COMMUNITY NEWS

SHELBYVILLE TIMES-GAZETTE

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Father brightens son's memory by speaking on drug addiction

CHASEAWAYFENTANYL branches out to BC

ONE PILL, ONE TIME, ONE LIFE



'We aim to ensure that Narcan, a crucial opioid antagonist, is available in every home. In addition, we provide unwavering support for individuals and families impacted by addiction, creating a space where shared experiences can combat the stigma surrounding addiction.' Alan Vickers, founder of CHASEAWAYFENTANYL

By Dawn Hankins
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Chase Vickers, age 31, of Manchester, passed this life on Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2024. He died as a result of a Fentanyl drug overdose at his parent's home in the Hillsboro community of Coffee County.

Chase's father, Alan Vickers, though devastated at the loss of his only biological child, knew that from such a tragedy, more must be done to keep others away from Fentanyl.

Alan admits his son did not live the cleanest life but he was dearly loved by his family. (Chase's mother is Kelly Panter Foster of Belvidere.)

"No matter what, you never stop loving them," Alan shares.

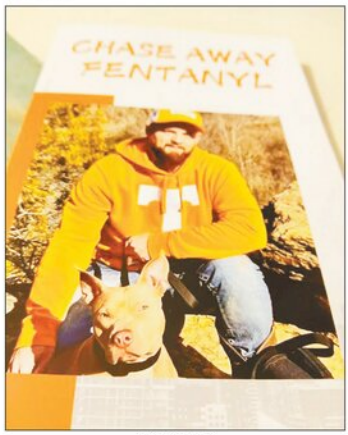
These days, he speaks to as many people possible about the dangers of Fentanyl. Many of those attending his conferences are parents of the addicted and others who are headed down the same wrong road of alcohol or drug abuse.

Alan shares that Chase had struggled with substance abuse disorder since his teens. He went into his first treatment recovery at age 14 and then about eight more times after that.

A former local law enforcement officer, Alan notes that he's suffered with his own addictions in years past but he's been "clean" for decades. However, he states he never used drugs and alcohol in front of his son.

He says Chase was finally on the road to recovery, having made it a year clean. Alan says then tragedy, like a thief in the night, took Chase away from him. It happened that

See FENTANYL, 2A



Chase Vickers



FOR CHARLIE AND THE MISSING CHILDREN

Photo by Josh Blevins

A local woman organized through Facebook a candlelight prayer vigil, held Tuesday evening at H.V. Griffin Park. She said the event was in memory of political activist Charlie Kirk who was assassinated in Utah last week and a prayer time for the children here that are still missing. "While this prayer vigil is for Charlie, and to glorify Jesus, we will be praying for the children that are still missing," the woman commented.

How much does it cost to care for jail inmates?

By Dawn Hankins

During the Public Safety Committee meeting Tuesday night at the courthouse, Chris Cook filled in with the report for the County jail. Topics of discussion included expenses, collections and dental care.

Jailer Ronnie Prince was sick, so Cook filled in with this month's report. Lt. Cook reported a collection of $3,977 in sheriff's fees; $189 in comp fees; $14,749 from phones; and $7,920 from housing.

Cook said because of being at last minute, he could not get the numbers regarding state inmates but said that part of incarceration has been running around $150,000 a month- nothing unusual, he advised.

"Just in case you're interested, we're right at about 4,500 pounds out of our [MRT] garden," the MRT director said with enthusiasm.

The jail has been given permission by regulators to use the garden vegetables, grown by MRT women, for the kitchen. This has helped save food dollars, according to prior jail reports.

Commissioner Sylvia Pinson asked Cook to explain the partnership between the inmates needing dental care and Community Clinic.

The Community Clinic, located on Dover Street, provides to this community:

- Preventive care
- Dental care
- Routine check-ups
- Employment physicals
- Free Mammograms
- Free Over-the-counter supplies
- Medical examinations
- Treatment & maintenance of medical problems including, but not limited to, high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity, and other medical conditions

Applicants are required to call for an appointment. Bring photo ID, any medical records they may have, proof of address (living in Bedford County) and proof of income (paycheck, paystubs, W-2 form, last 1040 tax return

See INMATES, 2A

Sylvester sentenced to life for killing her son

His name was Esteban

Patricia Joy Sylvester of Shelbyville was sentenced in criminal court last week to life in prison for the 2023 murder of her 12-year-old son. She also received 25 years for the first-degree attempted murder of her 4-year-old son, also in 2023.

Sylvester has admitted to the death of her oldest son by strangulation. She was charged on July 18, 2023, arraigned on May 5, 2024, made her plea to the court in July this year and was sentenced Sept. 11, 2025.

Shelbyville Police reported in 2023, that the 12-year-old, named Esteban Sylvester, was found unresponsive by his father at their Barksdale Lane residence. Evidence pointed to the fact that the boy suffered a horrendous death by his mother's hands.

The investigation by Shelbyville Police then centered around Sylvester, then 32, and her 4-year-old son, Rafael-both missing. An endangered child alert was issued for the boy, who was believed to be with his mother.

The case also involved how Sylvester tried to also kill her youngest son. But he apparently screamed and she stopped trying to strangle him.

Police commented how the little boy was lucky to be alive.

Sylvester eventually returned home with her son and was formally charged by the state with criminal homicide. She was scheduled at the time of her arrest to undergo a mental evaluation.

Sylvester was placed in Bedford County Jail under a $2 million bond.



A DAY OF BEAUTIFUL MUSIC

Bedford County Government Photo

On Friday, Sept. 12, classical musician, composer and motivational speaker, Eric Genuis, brought his ensemble to Bedford County Correctional Facility, as part of his charity Concerts for Hope. See more photos on page 9 today.

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200th Anniversary

Crowell's Chapel celebrated it's 200th anniversary with a special service and a great dinner on the grounds.

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Champs clip Eagles for first win since 2010

The Cascade Champions survived a furious second half rally from the Eagleville Eagles to hold on to win.

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FENTANYL

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fast.

"I don't think he meant to use Fentanyl," Alan advises. "It was a fake pill."

He said evidence shows that Chase had crushed the pill he purchased on his nightstand. Alan said he suspects the "pressed pill" was meant to look something like Percocet, an opioid. "It wasn't even half a pill . . . little bitty chip."

This father admits the scene of Chase's death was devastating. "Thank God I have the ability to make something positive after such a tragedy."

Alan and wife, Annie, have formed the faith-based organization CHASEAWAYFENTANYL. Their mission is to create an environment that fosters hope and also facilitates recovery from substance use disorder.

"We firmly believe that education and awareness are crucial in addressing the ongoing opioid epidemic. By uniting as a community, we can make a significant impact and save lives."

Alan notes that stats show that the hundreds of lives right in middle Tennessee are being lost to illicit Fentanyl. He believes without advocacy and necessary treatment for recovery, communities will continue to see devastating outcomes, like theirs.

A fostering of community care goes a long way in eliminating the stigma associated with addiction, he says. Advocacy must be done now for the health of future generations.

"Our mission is quite simple-to save lives," Alan told the T-G on Monday. "Through the endurance of our tragic loss, we feel that our lack of education and awareness is no longer an excuse to ignore the Fentanyl epidemic that is taking our children. We are here to educate everyone on the signs and symptoms of substance use, specifically, Fentanyl."

Alan is currently working his nonprofit in a 6-county area and hopes to soon include on their calendar/ speaking engagements in Bedford County. Cathy Long owner of 580 Graphics is going to be leading the work locally, he notes.

Long and team at 580, recently wrapped Alan's truck, for free, with the ChaseAwayFentanyl colorful logo. They've been supporters since the outset, which was 28 days after Chase's passing.

The Vickers are now spending more of their time traveling across the nation and state to conferences, churches, etc.

Alan wants to leave people with "hope." And he seems to be just the man to do that.

"I've got a pretty unique background which I think that's what makes our perspective a little different. I am prior law enforcement. I am a veteran. I'm in recovery myself and have been for 24 years."

Alan said it would be really easy for him to blame himself for his son's death. He had a job on the road years ago; he feels maybe he didn't spend enough quality time with Chase.

As well, he could go back into addiction, because, after all, losing a child is traumatic. But there's no reason to do that.

"It's not going to change anything," he says.

Alan advises that Annie is a full-time nurse and chair of the nonprofit board. He's professionally a retired welder and so he has a lot more time to devote to CHASEAWAYFENTANYL ventures.

"We aim to ensure that Narcan, a crucial opioid antagonist, is available in every home. In addition, we provide unwavering support for individuals and families impacted by addiction, creating a space where shared experiences can combat the stigma surrounding addition."

Sadly, Chase's son, Cash, was just 8 years old at the time of the tragic death; he was the one who found his father unresponsive. There was no Narcan at the Vickers home then. The family attempted CPR.

Sheriff's deputies answering the call first, administered Narcan to revive Chase. EMTs were right behind them, he recalls, but could not resuscitate Chase.

Poison had gone into his system. Alan remembers vividly that nightmare.

He adds that it's truly amazing but grandson Cash is now a very large part of their mission. Alan, who's always pretty much raised his grandson, is proud that he's doing a lot of the organization's work.

But now there's also likely a murder trial coming up that the family will have to endure.

Chase's death in 2024, developed into a second-degree murder case still on the docket in Coffee County Circuit/ Criminal Court.

On Wednesday, Brandon Wayne Chowning, was scheduled to be in court before Judge William A. Lockhart for discovery/discussion.

Chowning, as of press time, is charged with second degree murder regarding Fentanyl and is also facing charges for schedule II drugs: fentanyl (1/2 gram) resulting in death.

This however is not slowing Alan down on his mission. Last week, the family was in Ashland City at a speaking event. This weekend, they going to the Healing Appalachia conference in Kentucky.

It is there that one might hear Alan, a reserved man by nature, say with assurance, "The inception of CHASEAWAYFENTANYL was inspired by the fatal overdose of our beloved son, Chase. Our intent is to provide education and awareness through community outreach to families around the world. There are no words to adequately describe the pain of losing a child and our mission is to prevent others from enduring this tragedy."



Cathy Long and 580 Graphics has Alan Vickers all ready to go on his next mission with CHASEAWAYFENTYNAL.



Alan Vickers, through his motivational organization, CHASEAWAYFENTANYL, encourages people across the nation to say no to drug and alcohol abuse-before it's too late.

