water utility outtake, referencing Tullahoma as an example. He advised water is taken out of Duck but not returned to it but to another like the Elk-away from Bedford County.

White said some of that process is grandfathered in from years past but that's not a legal anymore. "If you pull water out of the Duck, you have to put it back in the Duck."

Something feasible that will likely end up in the committee report is to build a pipeline from the Cumberland River in an effort to bring more water here. This will also help Columbia, the County planning director advised, especially in drought conditions.

"The studies indicated because of the sensitivity of the wildlife [river endangered species] that taking water from a totally different biology and introducing that into a sensitive river like we have could cause a major fish kill. So, I think that's off the table."

White also mentioned something that's "very feasible" for the report is that the City of Columbia-with a low head dam downtown which impounds water for withdrawal-wants to move their water intake downstream close to 20 miles at the Williamsport Landing community. He said in that area, two other major streams converge which would help with water volume. The other thing is that upstream in Columbia, 20% of the water volume is being lost, possibly to an underground cavern. Right before the convergence in the Duck, most of the water comes back to the river.

"Their engineers have said that if they move their water intake there, not only can they get another 15 million gallons per day than what they're capable of getting now, but we would have zero impact on them."

In the end, this would allow Bedford County to have access to more water too, according to White.

But Bedford County's own is just one person of 19 members of this Watershed Partnership. Still, White believes this is the direction the report will go.

He said his subcommittee is also looking at regionalization, whereby they convince water utility companies to regionalize their intakes so there's a smaller impact on the sensitivity of the Duck River.

Commissioner Vick asked about the water loss as a result of regional intake.

White advised, "It's kind of like if you're drawing water out of the river and putting it into a bucket and then distributing it all through pipes . . . some entities are like drawing water into a colander and then distributing from the colander. They're losing as much water as they're actually selling."

He said with necessary treatment and water loss, the cost goes up for drinking water. Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC,) he stated, only allows a 20% water loss annually. White advised that some utilities are losing as much as 50 to 60% annually.

"It's happening a lot of places, not just here," advised White. "I think our bigger entities in Shelbyville and Bedford County are doing just fine. Some of the smaller ones are struggling."

The Duck River spans more than 280 miles through seven Middle Tennessee counties, including 90 miles in Bedford County. It's considered one of the most biodiverse waterways in the world and has been spotlighted as such by National Geographic magazine.

"The Duck River is not only a scenic treasure, but it is also North America's most biologically diverse freshwater river and the sole water source for thousands of Tennesseans," said Gov. Lee in November.

An estimated 250,000 people in fast-growing Middle Tennessee get their water from the Duck River.

Last year, the Harpeth Conservancy called the river "threatened," prompting Gov. Bill Lee to sign an executive order creating the Duck River Watershed Planning Partnership, a task force which will develop water management recommendations and drought mitigation strategies and work with the Duck River Agency.

Since White became planning and zoning director, Bedford County's Planning Department developed a 200-foot riparian buffer and overlay zone along both sides of the Duck River outside

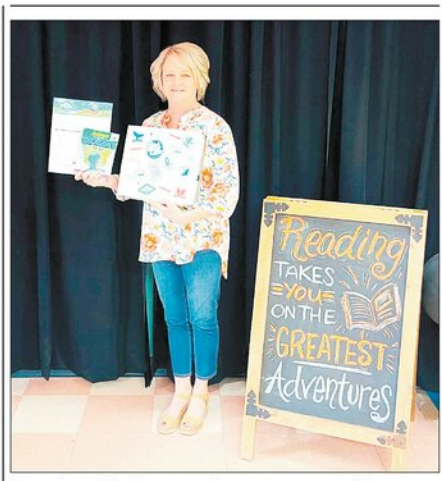


municipal boundaries, which was passed by the Board of Commissioners in 2020. This initiative was a critical first step in mitigating erosion and controlling sediment runoff from construction sites, thereby reducing pollutant loads and turbidity levels that degrade water quality. By protecting the riverbank from destabilization and excessive sedimentation, this measure helps preserve aquatic ecosystems by maintaining plant life essential for oxygenation and overall river health.

The Duck River Watershed Planning Partnership is intended to balance economic growth, water resource management, and environmental and habitat conservation to ensure the long-term sustainability of Tennessee's watersheds.

"As we continue our work to balance Tennessee's economic growth with a plan to protect our environment, preserving waters like the Duck River and enhancing water resource management statewide will be a cornerstone of our long-term conservation strategy," said Lee in November.

The Duck River Watershed Planning Partnership will support the Duck River Development Agency's mission of facilitating collaboration among stakeholders and developing strategies for the sustainable management of the Duck River



Lee Ann Butts receives state education honor *Named to Gov.'s Early Literacy Foundation*

Bedford County Schools recently announced that Lee Ann Butts has been selected to serve on the Governor's Early Literacy Foundation (GELF) 2025-2026 Educator Advisory Council. Lee Ann is one of only 22 educators chosen to help guide the early literacy initiatives and resource selection for the Early Literacy's Foundation's Statewide Program.

Currently in her fourth year serving on the council, Lee Ann brings more than 30 years of educational experience to the table. With a master's degree in curriculum and instruction, she plays an active role in shaping literacy instruction across the district as part of Bedford County Schools' ELA Leadership Team.

"I am honored to continue serving on the Governor's Early Literacy Foundation Educator Advisory Council," she said. "Promoting literacy in Tennessee is a mission I hold close to my heart. Supporting my district in this capacity allows me to make a meaningful impact in our community."

The Educator Advisory Council helps guide the selection of books and literacy resources for GELF's K-3 Home Library program, which has delivered more than 5.8 million books to both Tennessee students and their teachers, supporting learning in classrooms and at home. In summer 2025 alone, the program mailed 1.4 million books to 240,000 students and educators to help combat summer learning loss and nurture a love of reading at home.

Bedford County Schools celebrates Lee Ann Butts for her continued leadership and dedication to early literacy—both locally and statewide.

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

TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE

Zelophehed's Daughters' Inheritance

Numbers 27

Zelophehed, of the tribe of Manasseh, died and his five daughters came before Moses, Eleazar the priest, the leaders and the whole assembly. They reported that their father had died and left no sons and asked why his name should disappear from his clan just because he had no son. They requested that they be given property among their fathers relatives.

Moses presented the situation to the Lord and expressed his belief that the girls were right in their thinking.

The Lord instructed Moses to write it down as a legal requirement that, "If a man dies and leaves no son, turn his inheritance over to his daughter. If he has no daughter, give his inheritance to his brothers. If he has no brothers, give his inheritance to his father's brothers. If his father had no brothers, give his inheritance to the nearest relative in his clan, that he may possess it. This is to be a legal requirement for the Israelites, as the LORD commanded Moses."



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ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

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

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

FIRST BAPTIST
101 Webb Rd. E., Bell Buckle
931-389-9680

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MT. ZION BAPTIST
506 Hill St., 931-684-5807

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

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

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

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

ROVER BAPTIST
202 Baptist Church Rd., Eagleville
931-294-5845

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

VICTORY INDEPENDENT BAPTIST
2202 N. Main St., 931-684-8114

CATHOLIC

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

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

CHRISTIAN

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

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

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

CHURCH OF CHRIST
115 High St., Bell Buckle
931-813-3079

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

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

FAIRLANE CHURCH OF CHRIST
101 Dow Dr., 931-684-1563

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

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

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

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

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

CHURCH OF GOD

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

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

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

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

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

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

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

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

EPISCOPAL

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

EVANGELICAL

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

METHODIST

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

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

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

PLEASANT GROVE UNITED METHODIST
1597 Hwy. 130 W., 931-294-5477

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

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

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

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

NAZARENE

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

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

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

PENTECOSTAL

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

IGLESIA APOSTELIC PENTECOSTAL
2216 Hwy. 61 W., 931-680-1539

SHELBYVILLE UNITED PENTECOSTAL
1701 Green Lane, 931-685-9731

WHOSOEVER WILL PENTECOSTAL
219 E. Cedar St., 931-684-4384

PRESBYTERIAN

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

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

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

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

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

OTHER

ABUNDANT LIFE
600 Landers St., 931-703-0016

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

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

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

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

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

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

GATEWAY
1250 Madison St., 931-684-2794

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

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

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

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

LIGHTHOUSE
111 Church St., 931-684-4900

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

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

MIRACLE TABERNACLE
507 Coble Circle, 931-224-5184

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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931.684.9688 931.580.6081

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Things Happen
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Mullins Insurance Agency
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Shelbyville, Tn 37160
Phone: 931-684-7456 or 931-684-7489
Fax: 931-680-0322
Email: Mullins208@yahoo.com

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

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Fax: 931-685-0047
raysquintashody@yahoo.com
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931-685-0046
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TUNE-UPS, CUSTOM EXHAUST & AC REPAIR
931-684-9000
923 COLUMBIA BLVD. SHELBYVILLE, TN
Joel Landers

People Around Town

Laurie Trout Named Assistant Transportation Supervisor



Bedford County Schools recently welcomed Laurie Trout as the new assistant transportation supervisor. With over two decades of experience in student transportation, Laurie brings an abundance of knowledge, leadership and an extensive passion for safety and operational excellence to the district.