Alan's had meetings with elected officials and plans to go to the legislature at some point. He was complimentary of Shelbyville Mayor Randy Carroll; he offered to pray with Alan during a recent meeting.

While the family's organization is considered faith based, Alan said he never impresses his religious beliefs on anyone. But he notes he's a Christian and if the opportunity presents itself, he will tell people how God is with his family still today, guiding them along in their work.

There is a certain sadness in this father's eyes as he talks about the boy/ man he shared three decades with; his child who loved UT football.

Alan says after everything, he would have never have imagined himself as a public speaker. But he knows first-hand that if this drug epidemic is kept in the dark, people turn their heads to it, then it's not ever going to go away.

"It's not the easiest thing I've ever done. But . . . I'm on a mission to keep his name alive and tell his story."

For more information, go to chaseawayfentanyl.org or email Alan at info@chaseawayfentanyl.org.



The Vickers family is striving to get Narcan to all households in need. They go across the country with their faith-based organization, spreading the word about "hope."

Alan and Annie Vickers and Grandson Cash.



NORMANDY IS ABOUT COMMUNITY

Lovely late summer Friday Night on Front Street. Photo by Pastor Laurie Raulston.

INMATES

From page 1A

form, bank statement, EBT letter.)

• Applicants must be 18 years of age. (proof of Bedford County residence, income (tax return, Form 1099, W2, or check stub), state/federal issued ID (required for first visit).

• Adults without dental or medical insurance.

• Adults living at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.

Cook said as long as there are funds (through opioid abatement program) the Community Care Clinic is taking care of pulling teeth for the inmates. The County now receives funding through the national opioid settlement agreement and director Fredia Flack with the clinic and a board oversee the distribution of those lawsuit settlement funds.

"Forever, as long as I know, we've only offered dental services to people on a very limited basis," Cook advised. "If you have a tooth infection . . . they will pull the tooth. That's all you get."

He said there's an opportunity to offer dental services with other options. He said it's a great opportunity and he hopes it is offered into the future.

"Our teeth; it's a big deal to people, to all of us," said Cook. "I'm really proud of that program."

Pinson said Community Clinic has written another grant, over and above the MRT program services, that's opening the door to offer dental services to the jail's general population.

"That's a great asset. We are very lucky to have dental care . . . for jail inmates as well as our own," Pinson said.

Cook said he's got a big job with MRT and the medical folks at the jail take care of the dental program. "I've got plenty of other stuff to worry about but it is a great thing."

Commissioner Linda Yockey asked about work crews and again, Cook said he's not real involved. But he said the average, depending on the time of the year, is about 25 inmates.



Water, water everywhere

Hopefully, in the future, there will be plenty to drink

By Dawn Hankins
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As a child, I played in the Duck River bordering my grandparents' farm. Little did I ever imagine that the mighty Duck might be in danger and water usage down the road could be such an issue.

Thankfully, there are people like Chris White working to help make it just as great as many of us growing up here remember. Serving on one of the DR Watershed committees, Chris was gracious enough to give me an update on the meeting held at the Duck River Agency office on Tuesday.

Of course, this wasn't the entire partnership but the regionalization sub-committee on which White serves is part of that full partnership.

The engineering team from Brasfield & Gorrie, LLC presented their evaluation and report of the proposed water pipeline alternative in Maury County from the Cumberland River.

White shared, as a result, that two new recent developments were brought to light that will significantly affect the pipeline project's feasibility. So, there's no need to report about that just yet as it likely isn't going to happen. And here's why:

1. Limited Support from HVUD

The Harpeth Valley Utilities District (HVUD), which would be the utility allowing Mallory Valley Utility District (MVUD) to connect to the Cumberland River via their infrastructure, has indicated they do not fully support the project. From HVUD's perspective, there is little incentive to build an expensive plant to serve other communities while forfeiting 20–50 MGD of their own future water drawing capacity. It seems there were a lot of assumptions being made and their concerns had not been fully communicated. That said, those concerns were recently communicated to White and sub-committee member(s), and they informed the presenters of that situation on Tuesday. They are apparently meeting with the other group Wednesday.

2. Concerns from the Corps of Engineers

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, while still conducting their own review, has signaled they would likely not approve the project. The Corps has already made commitments for future upgrades and new water intakes along the Cumberland River. With existing withdrawals already in place and new ones planned, adding this pipeline could compromise their long-term commitments. Also, they are unsure as to how much water they might have to store in tanks. That issue too, could affect the cost of doing business for the various utilities, and no one wants to make any commitment until the full cost of doing business is known.

Given these factors, the Cumberland River pipeline appears infeasible as a viable alternative at this time. This could change later, as conditions or necessity changes, and fortunately, the engineering work already done would be very valuable down the road, whether it happens in the immediate or long-term.

White said his committee has therefore shifted its focus on what they know to be feasible solutions. They have little time to make initial recommendations for this year's budget.

The most practical and sustainable approaches for the Duck River:

• Raising Normandy Dam - increasing storage and long-term supply by a min. of 6 billion gallons with a five-foot rise in the dam. This was already studied about 13 years ago, so new engineering would have to take place prior to commencement.

• Constructing a downstream intake near Williamsport - ensuring access to adequate water supply for a regional approach to water distribution county-wide in Maury without the necessity for impoundment. This approach has been recently studied and is permittable and ready to be implemented now, as soon as it is funded. (Williamsport features a new housing area in Maury County.)

According to White, collectively, these two projects could secure the Bedford County region's robust water supply requirements for the next 100 years.

A third idea under discussion, which will require more study, is the creation of a Maury County regional water authority. That entity could own and operate the new downstream intake and distribute raw water county-wide. Whether that means consolidating existing utilities, creating a new authority, or some other structure, it will require thoughtful considerations of all possible constraints and careful negotiation, and may not be possible at all given the complexities.

Learning from Coffee County's Model

White said, "This situation mirrors what Coffee County faced in the 1970s. At that time, Tullahoma and Manchester both needed new water treatment plants. A new lake was being built. The state offered $2 million if the two entities would consolidate into one authority and build one large water plant for both cities.

Did it work? White says you bet.

That incentive made regionalization possible, and today Coffee County Water Authority provides the highest rated (cleanest) and least expensive water in Tennessee. Its success is due to efficiency, an economy of scale, and the ability to attract top staff, advantages that are difficult to achieve when multiple utilities duplicate costs and with having numerous small independent operations."

What are the next steps?

White said his regionalization group will continue refining solutions and will present recommendations by early November. Gov. Lee's office will then compile input from the three subgroups, along with information from its own subject-matter experts, into a mid-term report. This will not only direct budget funds from this year for advance projects, but also inform the governor's final budget, which may provide the resources needed to advance the other key projects recommended.



Dawn, on the mighty Duck

White said that in the end, the state intends to use the strategies his group identifies for the Duck River in the final report as a model for watershed planning across Tennessee.

Ultimately, the goal is to ensure long-term water security, environmental and ecological river health, and economic development opportunity in Tennessee.

Thank you to those who care about what happens to our mighty Duck. When you use that River Overlook the City plans to build in the future, thank White's subcommittee and the Watershed partnership for making this area still viable and contributing to your overall health and welfare.

They say it "takes a village" and this is just one good example. We thank Chris White for his willingness to serve and for Pat Marsh, also a member of the Partnership, who always leads the pack with strength and dignity.

School board members, Boyette, Craig, honored by TSBA

Tennessee School Boards Association (TSBA) hosted the South Central Fall District Meeting recently at Hickman County High School. The event brought together school board members and superintendents from across the region to discuss key education topics, including changes to school funding, teacher salaries and school sports.

"TSBA's Fall District Meetings provide our staff the opportunity to speak with our members and listen to their concerns on multiple topics. This allows us to advocate effectively on their behalf while providing them with information they need to make informed decisions for the students in their community," said TSBA Executive Director Tammy Gangler.

As part of the meeting, participants completed a survey to share their priorities and concerns for the upcoming General Assembly.

Several school board members from the South Central District were also recognized with TSBA board member awards. These awards honor board members who have demonstrated a strong commitment to professional development and service beyond the local level. The program recognizes not only the quantity, but also the quality of participation in training and leadership opportunities.

Bedford County School Board members recognized were:

• Level I: Lana Craig

• Level II: Shanna Boyette, Lana Craig

• Level III: Shanna Boyette

• Level IV: Shanna Boyette

"We are proud of our Bedford County board members for their dedication and service," said Bedford County Schools Superintendent Tammy Garrett. "Their continued commitment to training and advocacy ensures that our students and schools are represented with strong, informed leadership."

Level I–IV "Boardsmanship" Awards are presented at TSBA's Fall District Meetings, while Level V is awarded at the association's annual convention in November.



BCS Board of Education 4th District Representative Lana Craig, fourth from left, receives her Level I "Boardsmanship" Award from the Tennessee School Boards Association on Sept. 2.



BCS Board of Education 4th District Representative Lana Craig, second from left, and 8th District Representative Shanna Boyette, third from left, receive their Level II "Boardsmanship" Awards from the Tennessee School Boards Association.

BEDFORD BRIEFS

ANNUAL LIBRARY LUNCHEON

Friends of Shelbyville-Bedford County Public Library will host its annual author luncheon on Oct. 14 at noon at the Blue Ribbon Circle on the Celebration grounds. Guest author will be Erica Wright. Tickets are available at the SBCPL for $20 each. A table can be reserved for $160. Sponsorships for the library are also available for $300 and that includes eight tickets!



NORMANDY FALL FESTIVAL

Normandy Fall Festival will be held Saturday, Oct. 25 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Music, vendors and food. The Town of Normandy is sponsoring a time capsule, which will be buried at the base of the flag pole on Oct. 25 during the fall festival. Time TBD. Memory cards are being sold for $10 each. Photo prints in black and white can be included. Stop by Town Hall. Various local items will be added. The time capsule is to be exhumed in 2052.



BCS Board of Education 8th District Representative Shanna Boyette, first from left, is recognized for receiving her Level III and Level IV Boardsmanship Awards from the Tennessee School Boards Association on Sept 2.