Laurie began her career in school transportation as a school bus driver for First Student in Seattle, Washington, her hometown. What began as a temporary job soon blossomed into a gratifying career.

Over the years, she advanced into leadership roles, serving as a safety supervisor, dispatcher and eventually assistant contract manager overseeing operations. During that time, Laurie also earned her bachelor's degree in business management, balancing work and studies with unwavering commitment.

In 2022, Laurie and her husband made the move from Seattle to Nashville to be closer to their daughter, Lacey, son-in-law, Alex and their three young children Xander (5), Dax (2½) and Grace (11 months). In December 2024, Laurie and her husband settled in Shelbyville, eager to become active members of the Bedford County community.

"I was drawn to this position because it felt like coming full circle," Laurie said. "School buses are where I started, and I'm excited to contribute my experience to serve the community I now call home."

As she steps into her new role, Laurie is focused on learning the ins and outs of Bedford County's transportation system, while also sharing the skills and insights she has developed over the course of her career. Her priorities include fostering a strong team environment, ensuring student safety and supporting continuous improvement in transportation operations.

"I love working in a team setting where we can succeed together," Laurie shared. "If we make mistakes, we learn from them and grow stronger moving forward. My goal is to bring fresh ideas and help move the department in a positive direction."

"Laurie's dedication to safety, teamwork and community make her a valuable addition to Bedford County Schools and to the transportation team," commented Director of Transportation Kenny Parker. "Please join us in welcoming Laurie to Bedford County Schools!"

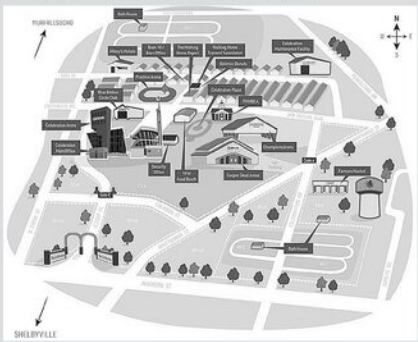
BEDFORD BRIEFS

STATE PROJECT UNDERWAY AT 231 AND EADY ROAD

Yes, despite it being Celebration week, work on improvement to the intersection of Highway 231 and State Route 82 (Webb Road) and Eady Road began Tuesday. A new traffic signal was installed at the location recently but additional improvements, adding right turn lanes from every direction, is aimed at making the location even safer. Mark Clanton, County highway superintendent, advised this week, "Drivers, please take notice for this project area and the delays it may cause during this project. Once this intersection change is complete, it will be safer and will flow better for the public."

87TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION UNDERWAY

Know Your Way Around: The Celebration Grounds



THE FLY EXPANDS ITS YOUTH ARTS PROGRAM

Parents and teens are invited to join us on Sunday, Aug. 31, at 2 p.m. at The Fly for our Youth Arts Program Info Meeting for ages 13-18.

During the meeting, you'll get more information about new programming:

- Upcoming Theatre Workshops
- Youth Visual Arts Program & Classes
- Media Arts Club
- Creative Writing Classes

DOROTHY ELKINS
THROUGH THE DECADES



CONGRATS DOROTHY!

Webb Photos

After 68 years of service to The Webb School in Bell Buckle, beloved Dorothy Elkins will be retiring on Aug. 29, 2025, also her 99th birthday! Dorothy serves as the Alumni and Development Office's research assistant. Mrs. Elkins joined Webb in 1957, and served as assistant to six heads of school and secretary to the Board of Trustees. You can make her birthday extra special this year by supporting the "Get With It and Give: Dorothy's Last Day" campaign, a giving challenge to reach 99 donations in honor of Mrs. Elkins now through her 99th birthday. Alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends are invited to send a birthday (or retirement) card to The Webb School—to be presented to Mrs. Elkins on Aug. 29. Be on the lookout for future details on an in-person celebration of Mrs. Elkins' legacy on Sept. 12, 2025. "Get With It and Give" at https://www.thewebbschool.com/support-webb/give-now.



ASSESSOR OF PROPERTY RECEIVES HONORARY AWARD

Submitted Photo

Bedford County Assessor of Property Ronda Clanton recently received the Bobby Lee Memorial Mentorship Cup from the Tennessee chapter of the International Association of Assessing Officers (TIAAO). Lee, who passed away earlier this year, was a former general counsel for the state Comptroller of the Treasury and the Division of Property Assessments. He retired after 30 years with the state and represented property assessors during appeals proceedings.

The award is given to a member of TIAAO for outstanding work in mentorship as a member of IAAO and TIAAO. Clanton is a past president of TIAAO.

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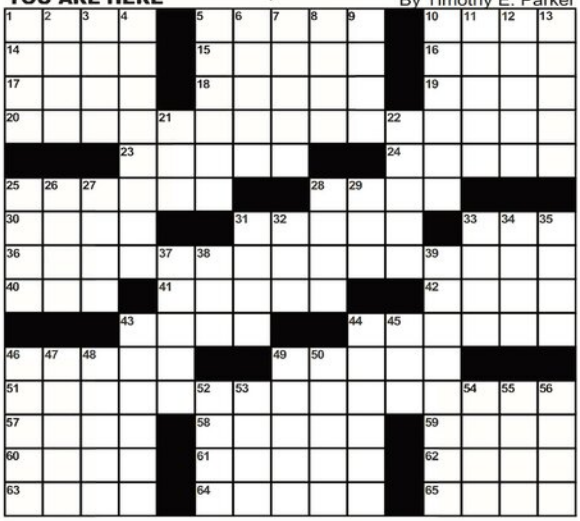
WANTED
8mm film of Shelbyville area for use in a Free Video Project being produced for The Fly Museum
Please submit to Mr. Lytle Hoover
38 Plymouth Drive
Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
or olhoover@gmail.com
856-912-2637

Crossword

YOU ARE HERE

FreeDailyCrosswords.com

By Timothy E. Parker



CLUES ACROSS

1) Petri dish gel
5) Shoulder-bag feature
10) Compass drawings
14) Be a nomad
15) Conversation piece?
16) Type of bean or milk (Var.)
17) "As before," in footnotes
18) Numbered highway
19) Diplomat's skill
20) Shun caution
23) Slightly bum
24) Pure-and-simple
25) Bundling cotton
28) Itsy-bitsy parasite
30) Slack-jawed
31) Attack, as a wasp
33) Greedy sort, animal-wise
36) Abet
40) Combine numbers
41) Natural fertilizer source
42) Jazz legend Fitzgerald
43) A Muppet
44) Market used merchandise
46) Fly-trapping sticky stuff
49) Like a noble gas
51) Stands totally apart
57) Quote, as a passage
58) Salk vaccine target
59) ___ Major (Big Dipper constellation)
60) Oscar winner Guinness
61) In any way
62) Spellbound
63) It gets on one's nerves
64) Is allowed to, to Shakespeare
65) What anything can be in front of?

CLUES DOWN

1) Seed case
2) Vast desert
3) Tel ___, Israel
4) Make a new preliminary sketch, e.g.
5) Bounded
6) Minimal bikini bottom
7) Blush
8) At times it's upped
9) Your equal in society
10) Very perceptive
11) Celebrity ribbing event
12) Word with "business" or "life"
13) Mythical goat-legged reveler
21) Racket
22) Income's opposite
25) Cake with a kick
26) Like fine scotch
27) Amount of laundry
28) Japanese soup
29) ___ and outs
31) Leave in haste, as a cat
32) Baker's dozen minus three
33) Gomer of Mayberry
34) "___ do" (faint praise)
35) Word screamed by soccer announcers
37) FBI worker
38) Junkyard canine
39) Burnout preventer, often
43) Split down the middle
44) Rise in opposition
45) Major time period
46) Part of a sportscast
47) Napoleon's punishment
48) Building locations
49) Mosaic, for one
50) What manicurists do
52) Email filter target
53) Itsy-bitsy amount
54) Caspian Sea tributary
55) Priority Mail agcy.
56) Final check?

Kid Scoop .com

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Batty Librarians

Whoops! Bats have knocked some of the words out of this article. Can you find where each word belongs?

VISIT COVER ALLOWED JOB CARE RAINY NIGHT HARM PESTS

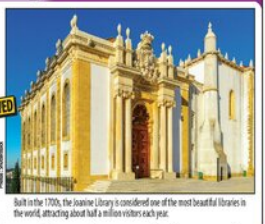


Photo: Shutterstock

Built in the 1700s, the Joanine Library is considered one of the most beautiful libraries in the world, attracting about half a million visitors each year.

PORTUGAL – The librarians at the Joanine Library in Coimbra, Portugal, have spent a long time taking _____ of precious books. And they have some unique, important helpers.

For more than 250 years, the librarians have _____ bats to live in the library. Yes—bats live in this library!

The librarians allow the bats to live there because they eat insects that could _____ the books. There are more than 60,000 historic books in the Joanine Library. Preserving the books is a full-time _____ for the librarians. They appreciate the extra help from the library's bats.

If you were to _____ the library, you would not see the bats. They sleep during the day when the library is open. At _____, the bats flutter through the darkened library to dine on gnats, beetles and other insects. Their regular dining habit protects the historic books from these page-munching _____.

Each evening, librarians _____ the antique tables to protect them from bat droppings. The next morning, the coverings are removed and the library's floors are cleaned.

Most nights, some of the bats leave the library to feast on insects in the nearby hills. But on _____ nights the bats stay home and dine in.

Standards Link: Science: Students understand what animals need to survive, including different food types and habitats.

Bat Facts

How much do you know about bats? Take this quiz. Then hold the page up to a mirror to check your answers.

1. **All bats drink blood.** ☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE
2. **Bats sleep upside down.** ☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE
3. **Bats help the environment by spreading seeds, pollinating flowers, and keeping insect populations under control.** ☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE
4. **One bat can eat 1,000 mosquitoes per hour.** ☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE
5. **Bats use sound to "see" in the dark.** ☐ TRUE ☐ FALSE

1. TRUE. Only 3 of the 1,400 species of bats in the world drink blood. And they drink the blood of animals, not humans. 2. TRUE. Bats sleep upside down so they can fly right away when they wake up at night. 3. TRUE. Bats help flowers grow by pollinating them. Bats help farmers by eating insects that could damage crops. They also help people by keeping insect populations under control. 4. TRUE. A bat can eat 1,000 mosquitoes per hour. 5. TRUE. Bats use sound to "see" in the dark. Using their ears, bats can detect objects as small as a human hair. 6. TRUE. Bats can live for more than 30 years. 7. TRUE. Bats are the only mammals that can fly.

Standards Link: Science: Animals have different physical structures, characteristics, and instincts that aid in survival.

Snack Attack!

Help this bat locate the mosquitoes.

Extra! Extra! Find a Title

Look through the newspaper to find the words that make up the titles of books you like. Cut the words out and paste them on another page to recreate the title of the book, like this:

CAT in the hat

Standards Link: Language Arts: Understand that words make phrases and sentences.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Draw a line between each bat and its identical twin.



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

Double Double Word Search

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

AWAKE
BATS
BOOKS
DARK
FEAST
GNATS
HILLS
HOUR
LIBRARY
OPEN
PAGE
PASTE
PEOPLE
QUIZ
SLEEP

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

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

From the Kid Scoop Lesson Library

Environment Helpers

Look for a newspaper article about people who are working to help the environment. Share the article with your family. Discuss ways your family can help nature, too.

Standards Link: Reading: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Write On!

"I saw some bats in the library and . . ."

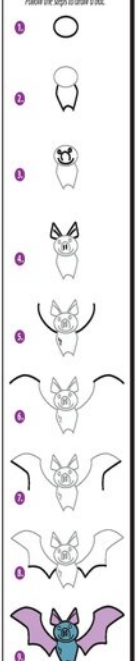
Finish this story.

Standards Link: Writing: Write creatively in response to a prompt.

Kid Scoop Together

Let's Draw!

Follow the steps to draw a bat.



Standards Link: Visual Art: Reproduce a picture using visual clues.

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NOTICE OF SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S SALE

WHEREAS, default has occurred in the performance of the covenants, terms and conditions of a Deed of Trust dated May 2, 2017, executed by JOSHUA W FLOWERS and SAMANTHA FLOWERS conveying certain real property therein described to KERRY WEBB, as Trustee, as same appears of record in the Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee recorded May 4, 2017, in Deed Book TD879, Page 563; and

WHEREAS, the beneficial interest of said Deed of Trust was last transferred and assigned to FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION who is now the owner of said debt; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned, Rubin Lublin TN, PLLC, having been appointed as Substitute Trustee by instrument to be filed for record in the Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee.

NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable, and that the undersigned, Rubin Lublin TN, PLLC, as Substitute Trustee or his duly appointed agent, by virtue of the power, duty and authority vested and imposed upon said Substitute Trustee will, on September 30, 2025 at 12:00 PM At the main entrance to the Bedford County Courthouse, 1 Public Square, Shelbyville, TN 37160, proceed to sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash or certified funds ONLY, the following described property situated in Bedford County, Tennessee, to wit:

LAND IN THE SEVENTH (7TH) CIVIL DISTRICT OF BEDFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE AND BEING LOT NO. 62 IN BLUE RIBBON ANNEX, SECTION B, A PLAT OF WHICH IS OF RECORD IN PLAT CABINET "A" ENVELOPE 33, REGISTER'S OFFICE OF BEDFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE, TO WHICH PLAN REFERENCE IS HEREBY MADE FOR A MORE COMPLETE DESCRIPTION.

Parcel ID: 078K-E-005.00

PROPERTY ADDRESS: The street address of the property is believed to be 404 SHADOW DRIVE, SHELBYVILLE, TN 37160. In the event of any discrepancy between this street address and the legal description of the property, the legal description shall control.

CURRENT OWNER(S): JOSHUA W FLOWERS, SAMANTHA FLOWERS

OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES:

SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, ASCEND FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, F/K/A AEDC FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, HARPETH FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC D/B/A ADVANCE FINANCIAL, SHELBYVILLE HOSPITAL CORPORATION DBA TENNOVA HEALTHCARE-SHELBYVILLE, DIXIE LINE CREDIT UNION

The sale of the above-described property shall be subject to all matters shown on any recorded plat; any unpaid 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; and to any matter that an accurate survey of the premises might disclose. This property is being sold with the express reservation that it is subject to confirmation by the lender or Substitute Trustee. This sale may be rescinded at any time. The right is reserved to adjourn the day of the sale to another day, time, and place certain without further publication, upon announcement at the time and place for the sale set forth above. 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 Property is sold as is, where is, without representations or warranties of any kind, including fitness for a particular use or purpose.

THIS LAW FIRM IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Rubin Lublin TN, PLLC, Substitute Trustee
3145 Avalon Ridge Place, Suite 100
Peachtree Corners, GA 30071
rlselaw.com/property-listing
Tel: (877) 813-0992
Fax: (470) 508-9401
A copy of this notice is being published at www.BetterChoiceNotices.com (8731c)

Bedford County property transfers

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

File date: August 12

Location: 160 Haley Rd; Seller, Chris Heath, Kim Heath; Buyer, Katherine Suzanne Heath, Brandon Heath; Price, $60,000 (Deed).

Location: 104 Eikhorn Rd; Seller, Ole South Properties Inc; Buyer, Minus Cason Jr, Carol Ann Cason; Price, $312,990 (Deed).

Location: 522 Hill St; Seller, Juan Lopez Santiago; Buyer, Juan Daniel Lopez Aparicio; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Hwy 64 Wartrace; Seller, Dennis Holden, Bonnie K Holden; Buyer, DCC Strategic Realty Partners LLC; Price, $120,000 (Deed).

Location: 103 Laurel Park; Seller, SDH Nashville LLC; Buyer, Lamont Gosey; Price, $318,780 (Deed).

Seller, David Alden Rowland Jr; Buyer, David Alden Rowland Jr, Jena Marie Rowland; Price, $0 (QD).

Seller, Wesley Holt, Christina Holt; Buyer, Richard L Frazier; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Dixon Rd; Seller, Richard M Wilhelm, Kristin B Wilhelm; Buyer, Dustin Lee, Rebecca Lee; Price, $263,078.75 (Deed).

Location: Potts Rd; Seller, Logan Adcock, Morgan Adcock; Buyer, Russell Blake Grubbs; Price, $0 (QD).

File date: August 13

Location: Holt Ave; Seller, Sharon Jean Peebles, J W Peebles; Buyer, Janie M Jacobs; Price, $3,500 (Deed).

Location: 2179 Highway 64 West; Seller, DHB R LLC; Buyer, DHB R LLC, Joe Garrett; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 108 Decatur St; Seller, Tonesha Monek Garrett, Sarah G Garrett; Buyer, Robert Keith, Lisa Harris; Price, $126,500 (Deed).

Location: 980 Goose Creek Rd; Seller, Donald D Martin, Cynthia Ann Martin; Buyer, Charles Glenn Blackwell, Connie Sue Blackwell; Price, $160,000 (Deed).

Location: Hailey Rd; Seller, James E Farrar Sr; Buyer, Daniel Calvin Uhls, Diane Uhls; Price, $110,000 (Deed).

Location: 101 Holt Ave; Seller, Janie M Jacobs; Buyer, Andrew Guernsey; Price, $299,000 (Deed).

File date: August 14

Location: 117 Millet St; Seller, Ole South Properties Inc; Buyer, Curtis E Cox; Price, $348,990 (Deed).