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FEATURES FROM THE BIBLE

TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE

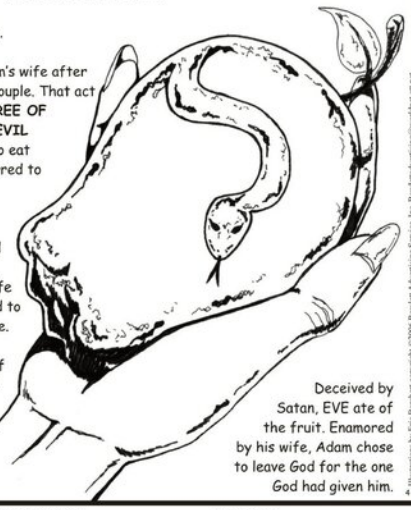
More about Eve - The first Woman. Adam's wife.

God formed her from Adam's rib.

The name **EVE** was given to Adam's wife after the act of disobedience of the couple. That act was eating of the fruit of the **TREE OF KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL** after God instructed them not to eat of that fruit. This is often referred to as the **FALL OF MAN.**

The name **EVE** implies both her being the mother of all living and she being the mother of the promised seed who should give life to the human race now subjected to death through their disobedience.

While the bible traces the fall of the race to the sin of Adam, the part which EVE played in this tragedy is vividly portrayed in Genesis, chapter 3.



Deceived by Satan, EVE ate of the fruit. Enamored by his wife, Adam chose to leave God for the one God had given him.

Illustration by Eric Blanchett copyright ©2006 BrainLink Advertising Service, Inc. Russellsburnitt@earthlink.net

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
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WOODFORK CHAPEL AME
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NAZARENE

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

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1005 Belmont Ave., 931-685-6999

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WHOSOEVER WILL PENTECOSTAL
219 E. Cedar St., 931-684-4364

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

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

MIRACLE TABERNACLE
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1331 Horse Mountain Rd., 931-685-0337

MULLIN CHAPEL
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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

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1624 Hwy. 41A N., 931-684-0691

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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
1832 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
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MONTEVERGINE CATHOLIC
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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

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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
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423-618-9920

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

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

EVANGELICAL

EAST PARK EVANGELICAL
103 E. Pkwy., 256-278-8565

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

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1001 S. Cannon Blvd., 931-684-4767

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Email: Mullins208@yahoo.com

LEE ADCOCK CONSTRUCTION
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931-684-1771 ◆ FAX 931-684-4044

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Fax: 931-685-0047
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Joel Landers

Is God Dead: A mind and a body

Last week, we posed a series of questions designed to make us think about a unique capacity common among human beings but nonexistent in the rest of the animal kingdom. That excellent characteristic is termed the duality of man. The 18th-century philosopher Gottfried Leibniz said, "If we liken the human brain to a factory, we could see any number of movable parts, but we could never see the thinking itself." Unsurprisingly, the Darwinists have no answer as to where self-consciousness comes from. Although all people, believers and non-believers alike, agree that there is an immaterial mind, the problem for the Darwinist seems to be that there is no logical, scientific way to explain where self-consciousness comes from or how it could have evolved from inert atoms in the animal brain. Yet self-consciousness very much exists all the same.

If the First Cause, Designer and Creator of all creation, was purposeful in his design and creation, and if humans were created with both a body and a soul (or mind), what can be the purpose of that? If the soul is the footing and foundation for the continuity of personhood, why do humans alone possess these characteristics? From a Darwinian perspective, there is no benefit to survivability obtained by humans having both a body and a soul. The concept of human mind/body dualism is quite interesting, considering all the other animals have survived exceptionally well without the attribute of true self-consciousness, or we might say, without a soul. Some animals, such as the apex predators and the higher primates, have no doubt excelled in their particular environments. Orthodox Christian doctrine holds that human beings, on the other hand, have a material body created from the "dust of the ground" and an immaterial "spirit breathed into them" by the direct agency of God, who is Spirit (Gen 1:7). So, there is a certain level of inferred complexity here in mind/body dualism. Thinking back a few weeks ago on Michael Behe's work concerning Irreducible Complexity, we can say that human composition, being of both a material body and an immaterial soul, is an irreducibly complex design.

From this idea of mind/body dualism, we can add a few more brush strokes to our Christian Worldview Portrait. As we have moved along in our back-porch conversation with the Bible skeptic Michael, we have been attempting to paint him a picture in order to display some of the "things that can be clearly seen" in nature that suggest the existence of a Creator (Rom 1:19ff). These are some of the crucial things (aside from the Bible) in which the Christian worldview is grounded. We have looked at the cosmos and determined it appears to have been created with intentionality. The same holds for the design and incredible fine-tuning of Earth itself. Now, here, we observe that humans are constituted of both a body and a soul, which also speaks to the intentionality of the First Cause. Remember, a worldview must answer three big questions: "How did I get here?" "What does it mean to be human?" and "What will happen to me when I die." Mind-body dualism is what it means to be uniquely human. The human beings that God freely chose to create consist of two substances: one material and one immaterial; one body being uniquely human, and one spirit being similar in substance to God, who is Spirit. It is only because of this design that man stands at the apex of the animal kingdom. He stands at the apex by exclusive virtue of his capacity to know that he is a knower; he knows what it is like to know what it is like to be himself. Anthony O'Hear is helpful here, writing, "The presence of thought, reflection, and self-consciousness belief is what makes human activity different from the conscious but unreflective behavior of non-linguistic animals." Undoubtedly, the human species has been gifted with many unique attributes, of which body/soul dualism is both primary and foundational. Humans are truly blessed and have been gifted with this phenomenal and unique composition, a composition that the Darwinists cannot explain—a composition that is so radically different and so radically distant from the next lower species.

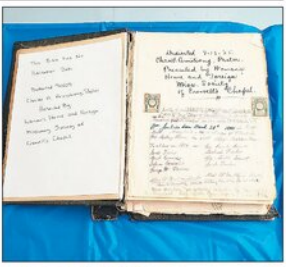
One additional reason we know human beings are blessed with mind/body dualism is that there are things that undeniably move our souls, things taken in as stimuli through the senses that stir deep emotions within us. Of these stimuli, it is beauty that reigns supreme—not only natural beauty but man-made beauty from the arts, music, literature, sculpture, painting, and a host of other mediums. Join us next week as we investigate beauty as soul food in order to reaffirm mind/body dualism as uniquely human and purposeful. All of this and more with an ever-steady eye toward the ever-present question: Is God Dead?

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

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







WORSHIP AT CROWELL'S CHAPEL LUTHERAN
IT'S BEEN GOING ON FOR 200 YEARS

Photos by Daphne Paschal Motes

Those attending the 200th anniversary service last Sunday at Crowell's Chapel Church in the Halls Mill community said it was a day of great worship and memories. Memorabilia were placed in the basement for all to enjoy. See more People Around Town photos from the Crowell's Chapel special day, which included a great dinner on the grounds, on page 12.



Liberty School Principal Daniella Beckman added to Tennessee Rural Principals Network

Tennessee Department of Education (TDOE), in partnership with Belmont University, has named 71 school leaders to participate in the 2025-26 cohort of the Tennessee Rural Principals Network (TRPN). Among the honorees is Liberty School Principal Daniella Beckman, who will represent Bedford County Schools in this statewide initiative.

The TRPN provides participants with opportunities to:

- Explore the unique challenges and opportunities in rural school leadership;
- Learn strategies to ensure high-quality instruction;
- Strengthen recruitment, retention and support of rural educators;
- Build meaningful relationships among other rural district leaders;
- Access effective resources tailored to the rural context.

"We are extremely proud of Dr. Beckman's selection to the Tennessee Rural Principals Network," said Superintendent of Bedford County Schools Dr. Tammy Garrett. "Her dedication to students and staff at Liberty School exemplifies the strong leadership we value in our district, and we are confident that her participation will bring valuable insights and strategies back to benefit our entire school community."



BCS Communications Photo

Liberty School Principal Daniella Beckman has been selected to represent Bedford County Schools in the 2025-26 Tennessee Rural Principals Network.

The 2025-26 TRPN cohort continues TDOE's commitment to supporting rural educators and strengthening leadership capacity across Tennessee's school systems.



Middle Tennessee State University dean fired over Kirk comments

By Kim Jarrett
The Center Square

An assistant dean at Middle Tennessee State University was fired after posting "inappropriate and callous comments," about the murder of Charlie Kirk, the school's president said in a Facebook post.

The employee was not identified in the post but U.S. Sen. Marsha Blackburn, R-Tenn., on social media identified her as Laura Sosh-Lightsy.

The post by Sosh-Lightsy said, "Looks like ol' Charlie spoke his fate into existence," she wrote. "Hate begets hate. ZERO sympathy," according to Blackburn's post.

The senator shared a post from Matthew Hurtt, director of professional services at the Leadership Institute, that showed Sosh-Lightsy was an employee of the university for more than 21 years. She was named assistant dean for student care and conduct a year and three months ago.

"The comments by this employee, who worked in a position of trust directly with students, were inconsistent with our values and have undermined the university's credibility and reputation with our students, faculty, staff and the community at large," said university President Sidney A. McPhee in the Facebook post. "This employee has been fired effective immediately. We extend our deepest sympathies to the Kirk family."

Blackburn called for Sosh Lightsy's firing in her post.

"This person should be ashamed of her post. She should be removed from her position at @MTSU," Blackburn said.



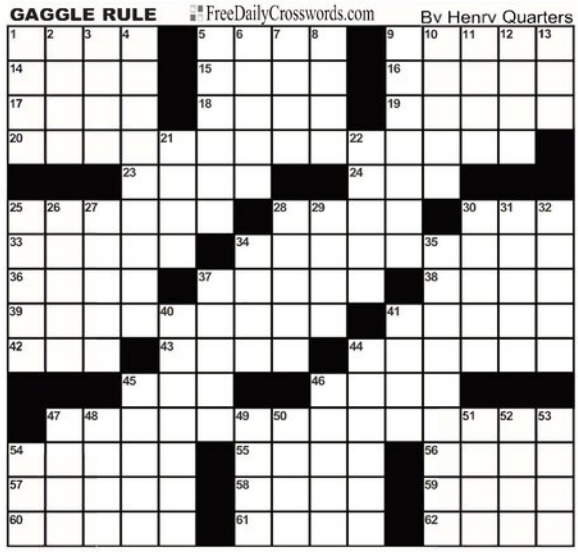
CHURCH ACTIVITIES

This Sunday at First United Methodist Church in Shelbyville, Pastor Abe Zimmerman will preach, "The Ties that Bind: Part 2" from 2 Corinthians 12:12-27. "As we establish our fall rhythms, we are reminded of the ways that the people of God are uniquely connected to each other. Come ready to reflect, reconnect, and rediscover the beauty of being part of a people shaped by love, trust, and shared purpose," said Pastor Zimmerman.