Location: Virgil Crowell Rd; Seller, Frederick F Smith Jr, Connie Arlene Smith Estate; Buyer, Frederick F Smith Jr; Price, $0 (Deed).

Location: 262 Stanley Blvd; Seller, DCC Strategic Realty Partners LLC; Buyer, Zander Taylor; Price, $317,500 (Deed).

Location: 224 Republic St; Seller, Ole South Properties Inc; Buyer, Lynna Whorley Miller; Price, $309,990 (Deed).

Location: 120 Hickory Dr; Seller, Ian Chase Crunk; Buyer, Ian Chase Crunk, Natalie Vaughn Crunk; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 330 Cascade Hollow Rd; Seller, Jeffrey Oliver, Kara Oliver; Buyer, Matthew Lee Wheeler, Monica Paige Wheeler; Price, $432,000 (Deed).

File date: August 15

Location: Hollywood Cemetery; Seller, Brent Walker, Nelle Williams Mahaffey Estate, Findley Mahaffey; Buyer, Findley Mahaffey, Jane Jakes, Mike Walker, Geoffrey Crooks, Jennifer Crooks, Alissa Shear, Thaddeus Walker, Lera Walker; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Hollywood Cemetery; Seller, Findley Mahaffey, Jane Jakes, Mike Walker, Geoffrey Crooks, Jennifer Crooks, Alissa Shear, Thaddeus Walker, Lera Walker, Brent Walker; Findley Mahaffey, Jane Jakes, Mike Walker, Geoffrey Crooks, Jennifer Crooks, Alissa Shear, Thaddeus Walker, Lera Walker, Brent Walker; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 2318 Midland Rd; Seller, Treal M Scott, Cynthia M Scott; Buyer, Henry Trong Huynh; Price, $400,000 (Deed).

Location: 217 Hillview Ave; Seller, SDH Nashville LLC; Buyer, Jeffrey Allan Reed; Price, $334,090 (Deed).

Seller, Curt M Cobb, Clerk and Master, M and R Properties LLC; Buyer, Town of Bell Buckle; Price, $10,000 (Deed).

Seller, Sherry Bell Wiser, Jerry A Bell Estate, Anthony Jay Bell, Sherry Ann Wiser, Anthony J Bell; Buyer, Richard Rogers; Price, $325,000 (Deed).

Location: Augusta Court; Seller, Anthony M Matusek Jr; Buyer, American Home Constructors Inc; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Augusta Court; Seller, American Home Constructors Inc; Buyer, Steven Cook, Barbara Cook; Price, $384,900 (Deed).

File date: August 18

Location: 302 South Wood Lane; Seller, Tamarah B Bearden, Tamarah Bearden Cooper; Buyer, Debra Regynski; Price, $343,500 (Deed).

Classifieds

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SELLING ABSOLUTE!
5 Commercial Parcels Offered in 2 Tracts
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AUCTION — BID LIVE OR ONLINE
THURSDAY AUG. 28th @ 1:00 PM
at E. Depot St, Holland St & N. Jefferson St in DOWNTOWN SHELBYVILLE!

- Frontage on 3 Downtown Streets
- Zoned C-1 Commercial
- Tract 1 on E. Depot St. and N. Jefferson St.
- Tract 2 (4 Parcels selling together) on Holland St.
- High traffic and visibility
- Convenient access to Hwy 231 and Hwy 41A

PREVIEW: Feel Free to Walk the Property
Referring Agent: Amie Lee Marks - Better Homes and Gardens Heritage Group
AUCTIONEER: Charlie Montgomery - Lic. 4916 • (615) 308-4487 / (615) 895-0078

COMAS MONTGOMERY REALTY & AUCTION CO., INC.
Fiche #1870 - Fiche #136270
615-895-0078 • 800-825-5523
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Real Estate Terms: On Location Terms: 10% Buyers Premium added to the final bid price to determine final selling price. 10% down day of sale and balance due at closing. Must close on the property within 30 days after the auction or as it is stated on the contract for sale of real estate. Property information believed to be accurate but not guaranteed. Buyer should independently verify all information prior to bidding. Announcements made day of sale take precedence over any previous advertising. Any items remaining on the property at closing shall be the buyer's responsibility to remove. See website for full online terms.

Private Equestrian Estate



2131 HWY 130 W • SHELBYVILLE

The property is situated in a prime location, with stunning views of rolling hills of Middle Tennessee with easy access to Nashville, Huntsville and Chattanooga.



SEE THE PROPERTY IN PERSON!
The only real way to experience this exceptional property is in person. We highly encourage you to call and schedule a private showing.

Main Residence
Square Footage: 3200 Sqft
Bedrooms: 5
Rooms: Office, Laundry, Living, Dinning and Recreational
Bathrooms: 3 full, 1 half
Flooring: Hardwood and tile
Climate Control: Zoned Central Air / LP
Interior Features: Formal dining room, gourmet kitchen, gas fireplace, water filtration system
Exterior Features: Salt Water Pool, Outdoor Patio, Basketball Hoop, Wrap Around Front Patio, Asphalt Driveway
Parking: A two-car attached garage.
Internet: Starlink/5G, United Communications (Being Built)

Equestrian Features
Acreage: 46 acres, fully fenced and cross-fenced
Main Barn: 13 Stall Barn, Two Wash Bays, Two Grooming Areas, Two Tack Rooms, 100A Service, Water To Each Stall
Show Barn: 7 Stalls, One Wash Bay, One Tack Room, 50A Service, Water To Each Stall, Fly System.
Broodmare Barn: 3 Stalls, Turnout Area
Shop: 40x60 100A Service, Shared with Broodmare Barn, Terrace, Shop Room
Hay Barn: 40x80, Electrical
Riding Arena: 60x100
Round Pen: Sand Footing, 65ft Diameter

Barndominium
Square Footage: 925 Sqft • **Bedrooms:** 2
Bathrooms: 2 full • **Flooring:** Hardwood and tile
Climate Control: Heat Pump with Aux Electric Heat
Interior Features: Galley Kitchen, Laundry Room
Exterior Features: Front Porch
Parking: Outdoor Asphalt Parking Pad

Salena Garza • Luxury Homes International
salenasellshomes@gmail.com
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SELLING ABSOLUTE!
3 BR, 2 BA Home on Corner Lot with Income Producing Apartment Over Garage
SCAN TO SEE MORE!



AUCTION — BID LIVE OR ONLINE
SATURDAY AUG. 30th @ 10:00 AM
507 East Lane Street in DOWNTOWN SHELBYVILLE!

- Built in 1930 and updated over the years
- Beautiful hardwood floors and two fireplaces
- New HVAC heat pump and water heater
- Walk-in attic and unfinished basement
- 1-bedroom apartment currently leased
- Income-producing potential!

PREVIEW: Saturday, August 23rd from 2-3 PM
Referring Agent: Kim McMahan - Team George Weeks Real Estate
AUCTIONEER: Spencer Montgomery - Lic. 6668 • (615) 785-7135 / (615) 895-0078

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Real Estate Terms: On Location Terms: 10% Buyers Premium added to the final bid price to determine final selling price. 10% down day of sale and balance due at closing. Must close on the property within 30 days after the auction or as it is stated on the contract for sale of real estate. Property information believed to be accurate but not guaranteed. Buyer should independently verify all information prior to bidding. The house built prior to 1978 may contain lead-based paint. Any prospective buyer has 10 days prior to auction to complete any inspections. Announcements made day of sale take precedence over any previous advertising. Any items remaining on the property at closing shall be the buyer's responsibility to remove. See website for full online terms.

Obituaries



Lorraine Rose D'Amato Lamb

Mrs. Lorraine Rose D'Amato Lamb, age 79, of Chapel Hill, TN died Thursday, August 14, 2025, surrounded by her children. She was the daughter of the late Peter D'Amato and Reina Giananti D'Amato. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a brother, Peter D'Amato, Jr.

Lorraine was a strong woman in her faith and body. She dedicated her life to being a "Jesus Freak" serving the Lord and others. She loved her family and was adored by them all. Lorraine taught Special Education for a total of 38 years, having retired three times due to her love of teaching. She also followed God's call and served faithfully as a Lay Speaker ministering with grace, wisdom and an unwavering love of the Lord. She was not unfamiliar with the fight she fought with cancer, but never let it bring her down, being a pillar of strength, a source of encouragement and an example of Christ's love. Lorraine's laughter could fill a room, her kindness could lift a heavy heart and her words could guide the lost. She was her family's rock and shoulder for anyone needing to lean. She wants everyone to know not to take PREMPRO for menopause, the cause of her cancer, and to always know "Where there is a will there's a way!" and use "wisdom with love."

Survived by her husband, Clyde Lamb of Chapel Hill; 3 daughters, Laurie Saitta, Holly D'Amato, and Scarlett (Tommy) Garner; 2 sons, Joe (Lisa) Saitta and James Tyler; a sister, Marie Capri; 10 grandchildren, Becky (Scott) Lehman, Joey Saitta, Ambur Gaines, Elijah (Abbey) Malone, Luke Lindsey, Jesse (Jazmine) Saitta, Isaac (Shala) Tyler, Saylor Garner, Emma Lee and Miles Garner; 4 great-grandchildren, Jordan and Chevelle Gaines, Ethan and Phoenix Driver.

A Celebration of Life Service will be at 1PM, Saturday, August 23, 2025 at Haskins Chapel Assembly of God, 1004 Haskins Chapel Rd., Shelbyville, TN

For those who wish, Memorial Donations may be made to Tunnel to Towers, 2361 Hylan Blvd., Staten Island, NY 10306

Lawrence Funeral Home & Cremation Services in charge of arrangements. (931) 364-2233. 203 S. Horton Pkwy, Chapel Hill, TN 37034

Sylvia Jewel Bates



Graveside services for Sylvia Jewel Bates, 88, of Cleburne, Texas will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, August 23, 2025, at Raby Cemetery located on Warren Hollow Road in Moore County, Tennessee. Mr. Mark Pierce will officiate.

Sylvia Bates passed away Saturday, August 9, 2025, in Cleburne. She was born in El Reno, Oklahoma, on January 17, 1937, the daughter of Cletis Warren (Mount) and Moody Burrow. She grew up in Shelbyville, Tennessee and graduated from Shelbyville High School in 1955. Sylvia married Charles V. Bates on December 26, 1956.

Before moving to Cleburne, she was employed with McDonald-Douglas in Tennessee. After the move, Sylvia worked at the Cleburne Memorial Hospital in admissions. Her true calling was as a domestic engineer, a devoted mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. Sylvia was of the Christian faith.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Charles; and sister, Rilla Freeman.

Sylvia is survived by her children, Eddie Bates and wife, Cristy, of Hanover, Pennsylvania, Cathy Wilson and husband, Rod, of Joshua, Texas, and Lori Weber and husband, Skip, of St. Louis, Missouri; grandchildren, Virginia Shields and husband, Tyler, Michelle Braunlin and husband, Dr. Eric Braunlin, Matthew Wilson and wife, Mia, Brittany Angst and husband, Casey, George Weber V, and Jordan Parker and husband, Will; great grandchildren, Aylssa Shields; Grace, Luke, Joy, Hope, and John Braunlin; Warren and Ella Wilson; Penny and Harvey Angst; and Tommy Parker.

Following the burial, family and friends are invited to gather at 11:30 a.m. at Glass Hollow Table and Tavern on the square in Shelbyville.

Doak Howell Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Sylvia's memory may be made to Alzheimer's research at alz.org or dementiasociety.org.

Shirley Mae Cook



Shirley Mae Cook, age 66, of Shelbyville, passed peacefully from this life on August 12, 2025, at her home, surrounded by love and under the care of Hospice Compassus.

Born on July 19, 1959, in Bloomingdale, IL., Shirley was the daughter of the late Oscar Lee Sharp and Mary Ezell Pugh Sharp. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Albert Webb Sharp; and step-granddaughter, Amber Nichols.

She is survived by her children: Timothy Edward Cook, Thomas "Keith" Cook, and Karrie Michelle Mulgado, all of Shelbyville; grandchildren, Jordan Lynch, Gracie Ratleph, Addison Cook, Ashlynn Apostol, Aubrey Winfrey, and Candice Blodgett; and great-grandchildren, Kash Lynch, Eliana Ratleph, Dominique Ratleph, Damian Woods, Dominique Blodgett, Alexander Blodgett, Charlie Hollis, and Levi Winfrey. She also leaves behind her siblings: Patricia K. Allen of Lewisburg, Ronnie Lee (Mary Lou) Sharp of Chapel Hill, Terry Wayne (Cathey) Sharp of AL, Carolyn Jean Camacho of Shelbyville, Stephen Richard (Terie) Sharp of Shelbyville, Nancy Lynn Baker of Shelbyville, and Mary Helen (Tim) Estes of Shelbyville; along with many nieces and nephews.

Shirley found joy in the quiet comforts of life. She loved to crochet, cross-stitch, and solve word puzzles. Earlier in life, she was a true country soul, she embraced farm life—tending her vegetable garden, canning, and raising cattle. Her favorite pastime was spending time and cutting up with family and friends.

Visitation with the family will be held 2-4p.m. Saturday, August 16, 2025, in the chapel of Doak-Howell Funeral Home. Funeral services will follow at 4:00 p.m. with Tony Harris officiating.

Following services Shirley chose cremation and her ashes will be interred at Willow Mount Cemetery at a later date.

Doak-Howell Funeral Home is serving the family.

www.doakhowellfuneralhome.com

Alzheimer's Tennessee
24/7 HELPLINE
Your GATEway to Services
1(800) ALZ-GATE
259-4283

NATIONAL
SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE
1-800-273-TALK (8255)
suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Death Notices

Eddie Leonard Sharp

Eddie Leonard Sharp, age 81, of Chapel Hill, passed from this life into his eternal reward on Tuesday, August 19,2025, with his family by his side. Eddie was the son of the late Hoyle Richard Sharp and Lena Faye Middleton Sharp.

Eddie is survived by his wife, Sandra Ragsdale Sharp of Chapel Hill; a daughter, Cindy (Kevin) Pratt of Chapel Hill.

Lawrence Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 203 South Horton Pkwy, Chapel Hill, TN, (931) 364-2233, (www.lawrence-funeral.net) is in charge of arrangements.

Ricky Ray Beard

Ricky Ray Beard, age 57, of Chapel Hill, passed away on August 16, 2025, at his residence. He was a native of Williamson County and a son of the late Jackie Walker Beard, Sr. and Mamie Ruth Spears Ashworth Nickerson, who survives.

Ricky Ray Beard is survived by his daughter, Melanie Beard; mother, Mamie (Mark) Nickerson of Columbia, TN.

Lawrence Funeral Home, Chapel Hill, is in charge of arrangements.

Ronald Vincent David

Ronald Vincent David, age 58, of Shelbyville, passed away on Tuesday, August 12, 2025.

Ronald was born on March 21, 1967, to the late Peggy Vincion David and Roland David Jr., who survives.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel will be assisting the family with arrangements.

Betty Joan Arnold

Betty Joan Arnold, age 83, of Shelbyville, passed away Thursday, August 15, 2025.

Betty was born October 4, 1941, in Shelbyville. Her parents were the late Elroy M. Arnold and Annie Marie Parker Arnold.

She is survived by a son, Chris Arnold, Shelbyville.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Thomas Leon Sullivan

Thomas Leon Sullivan, age 81, of Shelbyville, went to be with the Lord on August 15, 2025.

Thomas was born February 28, 1944, in Franklin, TN., to the late William Thomas Sullivan and Naomi Woodard Sullivan. In addition to his parents, Thomas is preceded in death by his first wife, Patricia Walker.

He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Pamela Renea Pugh Sullivan. Thomas has 7 children, Willie Sullivan, Tommy Sullivan, Scott Sullivan, Angie McGee, Timmy Sullivan, Misty Jacobs, and Jeremiah Sullivan.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.

David Carmac Kee

David Carmac Kee, age 77, of Shelbyville, passed away August 17, 2025, in Nashville.

David was born on July 13, 1948, in Memphis, to the late Robert and Eleanor Thomas Kee. He was an air traffic controller while serving in the U.S. Marines.

Survivors include his wife of 33 years, Debbie; children, Chris Kee, Melanie (Steven) Morgan, and Melissa (Chris) Matthews.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Gladys Marvell Jacob

Gladys Marvell Jacob, 82, of Shelbyville, passed away from this life at Vanderbilt Medical Center in Nashville August 12, 2025. Marvell was born October 4, 1942 in Portales, New Mexico. She was preceded in death by her parents, Marvin Jesse Baker of Paris, Texas, Alva Gladys Kwapinski and Stanley J. Kwapinski of Bell Buckle, husband, Giovanni Jacob of Shelbyville.

She is survived by her children, Kenneth Merle (Kenneth G. Nicolas) Bargers of Nashville, Mark Tyner (Lisha) Bargers of Shelbyville and Cherrilyn Mikelle (Scott) Horn of Shelbyville.

Hillcrest Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Linda Sue Winsett

Linda Sue Winsett, 70, of Clarksville, formerly of Shelbyville, died August 18, 2025. She was born August 12, 1955, in Panama. She was preceded in death by her parents, Odell and Nora Marie Ford Taylor and her husband, Willie J. Winsett Jr.

Linda is survived by her children, Jason O. Winsett (Karla) of Nashville, Julie Capouch (Thomas) of LaVergne.

Hillcrest Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.





PAYING RESPECTS AT VIETNAM VETERAN WALL

The City of Winchester proudly displayed the Vietnam Veteran Memorial Wall earlier this week. It's a busy mobile unit and many turned out to assist with the work.