Sunday School for all ages begins at 9 a.m., followed by the worship service at 10 a.m. Nursery and Children's Church are available during worship. For those unable to attend in person, FUMC-S offers a livestream on Facebook and YouTube and a broadcast on WLIJ 98.7 FM and AM 1580.

Crossword

GAGGLE RULE FreeDailyCrosswords.com By Henry Quarters



CLUES ACROSS

1) Throw underhanded
5) Competent
9) Knocks on the noggin
14) Homecoming guest (Abbr.)
15) Cart without sides
16) Dress with a flared bottom
17) Impressive car, informally
18) One-liner, e.g.
19) Aden is its largest city
20) Ruins the plans of
23) "Ben-Hur" is one
24) Anne's doubles
25) Taken dishonestly
28) Watkins__, New York
30) "___ So Fine" (Chiffons classic)
33) Lost intentionally
34) Unit of fright
36) Rocks to refine
37) Shampoo finish
38) Dubai dignitary
39) Zeros, on scoreboards
41) Washington, but not Lincoln
42) Hoped-for reply
43) Book after Joel
44) Strip off, as blubber
45) Certain undergarment
46) Penn or Lennon
47) Famous aircraft
54) Impose quiet
55) Many a 38-Across
56) LaundererA's appliance
57) Type of bean or horse
58) Auto engineer Benz
59) Entebbe event
60) Gut-wrenching feeling
61) " ... or!"
62) Some annexes

CLUES DOWN

1) After-bath powder
2) Mixed dish
3) Japanese wrestling match
4) Kind of tobacco
5) Attach
6) A cowboy may break one
7) Huron or Ontario
8) Potato flaws
9) New Jersey city
10) Blue Bonnet, et al.
11) "___ Island" (2008 film)
12) Femur-tibia connection
13) Yen fraction
21) Emulate a geyser
22) This puzzle's theme
25) Cheap cigar (var.)
26) Painful pang
27) Twistable cookies
28) Instruments struck with mallets
29) Red-ink amount
30) Homo sapiens
31) Gives off, as an odor
32) Shopper's indulgence
34) Acronym for bad P.C. data
35) Detested person
37) Amend, as an atlas section
40) Hearing range
41) Smelt residue
44) Like some attempts or excuses
45) Gets the better of
46) Evidence of wounds
47) Far from obese
48) Like some juries
49) It might turn over a new leaf
50) Major Russian river
51) Kind of thermometer
52) Gardener's purchase
53) Finishes up
54) Where to get a massage

Kid Scoop .com

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

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

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SEPTEMBER IS DISASTER PREPAREDNESS MONTH

Disaster Strikes!

What happens if there's a disaster and you lose your home? What if you can't find food or safe water? That's a scary thought. Yet, every year, children around the world face disasters like floods, hurricanes, earthquakes, and conflict.

That's where ShelterBox comes in!

ShelterBox Sends Lifesaving Aid



When disaster strikes, not everyone needs the same thing.

After an earthquake, families might need strong tents and tool kits to rebuild.

In flooding, families may get water filters and blankets.

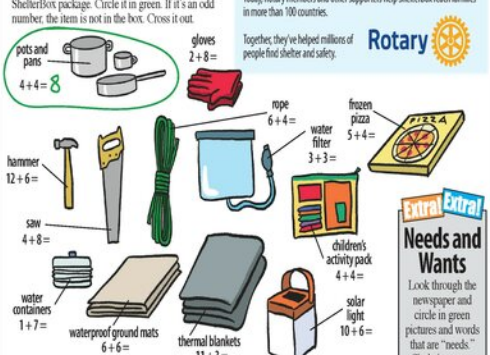
In conflict zones, aid could include solar lights and cooking sets.

Every package is different, but all are designed to help families survive and recover when they've lost everything.



What's in a ShelterBox Aid Package?

Do the math problem under each item. If the answer is an even number, that item may be included in a ShelterBox package. Circle it in green. If it's an odd number, the item is not in the box. Cross it out.



ShelterBox aid is tailored to local needs. Sometimes the package is a sturdy tent—a safe space to call home. Other times, it's a set of tarps, ropes, and tools to help families repair damaged homes. To find out more, visit **shelterboxusa.org**

Standards Link: Math: Calculate sums and differences to 100.

ShelterBox: A Rotary Idea!

Did you know ShelterBox started in the year 2000 by a Rotary Club in the UK? Today, Rotary members and other supporters help ShelterBox reach families in more than 100 countries.

Together, they've helped millions of people find shelter and safety.

Rotary

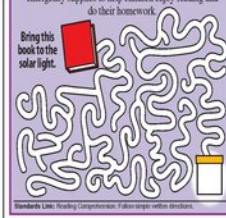
Extra, Extra! Needs and Wants

Look through the newspaper and circle in green pictures and words that are "needs." Circle in orange things that are "wants."

Standards Link: Vocabulary & Concept Development: student understand homonyms.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Children who lose their homes can't read at night without light. ShelterBox includes solar-powered lights in the emergency supplies to help children enjoy reading and do their homework.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Double Double Word Search

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

AID
BOXES
CHILDREN
DISASTER
FIND
FOOD
HELP
LOSS
NEEDS
PANS
ROTARY
TENT
WATER
YEAR

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

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

From the Kid Scoop Lesson Library

Advertise ShelterBox

Study the advertisements in the newspaper. Select one that you like. Recreate it as an advertisement to support the nonprofit ShelterBox USA.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

Write On!

Report a Solution

Write about a problem that you or someone else solved. Tell what the problem was and how it was solved.

Kid Scoop Together

Be Prepared!

ShelterBox USA President Kerri Murray encourages families to pack up their own emergency supplies so they can be prepared if a disaster hits.

Emergency Supplies

Oops! An earthquake shook the vowels out of this list! Replace the vowels, then share this list with your family. Use this list to make your own ShelterBox for your family.

W**a**ter and f__d for four d_ys

M_dicines

F_rst aid k_t

Fl_shl_ghts and _xtra b_tteries

Bl_nkets or sl__ping b_gs

Soap and h_nd w**i**pes

C_ll ph_ne with b_ckup b_tt_ries

B__ks, t_ys and g_mes

T_nt, if you have one

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

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

WHEREAS, default having been made in the payment of the debt(s) and obligation(s) thereby secured by the said Deed of Trust and the current holder of said Deed of Trust; Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, (the "Holder"), appointed the undersigned, Vylla Solutions – Tennessee, LLC, as Substitute Trustee, with all the rights, powers and privileges of the original Trustee named in said Deed of Trust; and

NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable as provided in said Deed of Trust by the Holder, and that as agent for the undersigned, Vylla Solutions – Tennessee, LLC, Substitute Trustee, by virtue of the power and authority vested in it, will on 9/26/2025, at or about 11:00 AM at the usual and customary location at the Front steps of the Bedford County Courthouse, located in Shelbyville, Tennessee, proceed to sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash, the following described property situated in Bedford County, Tennessee, to wit:

Land situated in Bedford County, Tennessee:

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

Tax Parcel ID: 11-43-43-9.04-000
Address/Description: 349 ROY MOORE ROAD, UNIONVILLE, TN 37180
Current Owner(s): Leigh Ann Williams
Other Interested Party(ies): Aqua Finance, Inc.; Discover Bank; LVNV Funding LLC; and 3D Financial

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Vylla Solutions - Tennessee, LLC, Substitute Trustee
P.O. Box 3309
Anaheim, California 92803
Phone: (888) 313-1969
TS#: 25-35835
Publication Dates: 8/7/2025, 9/4/2025, 9/11/2025 9/18/2025
Online Posting Website and Date of Posting: www.foreclosure-postings.com
Posting begin date: 8/7/2025 Posting end date: 9/18/2025

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 5, 2021, executed by JOSHUA E STEWART conveying certain real property therein described to MEGAN K. TROTT, as Trustee, as same appears of record in the Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee recorded May 5, 2021, in Deed Book TD1005, Page 783; and

WHEREAS, the beneficial interest of said Deed of Trust was last transferred and assigned to PennyMac Loan Services, LLC 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 October 14, 2025 at or about 11:00 AM 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:

BEING ALL OF LOT NO. 2 OF FLOYDS SUNSET BOULEVARD SUBDIVISION NO. 1, AS SHOWN ON PLAT OF RECORD IN PLAT CABINET D, ENVELOPE 78, REGISTER'S OFFICE OF BEDFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE, TO WHICH PLAT REFERENCE IS HEREBY MADE FOR A MORE COMPLETE AND ACCURATE DESCRIPTION.

Parcel ID: 071E-B-013.00
PROPERTY ADDRESS: The street address of the property is believed to be 200 SUNSET BLVD, WARTRACE, TN 37183. 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 E STEWART
OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES:
CROWN ASSET MANAGEMENT LLC

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 (9183tc)



A SPECIAL SUNDAY FOR HEROES

Photos by Marilyn Ewing

The annual Hero Day at Edgemont Baptist Church was held on Sunday, September 14th. City and County officials, law enforcement and EMS were honored.

Bedford County property transfers

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

File date: September 9

Location: 103 Horseshoe Dr; Seller, Victor Alfonso Benitez, Marilu Ramos Vasquez; Buyer, Victor Alfonso Benitez; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 108 Lexington Cove Blvd; Seller, Eileen Matilda Edwards; Buyer, Tyler Seth Luna, Bethany Marie Luna; Price, $324,000 (Deed).

Location: John Brinkley Rd; Seller, MSQD Holdings LLC; Buyer, James E Kemerling, Susan Kemerling; Price, $350,000 (Deed).

Location: 501 Hillcrest Drive; Seller, Bonnie Derryberry; Buyer, Bonnie Derryberry, Austin L Derryberry; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 112 Nestledown Crossing; Seller, Daniel P Zoeller, Tamra L Zoeller; Buyer, Tamara Dunner; Price, $885,000 (Deed).

Seller, Shawn Travis Graves; Buyer, Brandy Nicole Burt; Price, $0 (QD).

File date: September 10

Location: 967 Horse Mountain Road; Seller, Black Diamond Construction LLC; Buyer, Martin Keith Stewart; Price, $257,900 (Deed).