Daughter of murder victim shares touching impact statement with court



The following impact statement was given in Bedford County Court by Hannah Smotherman on behalf of her mother, Julie Smotherman, who was killed 2 years ago. Charged with her murder this spring was Michael Beddingfield. The statement was edited for brevity. (Main story on page 1.)

....

"She, at some point when I was about 7 or 8, broke her foot and was prescribed pain medication. That pain medication ended up becoming the beginning of her downfall. She tried to go back to work but the addiction had already started to take hold.

....

Eventually she lost her job. She was stuck in this same addiction for many years until she became pregnant with my twin brothers. For them -for a little while- she got clean. When she became sober, sometimes I could see flashes of the mom I once knew. She stayed sober until after they were born in 2013.

Soon after the twins were born, I went from just changing the occasional diaper, to feeding, to bathing, to picking out their clothes, and before I knew it, I was doing it all. I was now a 13-year-old with two babies that depended on me.

She slowly began going back to her old habits. She started drinking very heavily on a daily basis then eventually got into a pain clinic and was prescribed pain meds again and she continued her addiction for pills up until 2018, when she met Michael Beddingfield.

When she met Michael, it was like finally seeing a glimpse of the mom I used to know. She got out of bed. She started cooking again. Laughing again.

....

She would tell me all the time "I finally found my soulmate."

....

Mama and Michael were always off and on. They would be together for a few weeks and then they would fight and he would leave. There were times when they were happy but when things got bad, they usually got worse. They both had a pretty bad temper. As Michael described their relationship really was just like fire and gasoline.

I am not exactly sure when my mother started using Meth. I am not even sure if that was Michael's fault.

...

Eventually their fights started turning physical. Now I will be honest, my mom had a loud mouth and a stubborn heart.

....

On my 18th birthday, DTF busted in the house we were staying at the time and my brothers got taken away that day and placed into foster care. After that, I started distancing myself from my mom.

....

A few months before the murder, sometime in February, my mom calls me crying and says she can't wake Michael up, he was unresponsive and she asked me for my help.

....

I saved his life and soon after, he took my mother's. If I could only go back to that night knowing what I know now. I wouldn't have shown up. I would have let him die.

I will not pretend me and my mom had a happy ending. One of the last real conversations me and my mom had was on March 6, 2023.

....

It's hard to explain what it's like watching someone you love disappear while they're still alive. Some days I was angry, some days I was numb, but deep inside I was really just heartbroken.

....

Being the daughter of an addict is not exactly what people describe it to be. There are highs and there are lows. There is pain but there is also love. There were good days. There was laughter, hugs, fun, and love. Then, there was some days or weeks she wouldn't come out of her room.

I guess for me it's not because she died it's more the how and how soon it was. I never thought the day would come so soon.

....

My mom was far from perfect, but she was my person. My ride or die, and I was always hers.

....

I want to feel her presence again. I want to hear her laugh again. I want to smell her perfume. To feel her hair, touch my face, and feel her hands on my back as she squeezes me tightly. What I would give to just hug her one more time.

....

She told me for years before she died that he was going to be the cause of her death. I believed her, but she couldn't leave him alone. She loved him and she thought in some sick way that he still loved her too.

Michael not only murdered her, he destroyed her. He hit her from behind because he knew she would fight back. The level of disrespect he showed my mother in death is something no family should ever have to endure.

....

Then he disrespected her body by burning her. Burning her until there was nothing left. Just her bones. (Court testimony.)

....

The older I get I see more of a resemblance as the time goes by. I never thought I would be so grateful to look like my mother. As a kid I hated my mother. She would tell me I acted like her or looked kind of like her and I hated it but now I can see why God left me some resemblance of her in me.

....

This trial ending for me is almost like having my final chance. The final end to her story. Like I finally have to say goodbye. I finally have to let her go.

....

Sometimes, I can picture her, in that moment, the moment the hammer strikes her head. (Court testimony.)

....

Most would want revenge but not me. I want peace. I want silence.

....

Now I wish I could hear her say it again so that I could acknowledge it and forgive her.

....

You [Michael] took the woman that gave me life. The woman who gave me my name. Not just my mother, but my person. Someone that understood me inside and out.

You not only took her life but you broke her, little by little, until there was almost nothing left.

....

You didn't just destroy her, you wrapped her up in plastic, threw her lifeless body in the back of a trunk, took her to a field, and burned her until there was nothing left.

You may not be free, but you get to live. You may be locked in a cell for the rest of your life, but you can still wake up from your nightmares. Unlike her. She died trapped in one.

You took my mother from me. You took her laughter, her smile, her voice. You stole her future, and you stole ours. But you will never take her from my heart.

....

And you—every single day you wake up—will be reminded that you didn't win. You may have taken her life, but you will never erase her from this world. Her name, her face, her spirit will haunt you, whether in your dreams or in your waking hours.

And long after your name is forgotten, hers will still be spoken. Julie Smotherman will not be forgotten. Not today. Not tomorrow. Not for as long as I live."

PRAYERS FOR THE ADDICTED IS A GIVEN

What about families left behind in the aftermath?

By Dawn Hankins
dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net

Maybe these days it's unusual for a journalist to ask readers to "pray" for someone. But why not, when you know it can bring peace to someone's soul. It can also change lives for the better.

Those of us who do this on a daily basis, know prayer works. Journalists read and see a lot about criminal matters.

Working in church ministry as well introduces you to a lot of people with addictions-not just those who walk in off the streets. I don't regret those years of work though it is sad to see what happens to many folks suffering with addiction.

I overheard someone one day say, "Can you imagine her as a chikdren's minister?" That's because I am a tough-skinned journalist, I guess.

But the time I spent helping children learn the true path to life was not wasted. I still have former students walk up to me in grocery stores, etc., with smiles. Many are grown now and it does my heart good to see the wonderful things they're doing with their lives.

I do believe you can be a Christian witness and a newspaper journalist. Sadly, many do not believe this today for obvious reasons.

I was able to witness a self-professed cocaine dealer in this area become a faithful man of God. He is now happily married and is living a clean life. He serves his church with faithfulness and is thankful for prayers and God's intervention.

But if only the rap sheets were getting smaller. The unfortunate thing of it all is one addiction can lead to more crime if the addiction continues over a period of time. Those addictions must be fed and mental issues develop as a result of prolonged use.

Sadly, many of the drug abusers are murdering people. One bad crime tends to lead to another, sadly.

As I wrapped up my workday Monday, which is usually my organization day for stories to come, I remembered that a murderer was getting his sentence in local criminal court. He was convicted in May (see page 1.)

It was a gruesome murder-one which might have been avoided under different circumstances-perhaps. Perhaps not. Only the perp and whatever demon caused this really knows.

Like most cases that involve people of addiction, the family is the one left to suffer-the mother, the daughter, the sister, etc.

I think what is hurting our community/families, rests right in criminal court each week and very few people even realize what's going on. Those who are in court every day know. It's bad.

Think I'm stretching the truth of it? Here's an example in Bedford County court last week. These types of cases are not periodic but are listed on most every docket.



Bedford Opioid Abatement Grant has a "brown" bag to provide the Bedford County community-one which will educate parents and families about substance abuse. The bag includes a Narcan mist (with directions), BC Resource Guide, Drug Rescue brochure, BC Health Dept. brochure, LifeSource Family Solutions pamphlet and a 988 suicide and life line business card. Free bags available at Community Clinic of Bedford County, 200 Dover St. Suite 202, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. This is available through the AmeriCares and Direct Relief. Email Bedford-opioid@Shelbyville-clinic.org.

METH - MFG, DELIVER, SELL, POSS WITH INTENT F / B=Count: 3

39-17-418 SIMPLE POSS/CASUAL EXCHANGE M / A=Filing: 08/18/2025-Violation: 01/08/2025 Arrest: 01/08/2025-Count: 4

55-50-506 DRIVING WHILE IN POSSESSION OF METHAMPHETAMINE M / B-Filing: 08/18/2025

Violation: 01/08/2025 Arrest: 01/08/2025-Count: 5

39-17-1324 (a) POSSESS FIREARM INTENT TO GO ARMED - DANGEROUS FELONY F / D - Filing: 08/18/2025-Violation: 01/08/2025 Arrest: 01/08/2025-Count: 6

39-17-425 POSS UNLAW DRUG PARAPHERNALIA USES & ACTIVITIES M / A=Filing: 08/18/2025

Violation: 01/08/2025 Arrest: 01/08/2025-Count: 7

55-50-504 DRIVING WHILE LICENSE REVOKED M / B-Filing: 08/18/2025-Violation: 01/08/2025 Arrest: 01/08/2025-Count: 8

55-9-603 SEAT BELT - 18 AND OLDER M / C-Filing: 08/18/2025-Violation: 01/08/2025 Arrest: 01/08/2025-Count: 9

55-12-139 FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY LAW M / C-Filing: 08/18/2025-Violation: 01/08/2025 Arrest: 01/08/2025-Hearing Type: Grand Jury-Arraignment.

Some people say, "So, he'll be out soon and right back at it."

Maybe so. Maybe not if someone's there to help.

We can't turn a blind eye to what's happening around us. Why, because it affects people on the highway, perhaps children, the family at home.

Drugs and alcohol lead to more cases these days of murder, rape, incest, sexual battery. Assault and battery charges are really on the rise.

Deputies spend countless hours managing dysfunctional family fights in homes. People are still slapping each other around as if that solves anything. It costs this County time, energy and dollars.

Maybe you say it's happening everywhere, but for a County this size, it's thick, based on court dockets I'm seeing. The criminal court system is overworked.

Many will say, "What can I do?"

Why not pray for your community that people will depend more on God than illegal drugs. Get involved in groups trying to make a difference in this horrible thing called addiction. Talk to your children and teens about the ramifications of illegal drug use, alcohol abuse.

My friends at the Tony Rice Center can help you, if you or someone you know needs help with their addictions. The guys will be at the TWHNC this week near the grandstand in their food booth. They're going to have fresh pork skins, tacos and fish sandwiches.

While they may be busy the next couple of weeks while at the Celebration, my bet is if you take the TRC folks a card with your name and phone number on it-include the words- "I need help"- and you'll get a call.

There's help. There's hope.

But in the meantime, pray for the families at home. God can change a person's heart for good. Sadly, as many "recovered" will tell you, sometimes the addicted must go down a bad road first before seeing the light.

Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it." Matthew 7:13-14 NIV

For loved ones of the addicted, It's not over, until it's over.

Sadly, this week, a precious mother who's worked hard all her life was given the news by the judge that her son would spend the rest of his life in prison for murder. For them, it's too late to come back together as a family. Maybe.

With a Bible in hand, good folks to talk to like those at the TRC, hope, and prayer, life can be changed.

There are people willing to help. Call 931-685-0957 for more information on the Tony Rice Center. Call, today.

YOU ARE HERE By Timothy E. Parker

A	G	A	R		S	T	R	A	P		A	R	C	S
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Middle Tennessee Tops Belmont 2-1 in Season Opener; Shuts Out Jackson State 3-0 Thanks to Craig's First Brace

MT ATHLETICS

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – The Middle Tennessee women's soccer team (2-0-0) opened the 2025 season with a 2-1 victory over Belmont at E.S. Rose Park.

It was the Blue Raiders' first season-opening win since a 1-0 victory against Belmont in Murfreesboro in 2021. Sophomore goalkeeper Demi Gronauer made four saves to start the regular season.

In the second half, Middle Tennessee took the lead at 71:23 when freshman Olivia Best scored from the top center of the goal, assisted by midfielder Ximena Jauregui. The Blue Raiders added the winning goal at 88:26, with senior Taijah Fraser finishing and senior Megan Carroll providing the assist.

Aston Rhoden said:

A big part of who we are is trusting each other. For the team to buy into that, I have to model it myself. I need to show that I trust them in key moments and give them the opportunities to make an impact on the game.

Olivia Best said:

Aston has put us in really great situations in training to learn and perform, so that when we're on the field in games and big moments, we're ready to step up, take opportunities, and capitalize on them.

The Lady Raiders followed the road win at Belmont with a home-opening shutout victory against Jackson State (0-2-0) on Sunday, 3-0.



Photo courtesy of MT Athletics.



Photo courtesy of MT Athletics.

The Blue Raiders are off to a 2-0 start for the first time since 2016. Their last home-opening win came in 2021 against Belmont. Freshman goalkeeper Ella Sellers made her season debut in the starting lineup.

Middle Tennessee struck first at the 7:44 mark with a goal from senior forward Emma Pettersen. Freshman forward Alli Craig added the second goal at 13:32, assisted by junior defender Sadie Sterbenz. Craig completed her first career brace at 59:28 with help from senior forward Idun Kvaale. The Blue Raiders' defense limited the Tigers by one shot from Alayla Jackson at the 88:20 mark, saved by Sellers.

Coach Aston Rhoden on Craig:

"Alli has had a great preseason camp and has been one of our more consistent goal scorers in practice. The work you put in at practice correlates with the minutes you earn in a game, and we trust her to do the same things in games that she does in practice."

Craig on her second goal:

"I knew where Idun [Kvaale] was going to play the ball. I knew it was going to be a good service. From all the practices we've had, we've built up trust, and I know they'll get the service off. I just have to be there to finish it."

By the Numbers

Middle Tennessee recorded 19 shots, including 13 on goal, and earned 11 corner kicks.

Craig is the second freshman to score this season, joining forward Olivia Best, who netted a goal against Belmont on Aug. 14.

Vattiato named to Manning Award Watch List for second time

MT ATHLETICS

NEW ORLEANS, La. – The Manning Award, presented by the Allstate Sugar Bowl, announced its preseason Watch List on Thursday. The list includes 27 of the top quarterbacks in the nation heading in to the 2025 season and Middle Tennessee's Nicholas Vattiato is among the elite group. Vattiato attended the Manning Passing Academy earlier this summer for the second year in a row.

The winner will again be selected by a voting panel, which includes national media and each of the Mannings, after the postseason.

Vattiato, a redshirt senior with a 3.9 GPA, is coming off a season where he became just the second quarterback in MTSU history to record multiple 3,000-yard passing seasons. The Plantation, Fla., native had 3,092 passing yards on 269 completions to go with 16 touchdowns. Vattiato was also recently named to the Allstate AFCA Good Works team, the Wuerffel Trophy Watch List and as a nominee for the William V. Campbell Award.

The Manning Award was created by the Allstate Sugar Bowl in honor of the college football accomplishments of Archie, Peyton and Eli Manning. It is the only quarterback award that includes the candidates' postseason performances in its balloting.

Inclusion on the Watch List is not necessary for the quarterbacks to be selected for the honor. Transfers and other newcomers at schools were not eligible for the preseason Watch List, but additional quarterbacks will be added to the Watch List during the season. Finalists will be selected prior to the postseason and the winner will be announced following the College Football Playoff National Championship.

This year's Watch List includes players from nine Football Bowl Subdivision conferences. The Big 12 leads the way with seven selections, followed by the SEC with five, and the ACC with four representatives. CUSA has two on the list.



Photo courtesy of MT Athletics.

Eaglettes Take Down District Foe Franklin County In Season Opener

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com

SHELBYVILLE, Tenn. – The Shelbyville Central Golden Eaglettes (1-0) opened the 2025 season with the first win of the Kendall Hampton era against District 9-AAA opponent, Franklin County (0-1), in four sets, 25-20,25-21,16-25, 25-20, on Monday night.

Below are the Eaglettes' stat leaders from the win:

Kills:
Jada Berry - 5
Nadiya Locke - 1
Kaylee Stafford - 4
Kyriana Ward - 3

Digs:
Kenley Patton - 5
Jada Berry - 2
Destiny McCullough - 1
Nadiya Locke - 4
Jazrea Fells - 2
Tatiana Clark - 11
Miriah McLemore - 1
Kaylee Stafford - 6
Adige McGear - 1
Kyriana Ward - 1

Aces:
Kenley Patton - 3
Jazrea Fells - 1
Tatiana Clark - 5
Kaylee Stafford - 2
Adige McGear- 2

Assists:
Jazrea Fells - 9
Adige McGear - 1

Blocks:
Jada Berry - 3
Kyriana Ward - 1

Central Golf Finishes in Third at Tullahoma

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com

TULLAHOMA, Tenn. – The Shelbyville Central Golden Eagles completed their fifth golf match of the season on Thursday, coming in third place as a team to Tullahoma (1st) and Franklin County (2nd), 163-180-192, at the Lakewood Golf & Country Club.

Included are the individual results for each team:

SCHS: 192

Ean Delffs – 43
Braxton Vari – 46
Elijah Derryberry – 50
Callan Dowd – 53
Houston Landreth – 64

Tullahoma: 163

Alex Miller – 38
Brody Fulmer – 42
Hudson Stroop – 41
Jessie Gillis – 42
Cohen Weaver – 42

Franklin County: 180

Garrett Patterson – 41
Easton Walker – 44
Gunnar Gaby – 49
Conner Worley – 46
Channing Amacher – 50

Viqueens Volleyball Looking to Break Through in Tough District 8-AA for 2025

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com

UNIONVILLE, Tenn. – The Community Viqueens volleyball program is coming off of a 2024 campaign that saw them finish as the District 8-AA Runner-Up before losing in the Region 4-AA semifinal to Cumberland County. They recently took home the Volley Jam Championship – an 8-team preseason tournament held in Lancaster, TN – after downing Franklin Road Christian School in the final, and their 11th-year head coach, Tiffany Klages, is ready for 2025.

"I am looking forward to this season," Klages says. "They are already excited too, and we have a lot of returning talent."