Location: 191 & 195 Holly Court; Seller, Randy Morgan, Leah Morgan; Buyer, Randy Morgan, Leah Morgan; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 270 Joe Hart Rd; Seller, Sharon A Peoples; Buyer, Sharon A Peoples, Janet Marie Johnson; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Glendale Rd; Seller, Rick Poston, Rita Poston; Buyer, Caleb Poston; Price, $130,000 (Deed).

Location: 205 Hillview Ave; Seller, SDH Nashville LLC; Buyer, Stephen Johnson, Christi Ann Johnson; Price, $337,970 (Deed).

File date: September 11

Location: 104 Erica Place; Seller, Teresa L Taylor; Buyer, Jessie Wireman, Anthony Reaux; Price, $290,000 (Deed).

Location: 619 Kingree Rd; Seller, Gary Boyce Construction LLC; Buyer, Moises Palmera, Rebekah Palmera; Price, $295,000 (Deed).

Location: 234 Clanton Lane; Seller, William D King, Patricia G King; Buyer, Brandon N Cantrell, Bailey Cantrell; Price, $160,000 (Deed).

Location: 105 Michael Lane; Seller, Kyle David Parker; Buyer, Lindsay Parker; Price, $0 (QD).

File date: September 12

Location: Midland Rd; Seller, William T Lamb Jr; Buyer, Miguel A Juarez Maturano, Lucia Castor Lara; Price, $280,000 (Deed).

Location: Magnolia Lane; Seller, Robert Ferrell, Britany Ferrell; Buyer, Michael Burke, Courtney Burke; Price, $215,900 (Deed).

Location: 314 Bethlehem Church Rd; Seller, Linda Joy Deal, James A Deal Estate, James Allen Deal; Buyer, James Adam Deal, Courtney Elizabeth Deal; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 302 Gant Rd; Seller, Linda Joy Deal, James Allen Deal Estate, James A Deal; Buyer, Linda Joy Deal, Cole W Deal; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 327 Gregory Mill Rd; Seller, William H Douglas; Buyer, William H Douglas; Price, $0 (QD).

Seller, J & M Development LLC; Buyer, Paul Lowe Neese II, Mary Lauren Neese, Neese Family Trust; Price, $160,000 (Deed).

Seller, Brian Kilgore; Buyer, Kathryn Gilliam Cole; Price, $440,000 (Deed).

File date: September 15

Location: Spring St; Seller, DCC Strategic Realty Partners LLC; Buyer, Jacob Curl; Price, $70,813.08 (Deed).

Location: 312 Winners Circle; Seller, SDH Nashville LLC; Buyer, Brittany Wilson; Price, $344,990 (Deed).

Classifieds

YARD SALES

YARD SALE
1190 Horse Mt. Rd.
Sept 18-19-20
Thursday 7-4
Friday 7-4
Saturday 7-12
Lots of good stuff

Yard Sale
525 Sun Circle
Thursday-Sept 18 and
Friday-Sept 19,
8AM-4PM
Kitchen items, jewelry, furniture, toys, boys clothing, ladies clothing, linens, shoes, Christmas decor, etc.

WANTED

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

Events scheduled to better prepare students for their futures

This semester, Bedford County Schools is excited to host two impactful events designed to prepare students for their futures, and the community is encouraged to participate.

October 9 – Middle School Career Fair

Seventh and eighth graders from across the district will explore a wide variety of career paths, including advanced manufacturing, agriculture, supply chain, and more. By showcasing industries and opportunities, Bedford County School System aims to spark curiosity and inspire our students as they begin thinking about their futures.

November 19 – Game of Life Financial Simulation

Eleventh graders will take part in a hands-on budgeting challenge. Students are assigned a "job" with a salary, family responsibilities, and expenses, then create a realistic budget. This interactive experience helps them understand the importance of financial literacy. Newell Brands is sponsor of this event.

Local businesses and community organizations are urged to get involved in one or both of these events. Such participation makes a lasting difference in the lives of our students as they prepare to meet real-world challenges with confidence.

If you would like to join us, please reach out to Sam Blevins at blevinss@bedford k12tn.net.

UT-Martin reaches second highest enrollment

MARTIN, Tenn. – The University of Tennessee at Martin tied its second-highest fall enrollment total in history as 8,101 students are enrolled for the fall semester at its main campus and six regional centers in Jackson, Parsons, Ripley, Selmer, Somerville and Springfield in middle Tennessee. The university's highest fall enrollment reached 8,469 students in fall 2010. Enrollment numbers are official on the 14th day of classes and are confirmed by the university's Office of Institutional Research.

Fall 2024 enrollment reached 7,507 students, which then was the highest enrollment at the university since 2012. The fall-to-fall enrollment increase is 7.9%. Undergraduate student enrollment stands at 7,393 for fall 2025 for an 8.4% increase compared to fall 2024. UT Martin total enrollment numbers include students who are auditing courses.

"We appreciate each student and family who has placed their confidence and trust in choosing to attend UT Martin," Chancellor Yancy Freeman said. "We believe 'every student, every day' best describes our commitment to offering the best higher-education experience possible."

Fall 2016 enrollment reached 6,705 students, which came at the end of a seven-year enrollment decline. Since then, UT Martin's total enrollment is up 21%.

The 2025 first-year class, the highest at UTM in 15 years, totaled 1,329 students for an 8.9% increase over fall 2024. The top-five majors for first-year, full-time students are nursing, veterinary science and technology, health and human performance, management, and agricultural business.

"The first-year class has increased 40% in nine years," said Dr. Destin Tucker, assistant vice chancellor for enrollment management. "This is a significant accomplishment that includes coming through the COVID years, the opening of the Latimer-Smith Engineering and Science Building, and creation of a new strategic-enrollment plan."

UT Martin dual enrollment students total 2,111 for fall 2025. Dual enrollment courses allow high school juniors and seniors to take college courses and earn both high school and college credit.

Returning undergraduate student enrollment is 3,412 for a 5.9% increase compared to fall 2024.

Student retention is the second-highest retention rate in the last 10 years and reached 75.2%. Total retention for full-time undergraduate students is 85.2% and is the highest overall undergraduate retention number since 2018.

Learn more about the university at www.utm.edu.

Obituaries

Lonnie Daniel Graham



Lonnie Daniel Graham, age 88, of Bell Buckle, Tennessee, passed peacefully from this life on Friday, September 12, 2025, at The Waters of Shelbyville, with loved ones by his side.

A native of Bedford County, Lonnie was born on December 18, 1936, to the late J.V. "Popeye" Graham and Rubye Florence Riddle Graham. He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Elnora Maye Graham; son, Derry Gayle "Crunchy" Graham; and daughter-in-law, Sherry Denise "Punkin" Graham.

Lonnie attended Shelbyville Central High School and dedicated many years of service as a machinist with Schmide and American Can, retiring in 1999. On February 14, 1957, he married Allie Joan Gayle. Together they shared over 68 years of unwavering love, raising a family and building a life rooted in faith and devotion.

In his free time, Lonnie enjoyed working on the family farm and spending time with his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. He was a longtime member of Edgemont Baptist Church, where he found fellowship and strength in his faith.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Allie Joan Gayle Graham; children, Dana Tiffany Graham and Chad Donovan Graham, both of Shelbyville; grandchildren, Desiraee Nicole (Jason) Biggs, Derica Autumn (Karl) Pyrdom, Nikita Lea (Shawn) Hampton, Brittany Danielle (Kye) Finch, and Daryl Lunden Graham; and five great-grandchildren. He is also survived by his brothers, Carman Dwight Graham of Manchester, Jay Harlin Graham of Shelbyville, and Maurice Virgil Graham of Richmond, Virginia.

A Celebration of Life will be held 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 20, 2025, at Edgemont Baptist Church, with Maurice V. Graham, Aaron Graham, and Pastor Jimmy West officiating. Visitation with the family will be held prior to the service beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the church.

In lieu of flowers, please consider giving memorial donations to the Child/Community Development Center of Bedford County, 111 Eaglette Way, Shelbyville, TN 37160.

Doak-Howell Funeral Home is serving the family.

www.doakhowellfuneralhome.com

Mary Ann King



Mary Ann King, age 72, passed from this life on Wednesday, September 10, 2025 at her residence.

Mary Ann was born August 26, 1953, in Manchester, TN, to the late F.M. Hill and Maggie Brinkley Hill. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by sisters: Frances Pack, Leona Hines, and Shirley Redfern; brothers: Daryl Hill and Austin Hill. She is survived by her devoted husband of 54 years; Ronnie "Kingfish" King; her loving daughter, Leann (Jeff) Wooten of Shelbyville, along with her beloved grandchildren: Lauren Wooten and Tanner Wooten both of Shelbyville.

Mary Ann was a loving mother, grandmother, and wife whose family meant everything to her. She and Ronnie took care of one another through life's up and downs, where one lacked the other compensated for. Their devotion to each other was an example of true partnership and lasting love.

She was a hard worker, strong-willed, and tough as nails. She was also tender hearted. She never forgot a birthday, and always made sure her family felt celebrated. She was truly a character, you never knew what she was going to say, but you could always count on it being honest. Her sense of humor, straightforward nature, and genuine heart will be remembered with love.

She also dearly loved her nieces and nephews and played a special role in caring for them while they were little. They will always fondly remember her as "Auntie."

Her memory will live on in the hearts of her family and all who knew her.

A Celebration of Life service will be held 6:00 p.m. Friday, September 19, 2025, in the chapel of Doak-Howell Funeral Home. Visitation with the family will be held prior to services, at 5 p.m.

Memorial donations can be made to the Parkinson's Foundation, Attn: Donor Services, 200 SE 1st Street., Suite 800, Miami, FL 33131 or to Breakthrough T1D (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation) online at www2.breakthrought1d.org or by mail Breakthrough T1D, P.O. Box 5021, Hagerstown, MD 21741-5021.

Doak-Howell Funeral Home is serving the family.

www.doakhowellfuneralhome.com

Alzheimer's Tennessee HELPLINE 1(800) ALZ-GATE 259-4283

We will not measure success by today's harvest. We will measure success by the seeds planted.

By Dawn Hankins
dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net

No doubt we lost a hero in Charlie Kirk last week. RIP. You planted many seeds of hope while here. That will always be remembered.

Another loss this week-one I greatly admire from the Hollywood scene- (there are few left to admire these days, truly.) was Robert Redford. He too often cautioned people about "the dark side" which for him, was of course Hollywood success.

No doubt, Robert Redford was the greatest. As a kid, I grew up with Butch and Sundance and of course, "All the President's Men." There were many more greats to come over his long career.

The handsome Redford, according to the Reader's Digest, once said, ""Sound and accurate journalism defends our democracy. It's one of the most effective weapons we have to restrain the power-hungry."

And this– "I always said that All the President's Men was a violent movie. No shots were fired, but words were used as weapons."

I agree. And in those days, as far as journalism, "the pen was mightier than the sword." In that it is meant that the pen, as demonstrated in "All the President's Men," the pen (computers were slow coming around) can make or destroy lives. In the terms of a sword, it's often hit or miss.

As for me, the word amazing doesn't even begin to describe Robert Redford. A true Hollywood legend, Redford—who died on Sept. 16 at age 89—was consistent in his 60 years in the business.

But "leading man with the tousled blonde hair and a boyish grin" was just one of Redford's played upon, natural roles. Who didn't love "The Natural?" I think in many ways, Redford slid out of his handsome comfort role and showed us his more vulnerable side.

Reader's Digest also declared Redford as a first-class filmmaker, winning Best Director Oscar in 1981 for the staggering Ordinary People.

An activist, humanitarian and philanthropist, Redford or Gryphon, as we all remember so well, was in real life committed to the environment, Native American communities and conservation.

In 1981, Redford created the Sundance Institute and Sundance Film Festival to support upcoming filmmakers. The annual festival, held in Park City, Utah, is one of his most enduring legacies, and it's still going strong today.

Try to remember Redford for this character more than the movie. Likely one of the deepest things he ever said was, "Be careful of success, it has a dark side."

Carl Douglas Pedigo



Carl Douglas Pedigo, age 64, of Shelbyville, passed away Sunday morning, September 14, 2025, at Vanderbilt Bedford Hospital in Shelbyville.

He was born July 6, 1961 to his parents, Roy Lee and Melba Wall Pedigo. Carl was preceded in death by his grandparents, Martin and Mary Pedigo, Green and Maud Wall and a brother-in-law, Billy Eudean Pack. He was a tool & die worker and was affiliated with the Smithville Church of God. Carl loved the Lord, his family, fishing, being on the lake and coming home to the Pedigo farm.

He leaves to cherish his memory, his wife and love of his life, Becky Hale Pedigo; step-son, Byron Wilson; parents, Roy and Melba Pedigo; brother, Scott Pedigo; sisters, Debra (Miles) Malone, Tamie Pack and Suzanne Pedigo; nephews, Christopher Pack, Derek (Cora) Pack, Granger (Kristen) Malone, Jacob Pedigo, and Brock (Neely) Pedigo; niece, Leslie (Josh) Tramel; great-nieces and nephews, Austin Pack, Lee Tramel, Vivian Pack, Everett Pack, Teagan Pedigo, Luke Tramel, Douglas Pack and Henry Pedigo; special friends, Jeff and Tamera Smith.

The family has honored Carl's request to be cremated, and a Memorial Service will be held 4 PM Sunday, September 21, 2025, at DeKalb Funeral Chapel with Bro. Michael Hale officiating. Visitation with the family will be on Sunday, September 21, 2025, 2 PM until the time of the Memorial Service at 4 PM.

DeKalb Funeral Chapel is honored to care for the Pedigo family.

Recipe of the Week: Loaded Philly Cheesesteak Baked Potato

(Family Features) Make a smooth shift into the fall busy season with this Loaded Philly Cheesesteak Baked Potato. It takes a traditional side dish and delivers an easy meal full of flavor and nutrients from California dairy foods.

When life is busy, add this dish both kids and adults will love to your weekly meal-planning list. The real California sour cream, milk, butter and cheese offer real flavor, real protein, real simplicity and real convenience, plus they are made with sustainably sourced milk from dairy farm families. Look for the Real California Milk seal on your favorite dairy foods at the grocery store.



Loaded Philly Cheesesteak Baked Potato

Recipe courtesy of Real California Milk
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 1 hour, 11 minutes
Servings: 4

- 4 large russet potatoes, washed
- 1 cup Real California sour cream
- 1-2 tablespoons Real California whole milk
- 1/4 cup Real California unsalted butter, divided
- 1 small green bell pepper, thinly sliced
- 1/2 small yellow onion, thinly sliced
- kosher salt, to taste
- freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- 1-pound fresh shaved sirloin steak
- 2 cups shredded Real California provolone cheese

1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Line baking sheet with aluminum foil.
2. Prick potatoes with fork. Bake until potatoes are tender and fork inserted easily comes out, 45 minutes to 1 hour. Split tops of potatoes open with knife and fluff potato flesh with fork. Set aside.
3. In small bowl, combine sour cream and milk, adding more milk as needed, until sour cream is pourable. Set aside.
4. In large skillet or on griddle over medium-high heat, heat 1 tablespoon butter. Add peppers and onions; cook until tender, 3-4 minutes. Season with salt and pepper, to taste. Transfer to plate and set aside.
5. Clean skillet. Melt remaining butter. Add steak and cook until fully cooked and lightly browned, 3-4 minutes. Season with salt and pepper, to taste. Return vegetables to skillet and toss to combine.
6. Evenly top each potato with 1 tablespoon butter, steak mixture and cheese. Transfer to oven and bake until cheese is melted, 2-3 minutes. Drizzle with sour cream and serve

Find more recipes at realcaliforniamilk.com/recipes.

Death Notices

Larry Boyd Baxter

Larry Boyd Baxter, age 76, of the Clay Hill community in Marshall County, passed away on Thursday, Sept. 11, 2025, in Lewisburg. He was born in Lewisburg to the late Jesse Boyd Baxter and Ruth Elizabeth Ramsey Baxter.

Larrry was a veteran and retired as a captain with Lewisburg Fire Department. Memorial donations may be made to the TN Fallen Firefighters Memorial Fund, 2161 Unionville-Deason Rd., Bell Buckle.

Mr. Baxter is survived by his wife of 50 years, Brenda Hayes Baxter of the Clay Hill community; children, Jamie (Katherine) Baxter of Chapel Hill, Sabrina (Steven) Thomas of Murfreesboro, Joseph (Janet) Baxter of Clay Hill.

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

Dr. Russell Wade Oliver

Dr. Russell Wade Oliver, age 64, of Shelbyville, passed away Tuesday, Sept. 9, 2025. He has served the middle Tennessee area for 27 years, operating Oliver Foot Clinic, along with his wife.

Dr. Oliver was born June 17, 1961, in Jackson to Terry and Janette Oliver. In addition to his parents, he is survived by his wife of 44 years, Martha Alicia Solis Oliver; three daughters, Jessie Stone, Dallas Janelle, and Sally Willoughby; and brother, Michael Oliver.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Arthur Lynn Thielke

Arthur Lynn Thielke, age 62, of Antioch, passed away Wednesday, September 10, 2025.

Arthur was born on February 14, 1963, in Germany, to the late Arnold and Anneliese Frieda Thielke. He is survived by his husband of 32 years, Ron Harrell, of Antioch.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel and Gowen-Smith Chapel are assisting the family with the arrangements.

Bobbie Jean Warden

Bobbie Jean Warden, age 93, of Shelbyville, passed away Monday, September 15, 2025.

Mrs. Warden was born February 26, 1932, in Shelbyville, to the late King Hodge and Elizabeth Justice Hodge. In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her husband, James Thomas "Pappy" Warden in 1999; a son-in-law, Larry Nathaniel Horsley; a daughter, Connie Lee Sensinger.

She is survived by her son, Frankie (Sandy) Warden, of Shelbyville; a daughter, Roxanne Horsley.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Classical musician presents program at local jail

Eric Genuis makes time for Concerts for Hope

On Friday, Sept. 12, classical musician, composer and motivational speaker Eric Genuis brought his ensemble to Bedford County Correctional Facility, as part of his charity, Concerts for Hope.

Genuis (on the keyboards), along with a violinist, a cellist and a vocalist, performed three separate concerts Friday for separate groups of inmates. In between songs, all of which were Genuis' personal compositions, Genuis delivered motivational messages.

Lt. Chris Cook, who arranged the appearance and who supervises the Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT) program at the jail, reports that all three groups were receptive and appreciative. Several MRT volunteers, including County Commissioner Sylvia Pinson, attended the last concert of the day.

Eric often says, "My hope is not to entertain. My hope is to provide dignity."

Eric's music and no doubt his caring soul have carried him all over the world. From Hollywood to Slovakia, from Dallas to Toronto, he has wowed and inspired audiences large and small with his lively performances and moving compositions.

Eric's live shows always consist of stories, lots of humor, and audience interaction. Audience members can expect to feel a range of emotions when taking in a show.

Eric describes it as "an immersive experience."

Eric has performed in every kind of venue and performs nearly 100 concerts worldwide every year with a group of world class violinists, cellists, and vocalists. His concerts are a musical tour de force and his concerts are a proven thrill to music lovers of both classical and contemporary music.

Originally hailing from Canada, his musical education includes achieving First Class A.R.C.T. Honors in Piano Performance from the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto. He has also studied film scoring at the acclaimed Berklee College of Music in Boston.

In the following years, Eric collaborated with famed British Maestro, Allen Wilson and the Slovak National Symphony to produce four albums of original work.

Classical in form, but with a modern feel, Eric's music has drawn praise from fellow performers and entertainers:

In 2014, Eric made his big screen debut alongside Kevin James in the film Mall Cop 2.

In 2016, Eric has launched two exciting new ventures. The first being a charitable effort, Concerts for Hope. Through CFH, Eric is helping to bring beauty and dignity back to the imprisoned and marginalized.

Currently, Eric resides in Kentucky with his wife and children.



Bedford County Government Photos





Prepare at home, for the unexpected

(Family Features) Severe weather events, including hurricanes, earthquakes, tornadoes, floods and more, pose significant risks to property, productivity and well-being. However, taking actionable steps to protect your home and family this National Preparedness Month can ensure you're ready for weather-related emergencies.

Assess Your Home's Vulnerability

Begin by understanding the specific risks your home may face. Different regions are prone to different types of natural disasters. Inspect your home's structure, including the foundation, roof and other critical components, to identify areas that could be susceptible to damage or need reinforcement to improve resiliency.

Create an Emergency Plan

Start by designating a meeting place outside your home where all family members know to gather in case of an evacuation. Keep detailed records of emergency contact numbers, escape routes and procedures for shutting off utilities like gas, water and electricity. Also keep copies of essential documents and a list of emergency contacts in a safe, accessible location.

Protect Your Property Against Common Disasters

Depending on your location's risks, take steps such as installing storm shutters or impact-resistant windows to safeguard against hurricanes. Anchor heavy furniture to walls to prevent toppling during earthquakes. For flood-prone areas, elevate electrical appliances and install a sump pump to manage water levels. Regular maintenance of your home's exterior, including trimming trees and securing loose items, can also help mitigate damage from high winds.

Stockpile Essential Supplies

Having a well-stocked emergency supply kit can be a lifesaver during a disaster. Basic items to include are water, non-perishable food, a first aid kit, flashlights, batteries and necessary medications. Store these supplies in a designated, easy-to-access area and regularly check expiration dates.

Visit eLivingtoday.com to find more advice to prep your home and family for the unexpected.

TCAT Shelbyville earns USA Today list of top vocational schools

TCAT Shelbyville has been named one of America's Top 250 Vocational Schools for 2025 by USA Today, joining 16 other Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology on the national list.

The ranking, created in partnership with market research firm Statista, evaluated schools nationwide on graduation rates, graduate salaries, return on investment, social mobility and diversity. Tennessee placed fourth among all states for the number of schools selected, following California, Florida and Texas.

Other Tennessee TCATs recognized include Athens, Crump, Dickson, Elizabethton, Harriman, Hartsville, Jacksboro, Jackson, Livingston, McKenzie (now part of TCAT Henry/Carroll), McMinnville, Memphis, Morristown, Nashville, Northwest and Upper Cumberland (formerly TCAT Crossville).

Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology are known for their affordable tuition, diverse program offerings, strong graduation and job placement rates and licensure success. Many students also take part in state initiatives such as Tennessee Promise and Tennessee Reconnect, which provide tuition-free opportunities for eligible high school graduates and adults returning to higher education.

As part of The College System of Tennessee, governed by the Tennessee Board of Regents, TCAT campuses have received more than $1.5 billion in statewide investments in new facilities and advanced training technology.

TBR Chancellor Flora W. Tydings said the recognition affirms the role of TCATs in preparing students for in-demand careers. "The USA Today research confirms what we have known for years: Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology like TCAT Shelbyville are among the best institutions for high-quality career and technical education in the country. They are the most affordable and effective option for students pursuing in-demand careers," she said.

TCAT Shelbyville provides career training programs designed to equip graduates with the skills needed to succeed in growing industries.

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

Office of the Sheriff
Bedford County Tennessee

Activity Report for the month of August, 2025

Total Miles: 83,540
Total Citations: 39
Total Warrants Served: 759
Total Arrests Made: 252
Total Inmates Currently in Holding: Jail: 341
Total Persons Processed Through: Jail: 376
10-27 (Burglary): 1
10-42 (Alarms): 38
10-43 (Investigations, etc): 376
10-44 (Stolen Vehicle): 3
10-45 (Auto Acc. No Injury): 57
10-46 (Auto Acc. W/Injury): 19
10-49 (Drunk Driver): 3
10-56 (Prowler): 3
(Child Abuse): 2
(Assault/Agg. Assault): 17
10-64 (Motorist Assist): 77
10-72 (Fire): 6
10-86 (Domestic): 2
10-14 (Escort - No Arrest): 19
10-15 (Transport In Custody): 57
10-81 (Traffic Stop): 442
911 (Hang-up & Other): 66
Other: 89
Total: 759

GAGGLE RULE By Henry Quarters

1 T	2 O	3 S	4 S	■	5 A	6 B	7 L	8 E	■	9 B	10 O	11 N	12 K	13 S
14 A	L	U	M	■	15 D	R	A	Y	■	16 A	L	I	N	E
17 L	I	M	O	■	18 J	O	K	E	■	19 Y	E	M	E	N
20 C	O	O	K	21 S	O	N	E	S	22 G	O	O	S	E	■
■	■	■	23 E	P	I	C	■	■	24 E	N	S	■	■	■
25 S	26 T	O	L	E	N	■	27 G	L	E	N	■	28 H	E	29 S
30 T	H	R	E	W	■	31 G	O	O	S	E	32 B	U	M	P
33 O	R	E	S	■	34 R	I	N	S	E	■	35 E	M	I	R
36 G	O	O	S	E	37 E	G	G	S	■	38 S	T	A	T	E
39 Y	E	S	■	40 A	M	O	S	■	41 F	L	E	N	S	E
■	■	■	42 B	R	A	■	■	43 S	E	A	N	■	■	■
■	44 T	45 H	E	S	P	46 R	U	C	E	G	O	47 O	48 S	E
49 S	H	U	S	H	■	50 A	R	A	B	■	51 I	R	O	N
52 P	I	N	T	O	■	53 K	A	R	L	■	54 R	A	I	D
55 A	N	G	S	T	■	56 E	L	S	E	■	57 E	L	L	S

Blue Raiders Rally Past Nevada for First Win of 2025

MT ATHLETICS

RENO, Nev. – Middle Tennessee stormed back in the second half and sealed a 14-13 road win over Nevada on Saturday night, giving the Blue Raiders their first victory of the season.

Trailing 13-7 in the fourth quarter, Nicholas Vattiato engineered a 12-play drive capped by his 1-yard touchdown run to tie the game. Jacob Hathaway added the extra point to push MTSU in front with just over four minutes remaining.

Vattiato threw for 247 yards and a touchdown, a 5-yard strike to Nahzae Cox in the first half. Cox finished with five catches for 45 yards, while Myles Butler added a team-high 65 yards receiving. Jekail Middlebrook paced the ground game with 67 yards on 10 carries.

Defensively, MTSU recorded three sacks and limited Nevada to 166 yards through the air. Parker Hughes led the way with seven tackles.

By the Numbers

7: The Blue Raiders scored 14 points in the final seven minutes of the game to clinch the comeback over Nevada.

7: MTSU was 7-of-17 on third down conversions on the night.

1: This marked the first win of the season for the Blue Raiders.

Blue Raider Notes

Middle Tennessee started the same offensive line in back-to-back games for the first time since Sept. 14, 2024, against WKU.

Safety John Howse recorded his second career sack in the second quarter. His first came last season at Ole Miss.

Saturday's win marked the first time since 2014 that MTSU rallied from a deficit of nine or more points with 6:30 or less remaining in regulation. The last occurrence came on Nov. 22, 2014, when the Blue Raiders overcame a 13-point deficit in the final 4:15 to defeat FAU, 35-34.

It also marked the first time since 2016 that a Conference USA team pulled off such a comeback. On Oct. 15, 2016, FIU erased a 13-point deficit with 4:21 left to edge Charlotte, 27-26.

Since moving to the FBS level in 1999, Middle Tennessee has posted a strong record in one-point games, going 9-4 in those contests.

Up Next

The Blue Raiders (1-2) return home next Saturday to host Marshall on Homecoming at Floyd Stadium. Kickoff is set for 6 p.m. CT on ESPN+ and over the air on the Blue Raider Network.



Photo courtesy of MT Athletics.

Champs Clip Eagles For First Win Since 2010

BY NOAH MADDOX
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BELL BUCKLE, Tenn. – The Cascade Champions (3-1) survived a furious second-half rally from the Eagleville Eagles (2-2) at The Stable on Thursday night, holding on to win 24-21 without their head coach, Jared Carkuff, on the sidelines following his late-game ejection at Summertown last week.

After forcing a three-and-out and a punt while down by just three points late in the fourth quarter, the Eagles had the ball at their own 35-yard line with 2:37 on the clock and just one timeout. Surprisingly, Eagleville opened the drive with four consecutive pass attempts, but after an 18-yard catch-and-run to Marshall Fields along with a personal foul against Cascade, Eagleville found themselves at the Cascade 32-yard line with just under two minutes to play. After a pair of incompletions, Andrew Dowell made the biggest play of the night, torpedoing into the backfield unblocked to chop down Jordan in the backfield for the first and only time all night to bring up a 4th-and-12. Fox's pass would fall incomplete on an 11-yard out route on the next play, and Cascade would kneel out the clock in victory formation.

Nate Zimmerman was the bellcow for Cascade, toting the rock 27 times for 97 yards and two touchdowns to go with three receptions for 21 yards. Sam Bradley finished 14/25 through the air for 128 yards and one touchdown while adding 29 yards rushing on five carries. Delontae Clay led the Champs in receiving with four catches for 43 yards and one touchdown.

For Eagleville, Jonathan Jordan was nearly unstoppable on the ground, finishing with 178 yards rushing and two touchdowns on 16 carries. Thomas Soloman, after a slow first half where he had only 10 yards rushing, finished the night with 15 carries for 69 yards and one touchdown. Benton Fox finished just 3/11 through the air for 24 yards and one interception.

The Champs held a 14-0 lead going into the halftime locker room after putting together touchdown drives both to start the game and finish the half. To open, Cascade put together a 12-play, 57-yard TD drive that took up 4:34, culminating in a Nate Zimmerman 3-yard touchdown plunge to take an early 7-0 lead.

Eagleville responded with a long march of its own, but failed to convert a fourth down in the Cascade red zone and turned the ball over on downs. Neither team got much going until Braxtyn Burris came away with a spectacular over-the-shoulder interception halfway through the second quarter. However, both teams would be forced to punt on their ensuing drives before Cascade put together a 60-yard touchdown drive that took exactly 2:00 off the clock and ended with a 14-yard TD pass from Bradley to Clay on a slant over the middle with 41 seconds remaining in the first half.

In the second half, Eagleville would reach the end zone on its first three possessions by establishing the run with Jordan and Soloman. Jordan finished with 94 yards rushing and two touchdowns in the second half alone, and he got his first touchdown of the night from 10 yards out to cap a six-play, 62-yard drive that took 3:13 off the clock. After the extra point was blocked, Cascade was still in front, 14-6.

The Champions responded with a touchdown drive of their own, marching 70 yards in seven plays in 3:07 to grow the lead to 21-6 after Nate Zimmerman punched it in from a yard out.

Jordan responded with his second touchdown on the next possession, scampering to the end zone from 15 yards out. After Soloman ran in the two-point conversion, the Eagles were within seven points, 21-14, with 3:56 to go in the third quarter.

Cascade once again found themselves inside the Eagleville 5-yard line, but this time the Eagles defense bowed up and forced the hosts to settle for a 20-yard field goal with 9:25 to go in the game. Gabe Perez-Rubio converted the easy chip-shot, putting the Champions ahead by two scores, 24-14, after taking more than six minutes off the clock.

Eagleville, who went 9-4 a season ago and made it to the Class A State Quarterfinals, put together yet another response, taking the ball 71 yards in 4:40 to reach the end zone after Soloman crossed the goal-line from five yards out, cutting the hosts' lead to just three points, 24-21, with 4:38 to play.

Cascade needed a couple of first downs to put the game away, but they could only pick up seven yards and were forced to punt the ball back to the visitors with 2:42 to play.

However, for the second time already this season, the Cascade defense stood tall on the final drive of the game, getting the crucial fourth down stop to seal the first win over Eagleville since 2010.



Nate Zimmerman (20) finished with 97 yards rushing and 2 TDs in the win on Thursday against Eagleville. *Photo by David Smith.*

Golden Eagles Hold Off Independence; Improve to 2-0 in Region 6-6A

BY NOAH MADDOX
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FRANKLIN, Tenn. – The Shelbyville Central Golden Eagles (2-2, 2-0) held off a furious fourth quarter rally from the Independence Eagles (1-2, 0-1), 31-28, in Friday night's home opener to pick up their second consecutive victory in Region 6-6A play.

The Golden Eagles debuted their new turf field along with other various renovations at the Eagles' Nest, and the hosts treated the home fans to a dandy of a game. Shelbyville ran for 359 yards as a team, and picked off Independence's star QB, Matthew Horner, with 35 seconds remaining after Reager Edwards tracked down a sailing pass over the middle of the field to seal the win.

"For two years in a row, we graduated great classes of seniors," Golden Eagles' Head Coach Jud Dryden said postgame, "This senior class is smaller and lighter, but they – along with the juniors – have all continued to improve and buy in, and the resilience is amazing. They continue to work and continue to get better...you can't ask for any more than that, and it showed up on the scoreboard."

Star tailback Robert Bailey finished with 195 yards rushing on 25 carries with 1 TD, but he had to exit the game after pulling a hamstring on a 61-yard scamper with about six minutes to go with the result still very much in the balance. Stephen Bobo, who finished 2/6 for 58 yards with 1 TD and 1 INT through the air to go along with eight carries for 92 yards and 1 TD – was also sidelined with a lower leg injury right before halftime and did not return. Even so, freshman Cyonn Rucker stepped in for Bobo and performed admirably, managing the offense and finishing 2/3 for 15 yards and 1 TD to go along with five rushing yards on four carries. Torrion Mathis took Bailey's place as RB1 for the final two Shelbyville possessions, finishing with 11 rushes for 60 yards on the night.

For Independence, Matthew Horner was unusually inefficient, finishing 18/37 for 262 yards with 2 TDs and 1 INT while rushing the ball three times for 26 yards and another touchdown. Eli Garlington led the visitors on the ground with nine carries for 57 yards, but the visitors as a whole finished with just 99 yards rushing as a team against a stout Golden Eagles defense.

Independence opened the scoring on its second possession after both teams went three-and-out to start the game when Horner found Brody Bullock on a slant for a 39-yard touchdown with 7:14 left in the first quarter.

On the ensuing possession, the Golden Eagles were faced with a third-and-six, and Bobo threw an interception to Jordan Gray, giving the visitors a golden opportunity to take a two-score lead early. Instead, the Shelbyville defense stood its ground, forcing a turnover-on-downs.

On its fourth offensive drive, Shelbyville's offense finally settled into a rhythm, using nine plays to go 76 yards in 3:51 to tie the game after Bobo found Jack Conditt down the right sideline with a perfect throw in the corner of the end zone for a 19-yard touchdown.

After forcing a punt, Shelbyville once again found the end zone, this time with Bobo's legs. After a 55-yard run to the Independence 22-yard line, Bobo found the end zone from 14 yards out on the ground to put the Golden Eagles in front, 14-7, with 7:04 to go in the first half.

With the hosts' defense forcing yet another punt, Shelbyville put together its third-consecutive scoring drive on its next possession. Starting at their own 19-yard line, the Golden Eagles took nine plays and used 4:11 to cap off an 81-yard touchdown drive with a 5-yard touchdown run by Bailey to take a 21-7 lead. To set up Bailey, Bobo found Xzayvier Jordan down the left sideline on a go route for a monster 39-yard gain on a perfectly thrown ball. Unfortunately, that would be Bobo's final action of the night.



The Golden Eagles ran for 359 yards as a team in the win over Independence. *T-G Staff Photo - Noah Maddox.*

After Horner led a 54-yard drive – capped by a 9-yard TD pass to Hunter Mullen – that used 70 of the 74 remaining seconds in the first half, Shelbyville's lead was just seven points, 21-14. At halftime, Dryden informed the team that Rucker would be stepping in for the injured Bobo, putting even more onus on the offensive line and running game for the final 24 minutes.

In the second half, neither team scored on their first two possessions. After Independence's Ben Chassey missed a 38-yard field goal with 1:08 to go in the third quarter, the Golden Eagles put together a culture drive.

Starting at its own 15 yard line following a false start before the first play, Shelbyville Central dialed up nine consecutive runs to reach the Independence four-yard line. Robert Bailey began to gash the visitors' defense, picking up 14 yards to end the third quarter before opening the fourth quarter with a six yard carry followed by a 21-yard run to cross into Independence territory. Mathis came in to spell Bailey, but the gashing runs stayed coming as the sophomore picked up gains of 13 yards and 15 yards on two of his next four attempts to put the Golden Eagles four yards away from the end zone. After he was tackled for a loss of a yard, Shelbyville dialed up a slant for Chandler Jones, who caught Rucker's perfect pass for a 5-yard touchdown to double their lead to 28-14 with 8:20 left to play. In all, Shelbyville took 4:48 off the clock to go 85 yards in 10 plays with a freshman QB playing just his fourth drive of the season offensively.

"It's stuff that we practice," Dryden said about the success of his underclassmen backfield, "We just try to get them in their wheelhouse and let them do the things that they do well. We don't ask more of them than what they can do, especially being younger like that. Cyonn [Rucker] is a special talent at quarterback, and we're excited to see what he's going to do moving forward whether that's this coming week or down the road. He's playing great at corner and he played great at quarterback for us. Then you've got Torrion [Mathis] who is playing phenomenally on defense, he's learning as he goes, and he's an amazing talent at running back. We're blessed to say the least, and to have those guys with the way they work is awesome."

After Independence replied with a 27-yard TD pass from Horner to Hendrix Harvey, the Golden Eagles' lead was cut in half to 28-21 with 6:43 to go.

However, on Robert Bailey's final carry of the night, he opened Shelbyville's ensuing possession by scampering for 61 yards down the right sideline before he pulled up with an injury at the Independence 19-yard line. Shelbyville was ultimately forced to settle for a 35-yard field goal attempt from starting middle linebacker „Jackson Themm, who calmly drilled the ball through the uprights to give the Golden Eagles an all-important two-score lead, 31-21, with just 4:02 remaining.

Independence responded with a quick-strike touchdown drive that took just 1:11 off the clock, traversing 68 yards in five plays (aided by a pair of SCHS penalties) and finishing with an eight-yard TD run by Horner with 2:43 left to play to trim the lead to 31-28.

Shelbyville picked up a first down on the ensuing possession, but some minor clock mismanagement gave the ball back to the visitors with 1:06 left in the fourth quarter. However, Jackson Themm yet again put his special teams imprint on the game, pinning Independence at their own 4-yard line after a perfectly placed 44-yard punt.

"He [Jackson Themm] has been a great kicker since he showed up, so now it's just his time," Dryden said, "The nice thing is, as soon as Johnathan Betzelberger comes back, we have two, so I mean, shoot, let's go."

With just 66 seconds remaining and no timeouts, Horner found Harvey down the left sideline with a perfect 39-yard pass on the second play of the drive to give the visitors a realistic shot of at least getting into field goal range. Instead, just two plays later, Horner was nudged just as he released the ball over the middle of the field, sailing the pass over his intended receiver and into the waiting arms of Shelbyville's Reager Edwards to seal a massive region victory for the Golden Eagles.

Shelbyville improves to 2-2 (2-0).

Lady Champs Continue Goal Scoring Tear in Blowout of Lady Hornets

BY NOAH MADDOX
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BELL BUCKLE, Tenn. – The Cascade Lady Champions (7-0-1, 4-0) scored nine goals for the second consecutive match in District 9-A in the 9-0 win over Huntland (2-5-0, 2-2) on Tuesday night.

Lexi Comstock, Olivia Winnett, and Ella McGeary each tallied a brace as the Lady Champs' offensive attack continued to click following a 9-0 win at Fayetteville City last week.

However, it was Claire Smithson who opened the scoring against Huntland. In the 8th minute, Cascade won its first corner of the night, and McGeary's delivery into the box found its way to Smithson, who proceeded to poke home her second goal of the season.

Comstock doubled the Lady Champs lead in the 15th minute when she was the first to meet Kaylee Martin's cross in the box and re-direct it into the back of the net.

Cascade continued to dominate possession for nearly the entirety of the first half, picking apart the Lady Hornets with quick one and two-touch passes to create quality chances. However, in the 23rd minute, McGeary knocked home the Lady Champs' third goal of the game with a looping long range effort that nestled into the net from about 23 yards out near the right-corner of the penalty area.

Two minutes later, Winnett tacked on another goal when her long-range effort went through the keeper's hands and over the line to grow the lead to 4-0.

Comstock put the finishing touches on a fine first half in the 30th minute, notching her team-leading 13th goal of the season to give Cascade a commanding 5-0 lead at the break.

The second half was more of the same until the Lady Champs ultimately triggered the game-ending mercy rule. Winnett scored her eighth goal of the season to make it 6-0, Kaylee Martin got on the scoresheet with her third of the year to make it 7-0, Kyla Pulley also scored her third goal of the season to get to 8-0 off of the second assist of the year from Claire Smithson, and then McGeary sent everyone home with her third goal of the season off of Brinlee Collet's second assist of 2025 to reach the 9-0 mark.

Cascade hosts Coffee County on Thursday before returning to district play at home against the Viqueens next Tuesday.

People Around Town

Photos by Daphne Paschal Motes

200th Anniversary Celebrated at Crowell's Chapel Lutheran



