One of the biggest changes for this season is the addition of two new teams into District 8-AA to bring the total up to eight: Spring Hill and Chapel Hill. Spring Hill parachutes down from Class AAA after finishing 25-12 (13-1) and winning the District 9-AAA regular season only to see its season end prematurely in an upset loss to Lincoln County in the district tournament semifinals. Conversely, Chapel Hill moves up from Class A following a rough 2024 season that ended at the hands of Fayetteville City in the District 6-A Tournament semifinals.

Murfreesboro Central Magnet won the District 8-AA title last season over the Viqueens, 3-1, before falling to Stone Memorial in straight sets in the Region 4-AA semifinal. Community also saw its season end in the regional semifinal round, but at Cumberland County instead.

In preparation for the 2025 season, Klages knew she would be having to replace two extremely important pieces – outside hitter Izzy Martinez, and Breanna Grooms. Martinez led Community by far in Kills, averaging 12.7 per match, totaling 394 on the year. Martinez was also second on the team in Digs, averaging 8.8 per match and finishing with 272 for the season. Meanwhile, Grooms by far led the team in Digs, averaging 13.1 per match for a total of 406 throughout the year.

The good news is that the Viqueens are returning three key statistical pieces from 2024 in Brooklyn Yoes, Gracie Daniel, and Hadley Martin. Martin was second on the team in Kills behind Martinez with a much more modest 158 – an average of 5.1 per match. Meanwhile, Yoes and Daniel finished in the top four in both Digs and Kills, and led the team in assists. Daniel was third in Kills with 108 (3.5 per match), fourth in digs with 186 (6.0 per match), and second in assists with 242 (7.8 per match). Yoes finished fourth in Kills with 93 (3.0 per match), third in Digs with 235 (7.6 per match), and led the team in assists with 480 (15.5 per match).



The Community Viqueens have high hopes for 2025 after winning the preseason Volley Jam Tournament in Lancaster, TN. *Photo courtesy of Community High School Viqueens Volleyball Facebook - (Ashlyn Yoes)*

"She [Daniel] really improved and stepped up," says Klages about the junior, "She just does whatever I ask her, wherever I play her, she does not care. I ask her to be a setter sometimes, I ask her to be a middle sometimes, sometimes she's outside and she's always a DS. She is just so versatile and a big asset to our team. Wherever I put her, I don't have to worry about it."

Klages also at least partially credits Yoes' importance and impact to her having played since her freshman year, a strategy the Viqueens' head coach has employed ever since she got the job to build up the program back in 2015.

"When I first got the program, we struggled a lot," Klages says. "It took me about two-and-a-half, maybe three years to create a really good program in one district in my third year. We were runners-up my second year, and then we went to sub-state my fourth year. So it gradually got better. Since then, I've tried to create my program where all of my girls that return are ready for varsity every single year. I believe in playing them young, so if I see potential in them, they get that playing time and that exposure to the game so they can be better at it by their senior year. Right now I have several juniors on the team that this is their third year playing varsity full time. I just believe in that early exposure to get them ready so I don't have to worry about them as much anymore. I can just worry about my younger ones to fill the holes."

Klages says that training new setters are perhaps the most difficult position to get ready for varsity, and she's glad to have Brooklyn Yoes returning in that spot. Even though Yoes is only a junior, she is already listed as the team captain and is the primary setter on the squad.

"They [setters] are the ones who touch the ball all the time, they're the playmakers, they're like the quarterback of volleyball. So I don't have to train a setter this year or last year. [Yoes] is a junior now and she was probably full time her freshman year."

The Viqueens head coach realizes the tough road ahead in district play, but that fact doesn't damper her enthusiasm about 2025.

"My expectations for the team is as long as they're giving 110% and they're playing with their heart, I'll always cheer them on and be happy. I want to stay positive and just believe in my girls and believe in myself to lead them to success."

With back-to-back district runner-ups to their name coming into this season, Klages and the Viqueens are gunning to bring home the title this season in a jam-packed District 8-AA. Community opens district play at Central Magnet on Thursday, August 21st, before taking a nearly two week hiatus for The Celebration. They return to the court on September 2nd at home against Moore County before diving back into district play at home against Chapel Hill on September 4th.



Brooklyn Yoes (21) returns for her junior season as the team captain and as an instrumental setter for the Viqueens. She finished with the fourth-most kills (93), the third-most digs (235), and the most assists (480) on the team last season. *Photo courtesy of Community High School Viqueens Volleyball - (Ashlyn Yoes)*



Gracie Daniel (4) returns for her junior season after finishing 2024 with the third-most kills on the team (108), the fourth-most digs (186), and the second-most assists (242). *Photo courtesy of Community High School Viqueens Volleyball - (Ashlyn Yoes)*

Lady Champs Golf Top Richland, Giles County; Champs Take Second by One Stroke

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com

PULASKI, Tenn. – The Cascade Lady Champions emerged victorious against Richland and Giles County, respectively, while the Champions finished in second place behind the Raiders while one stroke ahead of the Bobcats in nine holes at Hillcrest Country Club on Monday.

The Lady Champs secured another win, 111-114-142, outlasting Richland by just three strokes thanks to senior Kaegan Young shooting a 44. Olivia Hale shot a 67.

For the Lady Raiders, Preslee Crabtree shot a 52 while Maddie Borges shot a 62 to finish in second place.

Giles County's Sara Ella Reaves shot a 70 and Aubrey Norwood shot a 72 to finish in third.

Meanwhile, on the boys' side, Cascade finished in second place, one stroke ahead of the hosts, Giles County, by a score of 154-187-188.

Richland, who coasted to first, was led by Riley Strickland shooting a 34. Jack Jackson shot a 38, Trey Fox shot a 40, and Dickey shot a 42.

Cascade was led by Jack Daretsky shooting a team-low 43, followed by Kolby Allen's 46, then Eli Collard and senior Henry Stone who both shot a 48.

Giles County's Cauden Eubank shot a 41 to lead the Bobcats. Tim Pickett shot a 47, then Westin Brumit and Collin Frierson both tied by shooting a 50.

Cascade is currently scheduled to return to the golf course in early September.

Center for Family Development, community, celebrate at The Gathering Place





Submitted Photos

Last Saturday, The Center for Family Development (TCFD) celebrated the one-year anniversary of receiving the T-Mobile Hometown Grant with a community event at The Gathering Place on the historic Shelbyville square.

This outdoor park space, developed through grant funding, has been transformed into a vibrant area designed to host quarterly family-friendly events and serve as a community seating space for residents and visitors to enjoy.

Saturday's event featured live music from Mike Corrado, a visit from the American Mule Bluegrass Festival, with Rachel the Mule, refreshments and a bouncy house provided by Lemon Squeezeee, and local vendors including Kine Botanical.

Attendees also contributed to a community mural project led by local artist Clover Honey, and had a chance to learn more about The Gathering Place's ongoing mission to build a more connected Shelbyville.

TCFD expressed gratitude to T-Mobile for their generous grant and continued support in making this community space possible.

Some of the TCFD programs include Healthy Families and Parents as Teachers.TCFD provides services ranging from adoption to caregiver.

The mission statement is: "Building forever families through the provision of services which empowers children and families to thrive."

Contact TCFD at 124 Public Square East, by calling 931-684-4676 or emailing a message to: info@mytefd.org.

Yum, Yum; We Can't Wait!

After 50 years, Community Lions still serving country ham sandwiches at TWHNC

By Dawn Hankins

There are a lot of things synonymous with the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration. But no doubt Ezra Lee Swing and the Community Lions Food Both (those hamburgers and country ham sandwiches!) are at the top of the list each year.

The Community Lions Club was chartered in 1970, and members believe the first booth was in 1972, according to Phillip Perryman, club secretary.

"It was outside in the stable area originally. Two of our original charter members from 1970, Jimmy Crick and Virgil (Butch) Beasley, still help each year with the booth."

The Community Lions still, after all these years, continue to provide TWHNC visitors and locals with their specialty, country ham sandwiches, dressed to order. They also sell pork tenderloin, steak and barbeque sandwiches, along with the usual hamburgers and chicken strips.

On those hot August nights, there's nothing like sweet tea to wash it all down and a cool, soft serve ice cream for dessert.





Laurel Cox of Bell Buckle selected as Durango Boots $30,000 scholarship winner

See story on front page



Lions Club Photos



EAKIN ELEMENTARY 'FAMILY' SHARES IN SURPRISE WELCOME HOME *DAD THANKED FOR HIS SERVICE*

Family Photo

Angel Silva, overseas for a year on military active duty, surprised his children, Leon, Ember and Ellison, at Eakin Elementary this week. Mom Brittany Silva said this week, "When I told our principal that I wanted to come surprise the kids at school, she said, 'I'll take care of everything' and they made sure it was perfect." Those present said it was "an unforgettable moment" filled with tears and lots of hugs.

TONY RICE RECOVERY CENTER

MENU

ENTREES

FISH SANDWICH $6
A golden-fried filet 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 filet 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 flat, 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
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.

Don't forget to stop by the Tony Rice Center booth during the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration.