COMMUNITY NEWS

SHELBYVILLE TIMES-GAZETTE

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Local schools can be thankful as some pretty significant projects are completed

Part 1 of a 3-part series on the County's project management

By Dawn Hankins
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For the recent Property and Courthouse Committee meeting, the County's Owner Rep, Jeff Sweeney, presented the October report to commissioners which included completed school projects.

It's a pretty fine report for Bedford County schools. Mayor Chad Graham said Friday, "I am very proud of the progress which has been made and I agree that our owner representative program has been at the heart of 'cost containment and completion deadlines.' "

The school system/County is still in legal turmoil over problems with new floors at Cascade High. Cost to replace floors has been given to the system's attorney and Sweeney said it is hoped this issue will be resolved during mediation, which was planned for Nov. 21 and 22.

The concession stand work at Cascade is now complete, as well as the Cascade football club box.

At Community Middle, a new press box behind the baseball field is out for bid, Sweeney reported.

Out at Liberty School, a master plan has been approved for a larger facility in the future. But first things first.

Geotech, survey and topo work has been completed for Liberty, according to Sweeney. The plan for expansion was presented to the school board in July. Superintendent Tammy Garrett and Assistant Superintendent Tim Harwell met with KSA and Sweeney and have been given budget numbers and a timeline moving forward.

Sweeney said new annex room floors at Liberty have been completed and furniture is in place.

The new Thomas Magnet wing/ classroom space is now complete also, his report re-



BC Government Photo

Mayor's luncheon for officials

flected.

The Owner Rep included information about Cascade and Community Ag projects and those master plans.

Regarding Community, footings are complete, plumbing installed for rough-in, septic done, steel building erected, inside walls near completion (as of the report), inside drainage complete, exterior doors in and electrical done.

In regard to Cascade High's Ag Project, pads and footings

See PROJECTS, 3A





CARRIAGE HOUSE RESIDENTS ARE TRULY THANKFUL

Photos by Mary Ellen Butler

MARY LOU JOHNSON (above) expressed her thankfulness to "everyone" at the Carriage House last Thursday.

EDNA GORDON (below) has a lot to be thankful for this year. She's smiling and according to her "thankful card" she's well and feeling blessed after lung cancer.

See more 'thankful' Carriage House photos inside.



TREATS FOR THANKSGIVING TABLES

T-G Photo by Meridith Miller

First United Methodist Church on the square held its annual food bazaar on Friday. This event always kicks off the holiday season. See more pictures on page 2 today.



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SNAP updates

Not everyone who was once eligible for SNAP will continue to receive benefits going forward.

See Page 5A



Golden Eagles

After winning the program's first District Championship in 17 years, the Shelbyville Central Golden Eagles are looking for continued success.

See Page 10A

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More treat pictures from the FUMC food bazaar







Coconut Cream Pie



Dairy Alliance

Don't make holiday desserts complicated. Enjoy this refreshing, yet decadent, Southern dessert staple at your next family gathering. Total time to prepare is 30 minutes.

Servings: 8

Ingredients

- 1/2 (15-ounce) package refrigerated pie crust
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup cornstarch
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/2 cups milk
- 1/2 cup coconut cream
- 4 large egg yolks
- 1 cup sweetened shredded coconut, divided
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 2 cups heavy whipping cream
- 2 tablespoons powdered sugar
- 1 tablespoon coconut extract

Instructions

1. Fit one pie crust into a 9-inch pie plate, fold edges under, and crimp. Prick bottom and sides of piecrust with a fork. Bake according to package directions for a one-crust pie. Let cool completely before filling.

2. In a medium saucepan, combine sugar, cornstarch and salt, whisking until well combined. Place on stovetop over medium heat; whisk in milk and coconut cream. Cook for about 2-3 minutes, whisking milk mixture constantly to make sure custard doesn't burn on the bottom. Once custard begins to bubble, remove from heat. Temper the egg yolks by ladling a spoonful of warm custard into yolks while whisking to combine. Pour egg yolk mixture into saucepan with remaining custard and place back on the heat. Cook custard mixture over medium heat, whisking constantly, 2 to 3 minutes or until it thickens. Remove from heat and stir in vanilla and half the shredded coconut. Transfer to a bowl and place plastic wrap directly over the custard to prevent a skin from forming. Place in the refrigerator for at least 2 hours.

3. While custard is chilling, place heavy whipping cream, powdered sugar and coconut extract in mixing bowl. Using an electric mixer, beat on high for approximately 3-4 minutes, or until firm peaks form. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate until ready to use.

4. Place remaining half of shredded coconut in a skillet and toast over medium heat 4 to 5 minutes or until lightly golden brown and fragrant.

5. To assemble pie, spoon custard mixture into prepared crust creating an even layer. Top with prepared whipped cream and toasted shredded coconut. Serve immediately or refrigerate.



Betty Brown, Maureen Garrett, Lee Travis, Becky Davis and Teresa Gill.

DAR HOLDS TREE PLANTING CEREMONY

Submitted Photos

Shelby Chapter Dar planted two tulip poplar trees at Cartwright Elementary School on Nov. 20. The tulip poplar is the state tree and the DAR is spearheading the tree planting initiative in celebration of America's 250th birthday. Assisting in the tree planting were the kindergarten classes, which have this effort as one of their projects.



DAR members with assistant principal, Malcolm Martin.

Cooking this Thanksgiving? Always 'stand by your pan'

As local families get ready to cook the biggest meal of the year, Bedford County Fire Chief Mark Thomas shares some fire safety tips. First on the list is to avoid distractions. And most important, stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, or broiling.

"If you have to leave the room, even for a moment, turn off the stove's burners. Always "stand by your pan"!"

National fire data shows that Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires, accounting for more than three times the daily average for such incidents. In Tennessee, data from 2024 shows that cooking fires are the leading known cause of home fires in Tennessee and have taken a tragic toll, claiming 5 civilian lives, causing 8 fire service injuries, and damaging $19.2 million in property.

To aid Tennesseans who may be cooking this year, the SFMO offers these Thanksgiving fire safety cooking tips:

* Be mindful of your alcohol consumption while preparing food.

* Use a kitchen timer when boiling, simmering, baking, or roasting to remind yourself to check what you are cooking.

* Use caution with turkey fryers. The SFMO recommends that consumers always utilize oil-free models.

* Turkey fryers should always be used outdoors and kept a safe distance from homes, buildings and other flammable materials.

* Never leave a turkey fryer unattended. Most fryer units do not have thermostat controls. If you do not watch the fryer carefully, the oil will continue to heat and could boil over, resulting in a fire.

* Never let children or pets near the fryer, even if it is not in use. The oil inside the cooking pot can remain dangerously hot for hours after use.

* Use well-insulated potholders or oven mitts when touching pot or lid handles. If possible, wear safety goggles to protect your eyes from oil splatter.

* Make sure the turkey is thawed and dry before cooking. Ice or water that mixes into the hot oil can cause flare-ups.

* Keep an all-purpose fire extinguisher nearby. Never use water to extinguish a grease or oil fire. Instead, put a lid over the flame, exit the home and call your local fire department by dialing 9-1-1.

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Is God Dead? Natural Law



Ty B. Kerley, DMin
Columnist

Over the last several months, we have been eager to explore the common ground between Christian believers and unbelievers. Those aspects of nature, life, and history are from which two people might engage in a fruitful discussion. After all, it has been the Bible skeptic, Michael, that we have spent much time discussing over the months. We have explored common ground through observations of the cosmos: the moons, the planets, and the stars. We also found common ground by exploring the apparent evidence of design found in nature, specifically in biological systems. We have also explored common ground among human beings who are dualistic in nature, having a material body and an immaterial spirit or soul. Indeed, much common ground exists between Christians and the Michaels of the world. But that is exactly what Christians would expect, being that all men are created equal "in the image and likeness of God" (Gen 1:26). Common ground.

However, common ground between believers and unbelievers also extends to our most recent topic: moral law. The question is this: Does a natural law exist? Yes? That is the argument the Christian makes, and it is the argument we made here last week: a moral (natural) law exists, which implies a Moral Law Giver. One might say it is a law of nature—just how things naturally are—a binding set of moral obligations that bear upon every human being simply by virtue of being a human being. Natural law. Oxford Dictionary defines "natural law" as: "a body of unchanging moral principles regarded as the basis for all human conduct." Interestingly, almost all civil and criminal law is traced directly back to a non negotiable set of "natural laws." It is the basis for affirming human dignity and basic human rights. It is the basis on which the West (America) criticizes the East (China) for its human rights violations. In America, it is the very fabric of our nation: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that their Creator endows them with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." Sound familiar? It sounds a lot like natural law was codified in the Declaration of Independence! And yet, it provides common ground between Christians and unbelievers. Legal scholar Robert George writes of the significance; "so if there is a set of moral norms, including norms of justice and human rights, that can be known by rational inquiry, understanding, and judgment even apart from special revelation [Scripture], then these norms of natural law can provide the basis for a common understanding of human rights—an understanding that can be shared even in the absence of religious agreement." That is natural law. That is the basis for the argument that absolutes exist, and one of those absolutes is the existence of an absolute moral law. Here is an interesting case: all people in all places at all times live as if the Ten Commandments are absolute moral truths. Can you think of a society where people are encouraged to murder, lie, steal, and commit adultery? In fact, the Ten Commandments are instances of natural law that have existed for all of eternity past. It is the natural law that Christians claim to be written on the human heart of all men (cf Rom 2:15). Whether we realize it or not, the world's civil and criminal statutes and laws find their ultimate foundation in the natural law codified in the Ten Commandments. These are rock-bottom basics of moral behavior known to everyone; if they were not universally known, moral reasoning is pointless. Governments and the courts would have no recognized power; society would fall into utter chaos. There would be no system of justice, no human dignity, no human rights. Natural law lawyer J. Budziszewski says that human reasoning only works in one direction, moving "from known to the yet unknown; persuasion, from the conceded to the not yet conceded. Without common ground, the movement could never get started. There would be no place for it to begin." Sure enough, the justice system in America is lacking and neglected in many areas. However, the moral law pillars upon which the legal system rests are rock-solid because they are based on universally recognized, nonnegotiable moral truths. The international justice system also works and only works because it is based upon universally recognized moral truths.

It seems to me the evidence is compelling that there exists a universal moral law—a natural law that bears upon all human beings. And that seems to imply a natural law, Giver. Join us again next week as we continue to examine human morality as part of the ultimate quest to answer the 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 Waurika church of Christ and live in Ardmore, OK. You can contact him at dr.kerley@isGoddead.com.

Let's Make Their Oath Enforceable



Ken Berry, MD
Tennessee Citizen

Every Tennessean has seen an elected official cross the line into unconstitutional behavior. Some vote for laws that exceed the limits of the Constitution. Others use their office to trample rights or exercise authority the people never granted them. Yet nothing happens. They keep their titles, draw their paychecks, and promise that next time will be different.

There is a simple reason for this. In Tennessee, the oath of office has no legal teeth. Article X, Section 1 of the Tennessee Constitution requires every elected or appointed official to take an oath before assuming their duties. Tennessee Code Annotated § 8-18-107 repeats that requirement. The words are serious, but the enforcement is not. Once spoken, the oath effectively vanishes. There is no mechanism to review whether it is honored and no consequence for violating it.

For much of our history, an oath meant something. A person's word was a bond. Breaking an oath brought shame. But as trust in institutions has eroded, many now treat the oath as ceremony instead of covenant. If the moral guardrails have weakened, the legal ones must be strengthened.

Too many officials take the oath without reading or studying the documents they swear to defend. Some skim the Constitution once and then govern by party pressure or expedience. Others assume voters will forget unconstitutional actions before the next election, which may not come for several years. That long gap between action and accountability has turned the oath into little more than theater.

Tennessee keeps a database of signed oaths for state-level officials through the Secretary of State. That is a start, but the law does not require the same accountability for county or municipal officials, school board members, sheriffs, or judges. Their oaths may be recorded inconsistently or not at all. And nowhere in Tennessee law does the oath carry real consequence when it is knowingly broken.

Other states take the oath far more seriously. In North Carolina, General Statute § 11-7 requires all oaths to be administered and signed, with originals permanently retained by the clerk of court. Failure to properly sign and file the oath can invalidate an official's authority to act until the requirement is met. Any citizen can review these filings. Arizona goes further: knowingly filing a false oath can trigger prosecution under the state's perjury laws. Their message is clear: if you take the oath, you are bound by it in law as well as conscience.

Tennessee could adopt similar reforms without amending the Constitution. First, extend the signed-oath requirement and public database to every level of government. Second, add an enforcement clause to Title 8 of the Tennessee Code stating that any public official who knowingly violates their sworn oath to uphold the Constitutions of Tennessee and the United States may be removed from office for breach of public trust.

Some will argue this could be abused. That is why the standard must apply equally to every official and include safeguards such as sworn affidavits to initiate reviews and penalties for frivolous complaints. Others say elections already provide accountability. But elections measure popularity, not fidelity to constitutional duty. Tennesseans deserve a way to hold oath-breakers accountable between elections that come too rarely and often too late.

If enacted, this reform would change behavior immediately. Officials would think harder before supporting measures that exceed constitutional limits. Debates would focus more on whether proposals are lawful, not merely whether they are popular. And every official would be reminded that public office is a trust, not a reward.

Public trust will not return through slogans. It will return when those who hold power are held to the standard they swore to uphold. The oath of office should not be a photo opportunity. It should be a binding commitment to the Constitution and to the people of Tennessee.

Let us make it mean something again. Let us make their oath enforceable.

Dr. Ken Berry is a board-certified family doctor in rural Tennessee with over 20 years of clinical experience. He is the author of the best-seller Lies My Doctor Told Me and a nationally recognized voice for the Proper Human Diet and MAHA. Through his popular YouTube channel and public commentary, Dr. Berry advocates for personal responsibility, common sense, and conservative values in both health and life.

Saying 'thanks' through history in a profound way

By Dawn Hankins

I thought it might be interesting to discuss what some of the world's strongest leaders had to say to the "troops" on Thanksgiving.

It's been a strange fall for many, given the ups and downs with government, but all in all, we should all thank the Lord for our freedom. That's what means the most.

On Thanksgiving Day in 1944, Winston Church spoke at Royal Albert Hall. He emphasized, history notes, the need for thanksgiving in the context of the ongoing global war. He stated the United States had become the greatest military, naval and air power and that this transformation was a subject for profound thanksgiving.

O.K. I didn't say the quotes would be all about plum pudding.

Here are a few more:

John F. Kennedy (35th U.S. President)

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

Abraham Lincoln (16th U.S. President) "The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies... No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most-High God."

Franklin D. Roosevelt (32nd U.S. President) "In the days of plenty, we must give thanks for our blessings; in the days of adversity, we must give thanks for the lessons."

Psalm 100:4 (historically suggested to be written by King David): " Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. (NIV)

Have a blessed Thanksgiving from the T-G staff.

PROJECTS

From page 1A

are complete, plumbing rough in completed, slab done, waterline under Fairfield installed, steel building erected, interior wall work was to begin 10/23 and the master plan was to be completed by October end.

At Shelbyville Central, the interior gym weight room is finished. The football bathroom and concession are completed, and operating. The baseball field screening has begun. The field turf work has been completed for the football field and Sweeney said it's "game ready!"

More lighting work will enhance the sports areas at SCHS. Sports field lighting was completed on the soccer poles, he said in his report. Lighting for soccer and football have also been completed.

A cheerleading screening area was to be completed by October end. Civil work for drainage is nearing completion, Sweeney advised, and the completion date was at October end.

Baseball dugouts and covers are under construction. The new football scoreboard is installed and the old scoreboard was moved to the baseball field.

Additional lighting was requested and has been added at the entry road and behind the home bleachers.

The County Financial Management Committee will meet at 4:15 p.m., Tuesday and Sweeney generally has an Owner Rep update. See future editions of the T-G.

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RICHARDSON MEDIA ENTERS THIRD YEAR OF PUBLISHING

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TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE

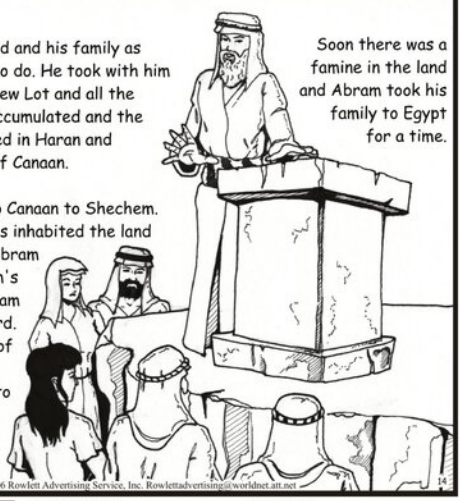
Abram Builds Altars

Genesis 12

Abram left his homeland and his family as the Lord had told him to do. He took with him his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot and all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Haran and they went to the land of Canaan.

Soon there was a famine in the land and Abram took his family to Egypt for a time.

The group traveled into Canaan to Shechem. Although the Canaanites inhabited the land the Lord appeared to Abram and promised to Abram's offspring the land. Abram built an altar to the Lord. Next he traveled east of Bethel and pitched his tent and built an altar to the Lord and called on the name of the Lord.



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COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL 2025-2026 CRIMINAL JUSTICE STUDENT ORGANIZATION HONORED!

In its third year, the Community High Criminal Justice Organization has grown to be one of the largest criminal justice C.T.S.O.'s in the state! Under the direction of instructor, Chris Hobbs, this program has flourished into one of the best in the state. Hobbs says that none of this would have been possible without the leadership, guidance and assistance of CTE-Director, Lori Sexton, Principal, Robert Ralston, Assistant Director Tim Harwell and Director of Schools Dr. Tammy Garrett.

What the latest SNAP changes mean for Tennesseans



By Amelia Luna, Legal Aid Society

The wait is finally over for the hundreds of thousands of Tennessee residents who have been awaiting their delayed Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits during the prolonged government shutdown.

Tennessee's Department of Human Services (DHS) recently announced that SNAP benefits are in the process of being distributed to recipients via their Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) cards, which will include any backlogged payments.

Other SNAP changes

Even as monthly benefits resume, recipients should be aware of other changes to SNAP that may directly affect them. Not everyone who was once eligible for SNAP will continue to receive benefits going forward, and there will now be additional requirements for many recipients.

Work requirements, which had been suspended during COVID and were reinstated in 2023, were expanded this year to include most SNAP recipients from ages 18 to 64.

Many adults will now be required to work or volunteer 20 hours per week to retain their SNAP benefits. Groups for whom work requirements have changed include veterans, former foster youth and people experiencing homelessness.

- Those who are still exempt include:
- Anyone on SSI, SSDI or VA disability benefits
- Anyone under age 18 or age 65 and older
- Anyone with a child under age 14 in their SNAP household
- Anyone who earns at least $217.50 per week before taxes
- Anyone with a physical or mental condition preventing them from working
- Anyone in school or training at least half-time
- Anyone who is pregnant
- Anyone receiving unemployment benefits
- Anyone in drug or alcohol treatment.

If you don't meet an exemption, you will only be eligible for three months of SNAP in a three-year period. The current three-year period started Jan. 1, 2025, and ends Dec. 31, 2027.

If you're among those whose benefits are at risk, you should have already received a letter from DHS explaining how to keep your benefits by providing proof you meet an exemption. If you fall under one of the above daltonagency.com exemptions, you can upload proof of your exemption to Tennessee DHS's One DHS Customer Portal (onedhs.tn.gov) or bring it to your county's DHS office.

How to apply for SNAP

Though SNAP continues to undergo changes, the good news is that it's still available to help prevent food insecurity among low-income Tennesseans. To apply for SNAP, go to your county's DHS office or visit onedhs.tn.gov to create an online account. You can also fax or mail your application to the DHS office in your county.

Initially, all you'll need to supply is your name, address and signature. However, in order to be approved for benefits, you'll need to provide some additional information, which may include:

- A birth certificate or driver's license
- Up to 8 weeks of pay stubs for any household member who is working
- Proof of Social Security, VA, unemployment, child support or alimony you receive
- Documentation of the balance in any bank accounts you may have
- Proof of rent or mortgage payments
- Utility bills
- Proof of daycare or babysitting costs
- Proof of medical costs (for those who are disabled or age 60 and above)

It's important to note that the earlier you apply in the month, the more SNAP you will get for the first month if you are approved. When you apply, make sure to get a receipt, including the date you applied and copies of any papers you've submitted.

DHS has 30 days to approve or deny most SNAP applications and provide benefits for eligible applicants. For Tennesseans making less than $150 a month before taxes, and who also have $100 or less in resources, DHS should approve or deny your application within seven days after you apply.

How Legal Aid Society can help

If you've been denied for SNAP or believe you're entitled to more benefits than you're receiving, Legal Aid Society may be able to help you. As Tennessee's largest nonprofit law firm, we defend the legal rights of low-income and vulnerable people to obtain the basic necessities of life. We serve 48 counties across middle Tennessee out of eight offices, located in Clarksville, Columbia, Cookeville, Gallatin, Murfreesboro, Nashville, Oak Ridge and Tullahoma.

For more information about Legal Aid Society and the services we offer, visit las.org or call our intake line at 1-800-238-1443.

Amelia Luna is an attorney at Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands.

Criminal Court Docket for Thursday, Nov. 20, 2025, with Judge Durard

Grand Jury Arraignments

James Howard Reed Jr., Crewe, TN., attempted rape of child
Tonio DeMarcus Osbey, Magnolia, MS., sex offender work restrictions violation
Reginal J Phillips Jr., violation of sex offender registration requirements
Stanley Smith, aggravated assault and resisting arrest
Ronald Stewart, evading arrest
Joseph Wayne Tucker, burglary, theft (auto, boat, airplane), theft of property, aggravated burglary (habitation.)
William Lee Woodall, Schedule I and II drugs mfg., del., sell, possession; Fentanyl .5 grams or greater; METH, mfg., deliver, possession with intent

Judge Burk, Criminal Court, Nov. 21

Zachariah Johnathan Conner, burglary, theft of property, false reports
Angela Renee Frazier, failure to appear, theft, vandalism (motion to withdraw plea)
Melissa June Ray, theft of property (set trial)
Clifton Ray Clontz, aggravated statutory rape, 5 counts sexual exploitation of minor (indicted, arraigned)



READYING THE SQUARE FOR CHRISTMAS

Shelbyville Now photo

Crews decorated for Christmas around the courthouse on the public square this week.

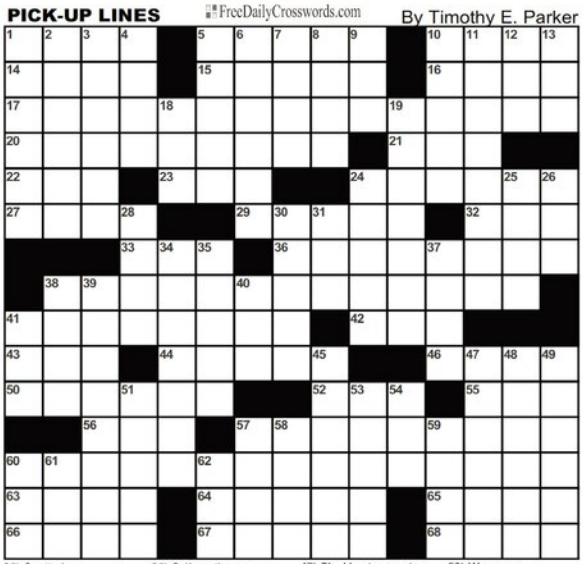
FOOD & CLOTHING DRIVE

In Partnership With Bedford County Adult Education

WE ARE ACCEPTING DONATIONS FOR ANYONE IN NEED AS A WAY TO SUPPORT OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON. DONATIONS CAN INCLUDE NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS SUCH AS CRACKERS, PEANUT BUTTER, AND CANNED FOOD WITH POP-TOP LIDS, AND/OR NEW OR GENTLY USED WARM CLOTHING ITEMS SUCH AS GLOVES, HATS, AND COATS.

Crossword

PICK-UP LINES FreeDailyCrosswords.com By Timothy E. Parker



CLUES ACROSS

1) Turn the air blue
5) "Sir," in colonial India
10) Not fully closed
14) Sailing on the ocean
15) Upstate New York city
16) Passage ceremony, e.g.
17) Engaged in a childish comfort
20) Pollen and dust, notoriously
21) Trip to Mecca
22) Miss-named?
23) Santa ___ (California city)
24) Kinky yen
27) Crumbs from a meal
29) Religious maxims
32) It's served in spots
33) Acid that will make you see things
36) Some desert growths
38) What an eclipse can do
41) Fish-eating hawk
42) Before, long before now
43) "You get the picture"
44) Vertical ship posts
46) Non-offensive expletive
50) Sing like a canary
52) Water source
55) Compass heading, sometimes
56) Rock worth money
57) Organize anew
60) Swab composition
63) Flat-topped hill
64) Provide, as with a quality
65) Simple wave makers
66) Responded in court
67) Gave cough medicine to
68) Make good use of recess

CLUES DOWN

1) Where many deals are made
2) Human shark
3) Hush-hush
4) Author also known as H.H. Munro
5) African republic on the Red Sea
6) Hard to tap one's toe to
7) Clue
8) Frosts, as a cake
9) Common degs.
10) Enlightened one, in Buddhism
11) Japanese martial art
12) Convenient wallet filler
13) Johnny in gray
18) In-flight info, for short
19) House of usher?
24) "Micro" add-on, in libraries
25) Spotted
26) Consumes
28) ___ gin fizz
30) Santa's reindeer, collectively
31) Gangster's gun, in B-movies
34) Legendary QB nicknamed the "Snake"
35) Calf, on the range
37) Like Salvation Army goods
38) VHS alternative of old
39) Sport invented by Native Americans
40) Absolute greatest (Abbr.)
41) Emulate a tailor
45) Art piece in a park
47) Blockbuster event no more
48) Sweater material
49) Itty-bitty
51) Like some humor
53) Like a rainbow
54) Athlete with deep pockets
57) Where one asks to be hit
58) Wraps up
59) Straddling
60) Stratocaster attachment
61) First half of a swanky California neighborhood
62) Fourposter, e.g.

Kid Scoop .com

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

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

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The Thanksgiving Times

YOUNG REPORTER PRESERVES AMAZING FAMILY HISTORY

Newspaper reports are good ways to record history. They can be read in the future to remind people of things that have happened in the past.

When families gather for Thanksgiving, there is often a lot a sharing of news about each other's lives. But, if no one writes it down, these things could get forgotten over time.

This week's *Kid Scoop* page can help you design a family newspaper front page that records your family's news and create memories you will treasure in the future.

Let's Make Headlines!

What was the biggest family news that was reported by someone in your family at your Thanksgiving gathering?



This will be the top story in your newspaper. Interview family members for answers to WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN and WHY for this story.

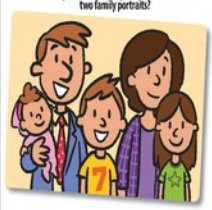
Write a headline for the story. Be sure the headline is catchy, but most importantly TRUE.

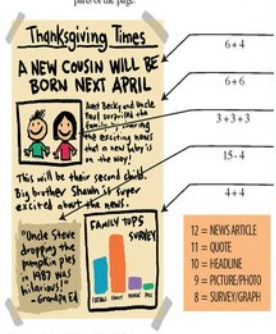
Design Your Newspaper

On a large sheet of paper or poster board, create your newspaper front page. Do the math to identify the parts of the page.



How many differences can you find between these two family portraits?





12 = NEWS ARTICLE
11 = QUOTE
10 = HEADLINE
9 = PICTURE/PHOTO
8 = SURVEY/GRAPH

Funniest Family Story

Every family has funny stories. Ask your family members to share one with you. Use a quote from one of them to write a short front page article.



Extra! Extra!

Thanksgiving Scavenger Hunt

Look through today's newspaper to find:

- ❑ Something you eat on Thanksgiving
- ❑ Fall leaves
- ❑ Warm clothing
- ❑ Something on sale

Standards Link: Language Arts: Follow simple written instructions.

Turkey Day Survey

What's the best thing about Thanksgiving? Ask family members and friends to choose their favorite. Color in one space for each person's choice to create a graph for your *Thanksgiving Times* newspaper page.

FOOTBALL	PARADE	FAMILY TIME	DINNER	DESSERT

Double Double Word Search

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

ASK
BIGGEST
FAMILY
FUTURE
GATHER
LEAVES
NEWS
PAGE
POSTER
REPORTS
SHARING
STORY
TIME
TRUE
WARM

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

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

From the Kid Scoop Lesson Library

Things and Actions

With a family member, read a newspaper article in your local newspaper and underline all the nouns. Circle all the verbs. Can you write another article with the same nouns and verbs?

Standards Link: Language Arts: Identify parts of speech.

Write On!

"I Am Thankful For . . ."

What people, places and things are you thankful for?

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

Kid Scoop Together

Oldest and Youngest Person Interview

Ask the oldest person to tell what their Thanksgiving was like when they were the same age as the youngest person at your gathering.

Name and age of oldest person:

Name and age of youngest person:

What did you eat for Thanksgiving dinner when you were a child?

Whose house did you go to for Thanksgiving dinner?

Who all came?

What was the best part of our family Thanksgiving gathering?

What are you most grateful for?

What is your favorite Thanksgiving dessert?

Standards Link: Language Arts: Follow simple written instructions.

FREE DOWNLOAD: Kid Scoop Teacher Activity Pack!

With hundreds of topics, every **Kid Scoop!** printable activity pack features six-to-seven pages of high-interest extra learning activities for home and school! Get your free sample today at:

kidscoop.com/activity-pages/

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

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION GATHERED IN CONNECTION HEREWITH WILL BE UTILIZED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

WHEREAS, default has occurred in the performance of the covenants, terms and conditions of a Deed of Trust Note dated July 31, 2019, and the Deed of Trust of even date, securing said Deed of Trust Note recorded on August 2, 2019 in Record Book TD937, at Page 443 as Instrument No. 19005385, in the Register's office of Bedford County, Tennessee, executed by Tarris Nicole Mcdonald, conveying certain property described therein to Access Title & Escrow, as Trustee, for the benefit of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS") solely as nominee for Residential Wholesale Mortgage, Inc. its successors and assigns (the "Holder") and to Mickel Law Firm, P.A., having been appointed as Substitute Trustee by instrument of record in the Register's office for Bedford County, Tennessee.

WHEREAS, the owner and holder of the Deed of Trust Note has declared the entire indebtedness due and payable and demanded that the hereinafter described real property be advertised and sold in satisfaction of indebtedness and costs of foreclosure in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Deed of Trust Note and Deed of Trust.

NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that an agent of Mickel Law Firm, P.A., as Substitute Trustee, pursuant to the power, duty and authority vested in and conferred upon said Substitute Trustee, by the Deed of Trust, will on Monday, January 5, 2026, at or about 11:00 AM at 1 Public Square, Bedford County Courthouse - Main Entrance, Shelbyville, Tennessee, 37160, or the sale will be held in the place at said venue where foreclosure sales are customarily advertised and/ or conducted, offer for sale to the highest bidder for cash, and free from all legal, equitable and statutory rights of redemption, exemptions of homestead, rights by virtue of marriage, and all other exemptions of every kind, all of which have been waived in the Deed of Trust, certain real property located in Bedford County, Tennessee, described as follows:

A certain tract or parcel of land lying and being in the 7th Civil District of Bedford County, Tennessee, being bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a stake In the East margin of Delmar Avenue 100 feet North of Davis Street running thence North 3 deg. 30 min. East along the East margin of Delmar Avenue 100 feet to a stake; thence South 86 deg. 30 min. East 150 feet to a stake; thence South 3 deg. 30 min. West 100 feet to a stake; thence North 86 deg. 30 min. West 150 feet to the beginning and being all of Lot No. 47 in Hillsdale Subdivision No. 2 a plat of which is recorded in Deed Book 69, Page 223, Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee

Subject to Restrictive Covenants of record in Book 69, page 225; to Easement of record in Book 69, page 226; and Matters as shown on plat of record In Book 69, page 223, Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee

Being the same property conveyed to Tarris Nicole McDonald by Deed of record in 109608-11Book D352, page 410, Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee.

Map 099A Group C Parcel 026.00.
Parcel ID: 099A-C-026.00
More Commonly Known As: 1109 Delmar Avenue, Shelbyville, TN 37160.

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; and

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 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. Beneficiary has appointed the substitute trustee prior to the first notice of publication as required by T.C.A. § 35-5-101 and ratifies and confirms all actions taken by the substitute trustee subsequent to the date of substitution and prior to the recording of this substitution.

The sale is subject to Occupants(s) rights in possession, if applicable.

If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the purchase price. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Grantor, the Grantee or the Substitute Trustee.

To the best of the Trustee's knowledge, information, and belief, there are no Federal or State tax lien claimants or other claimants upon the subject property which would require notice pursuant to the terms and provision of T.C.A. § 35-5-104, T.C.A. § 67-1-1433 or 26 U.S.C. § 7425.

If a high bidder fails to close a sale, the Substitute Trustee shall have the option of making the sale to the next highest bidder. The sale held pursuant to this Notice may be rescinded at the Substitute Trustee's option at any time.

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code; and (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Deed of Trust. This property is being sold "as is." Additionally, no representation as to the condition of any structure(s) thereon or the accuracy of the above legal description is being or has been made. Transfer taxes and recording fees are the responsibility of the purchaser.

109608-12

The following individuals or entities have an interest in the above-described property: Terris Nicole McDonald, Tenants and/or Occupants of 1109 Delmar Avenue, Shelbyville, TN 37160, Spouse of Tarris Nicole McDoanld.

DATED this 20th day of November, 2025.
James H. Swindle, Jr.
TN Bar No. 038244
MICKEL LAW FIRM, P.A., SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE
1501 NORTH UNIVERSITY, SUITE 764 LITTLE ROCK
ARKANSAS 72207-5238
PHONE: 888-217-5535
FAX: (501)664-0631
File No. 109608-11
INSERTION DATES:
11/27/2025; 12/04/2025
This sale can be viewed at www.trustee-foreclosuresalesonline.com

Fall into fresh ideas for Holiday entertaining

(Family Features) Crafting cozy crowd-pleasers is a must for hosting - especially during the cooler fall months. Give your crowd something to celebrate, regardless of the occasion, with comforting sides and appetizers that warm loved ones from the inside-out.

Always a healthy snack, fresh California grapes can also be the versatile ingredient you need for elevating dishes for get-togethers and parties. In addition to providing a juicy burst of flavor and pop of color, roasting grapes in recipes like these intensifies their flavor as the natural sugars caramelize.

No matter your main course, you can enjoy it alongside an easy yet refined side dish in Roasted Cauliflower with Grape Gremolata. Tender, caramelized cauliflower is topped with a vibrant grape gremolata with fresh herbs, garlic and a hint of lemon zest adding a bright and flavorful finishing touch. Colorful, tasty grapes bring balance to this savory side that pairs well with roasted chicken, grilled fish or hearty grain bowls.

Sesame-Roasted Grapes in Crispy Won Ton Cups offer perfect party bites that blend sweet and savory in each mouthful. Juicy, fresh California grapes are tossed with sesame oil, honey and a touch of soy then roasted until caramelized. Nestled in golden brown won ton cups, they make for a simple yet sophisticated way to start any gathering.

If a warm medley of color and taste sounds like the ideal addition to your fall celebrations, Sheet Pan Roasted Grapes and Sweet Potatoes provide an effortless solution as a crowd-pleasing side. Sweet potatoes, grapes, red onion and tangy balsamic glaze are roasted and topped with fresh basil so you can enjoy the flavors of the season without spending all your hosting time in the kitchen.

To discover more recipes that elevate fall entertaining without the hassle, visit GrapesFromCalifornia.com.



Roasted Cauliflower with Grape Gremolata

Servings: 6

Grape Gremolata:

- 1 cup finely chopped green Grapes from California
- 2 tablespoons minced Italian parsley
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 large lemon, zest only
- 1 pinch sea salt

Roasted Cauliflower:

- 1 large head cauliflower
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/2 teaspoon sea salt
- freshly ground pepper, to taste

1. To make grape gremolata: In medium mixing bowl, stir grapes, parsley, garlic, lemon zest and salt. Cover and refrigerate until ready to serve, up to 1 day ahead.

2. To make roasted cauliflower: Heat oven to 450 F and line baking sheet with foil.

3. Discard leaves and stems from cauliflower and cut into 1-1 1/2-inch florets. Place in large bowl and drizzle with olive oil. Sprinkle with salt and pepper, to taste, and toss well to coat. Transfer to prepared baking sheet and spread in single layer.

4. Roast 15 minutes. Stir well and roast 15 minutes, or until golden brown on edges. Serve warm with grape gremolata.

Nutritional information per serving: 90 calories; 3 g protein; 12 g carbohydrates; 5 g fat (50% calories from fat); 1 g saturated fat (10% calories from saturated fat); 0 mg cholesterol; 290 mg sodium; 3 g fiber.



Sesame-Roasted Grapes in Crispy Won Ton Cups

Servings: 24 (1 cup each)

- 24 square won ton wrappers, at room temperature
- olive oil cooking spray
- 2 tablespoons sesame oil
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon rice vinegar (unseasoned)
- 1/4 teaspoon ground ginger
- 3 cups red Grapes from California
- sesame seeds
- snipped fresh cilantro, for garnish

1. Heat oven to 350 F. Spray won ton wrappers on both sides with olive oil spray. Press into 24 mini muffin cups, gently pressing into bottom to form flat base. Bake 10-12 minutes, or until lightly browned; let cool.

2. Increase oven temperature to 425 F and line small baking sheet with foil. In medium bowl, stir sesame oil, honey, soy sauce, vinegar and ginger. Add grapes and toss well to coat.

3. Spread mixture in single layer on baking sheet and roast 30 minutes, or until grapes are cooked but still holding shape, stirring occasionally. Let cool then spoon a few grapes into each won ton cup, adding any leftover juices. Garnish with sesame seeds and cilantro.

Nutritional information per serving (1 wonton): 50 calories; 1 g protein; 9 g carbohydrates; 1.5 g fat (27% calories from fat); 0 g saturated fat (0% calories from saturated fat); 0 mg cholesterol; 120 mg sodium; 0 g fiber.



Sheet Pan Roasted Grapes and Sweet Potatoes

Servings: 6

- 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 3 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
- 3/4 teaspoon sea salt
- 3 cups red Grapes from California
- 1 pound orange sweet potatoes, peeled and cut into 1/4-inch slices
- 3/4 cup thinly sliced onion
- freshly ground pepper, to taste
- snipped fresh basil

1. Heat oven to 425 F. In large bowl, combine oil, vinegar, salt, grapes, sweet potatoes and onion, tossing well to coat. Place on large baking sheet and spread in single layer.

2. Bake 30 minutes, or until potatoes are tender, stirring halfway through cooking. Sprinkle with freshly ground pepper, to taste, and fresh basil.

Nutritional information per serving: 170 calories; 2 g protein; 27 g carbohydrates; 7 g fat (37% calories from fat); 1 g saturated fat (5% calories from saturated fat); 0 mg cholesterol; 310 mg sodium; 2 g fiber.

EDUCATION FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIP

KEY DATES FOR THE 2026-27 SCHOOL YEAR

Renewal Applications Opening December 9!

Dec. 9, 2025
Application Window OPENS for RENEWAL EFS APPLICATIONS

Jan. 13, 2026
Application Window OPENS for NEW EFS APPLICATIONS

Jan. 30, 2026
Application Window CLOSES for ALL APPLICATIONS

EDUCATION FREEDOM

TN Department of Education

Classifieds

NOTICES

Abandoned Vehicles
2003 Dodge
WD2YD742435556393
2002 Ford
1FMYU04162KC50470
Will be sold at auction or disposed of for scrap on Dec. 7, 2025 at 4:00pm if not claimed by owner and all wrecker and storage fees paid in full.
At Creson Recycling
2534 Lewisburg Hwy.
Fayetteville, TN 37334
(931)433-5290

YOUR CLASSIFIED COULD BE HERE. Call 931-684-1200 Today.

FOR SALE

Very nice brown leather, electric recliner, 1 month old. Retails for $1,600. Will accept $600 or best offer. Please call 931-580-1420

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

Carriage House of Shelbyville staff celebrate thankfulness, along with residents

Photos by Mary Ellen Butler and staff



















Medicare Open Enrollment now through Dec. 7

Find the right care at the best price

From Dr. Mehmet Oz, administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

As the new head of the Medicare program, I encourage everyone with Medicare to take full advantage of this year's Open Enrollment period. This is your once-a-year opportunity to take a fresh look at your coverage for the year ahead. As a physician, I've seen firsthand how the right health plan can improve both the quality of care you receive and your peace of mind. Now is time to take a moment, do a little homework and make sure you are getting the right care at the best price.

Health plans can undergo changes every year including adjustments to benefits, costs and coverage. Even the plan you're in now could be changing. At the same time, your health needs may have changed over the past year. When you review your coverage options and compare plans, you may find that you can save money, get better coverage or both. A simple plan comparison could save you hundreds – in some cases even thousands of dollars, depending on the prescription medications you take.

Start at the Official Source: Medicare.gov

Medicare.gov is your official source for all your Open Enrollment needs. It's the trusted resource to help you navigate Open Enrollment. Here people can explore and compare every available Medicare health and drug plan available in their area. If you prefer speaking with someone directly, call 1-800-MEDICARE to connect with our team of experts. We're available 24/7 to help you review your options and answer any questions about your Medicare coverage.

To get started, go to Medicare.gov and click on "Find Plans Now." For the best shopping experience, log in or start a Medicare account. You can easily compare plan costs, side-by-side, all based on the drugs you take. This is important: Make sure the plan you choose covers your prescription drugs and your doctors.

Time is Limited So Start Early

Medicare Open Enrollment ends Dec. 7. After this deadline, you'll typically need to wait until the next Open Enrollment period to make changes to your coverage. The deadline approaches quickly, so start early to make sure you have time to compare your options – including costs, benefits, covered drugs and provider and pharmacy networks. Then you can feel confident in selecting the plan that delivers the right care at the right price for your needs.

Help is Available 24/7

If you have any questions about your coverage options, visit Medicare.gov. If you prefer to talk it over with someone, call the experts at 1-800-MEDICARE – they're available 24/7 to review your options and answer your questions.

One final note: Stay vigilant against Medicare fraud, especially during Open Enrollment. Remember that Medicare will never contact you unsolicited. If someone you don't know calls, texts or emails you about Medicare, simply hang up or delete the message. By staying alert, you can help stop fraud before it starts.

New at Medicare.gov

This year, Medicare.gov has rolled out a series of improvements designed to help people more easily compare their Medicare options and find a plan that fits their unique needs.

By clicking "Find Plans Now" on the homepage, users can quickly compare plan costs side-by-side, with results personalized to the specific medications they take. For the first time, you can now search to see whether your preferred doctors are covered by different plans – all in one seamless experience.

Medicare.gov is also making it easier to search for plans that include additional benefits that can improve your daily life. Whether you're looking for wellness perks like weight management programs or other services that support a healthier lifestyle, the updated search tools can help you focus on what matters most to you.

Logging into your Medicare account has also been modernized. If you choose, you can set up your fingerprint or Face ID to get into your account securely. It's faster, it's more secure and it's easier than trying to remember another password.

Information provided by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.

Death Notices

Jessie Lee Crosslin, Jr.

Jessie Lee Crossslin, Jr., of Shelbyville, age 71.

Doak Howell Funeral Home.

Sheila Diane Canfield

Sheila Diane Canfield, 79, of Wartrace, died November 18, 2025, at Alive Hospice in Murfreesboro.

Sheila was born September 22, 1946, in Elmira, New York, to her parents the late David and Mary Clark.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a son, Donald Rosekrans. She is survived by a son, David Lynn Rosekrans of Elmira, New York; brothers, Bruce Clark, Bryan Clark and Jeff Clark.

Hillcrest Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Willard Pressley

Willard Pressley, 88, of Tullahoma, died November 21, 2025, at Vanderbilt Harton Hospital in Tullahoma.

He was the son of the late Allie and Clyde Elmore Pressley and the husband of the late Virginia Prince Pressley.

He is survived by two sons, Leslie Alan Pressley of Tullahoma and Michael Wayne Pressley of Shelbyville; a sister, Lynn Pressley; two brothers, Austin Pressley and Jimmy Pressley

Hillcrest Funeral Home is assisting the family.

PICK-UP LINES By Timothy E. Parker

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Lady Champs Hungry to Break Through on the Hardwood

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com



The Cascade Lady Champions huddle against Franklin County in the 2025 HOF season opener at Franklin County on November 18, 2025. *Photo courtesy of David Smith.*

BELL BUCKLE, Tenn. – After a heartbreaking 42-33 loss in last year's Region 5-AA semifinals against Summertown, the Cascade Lady Champions are hungry to not just get back to that point for the third-consecutive season, but break through to the state-sectional round entering Janie Demounbreun's fourth year at the helm.

The Lady Champs finished 14-14 in 2024/25, but got hot down the stretch, winning six of their final eight games to finish as the District 9-AA Runners-up against Cannon County before falling to Summertown. Expectedly, Demonbreaun and her staff have been stewing on that game all offseason.

"I think [that game] has had more of an impact on the coaching staff," she said. "If there was a way to look at my Hudl watchtime for that game specifically – as well as Coach Woodson – that's one that we've looked at a lot. That and the Community game where we scored 22 points because teams would throw zone at us and we would struggle. We've been going back and trying to figure out, how do we fix that? What did we do wrong? What is the disconnect, and how do we make adjustments to that?"

"I think for the group of girls that we have right now – outside of Kaegan [Young], Caroline [Parker], and Lizzie [Keele] – they weren't as involved in the actual playing of that game. I don't think it's in their mindset, but we do bring it up a lot. I reference it a lot because I'm trying to fix things right now that ended our season last year. I don't want those problems to be skeletons in our closet that walk out and show themselves in February and March again. It's important for us to learn about what we have to do."

Cascade graduated a trio of seniors – 1,000-point scorer Sophie Ray, starter Kaydence Miller, and a rotation piece in Laina Carter – but returned key contributors such as Kaegan Young, Lizzie Keele, and Caroline Parker. They also welcome back Suzanna Crews into the fold after she missed basically the entire season last year due to an ACL injury. Young, who led the team in scoring a season ago with 12.3 PPG, and Crews are the only two seniors with Parker as the lone junior.

Despite the horde of underclassmen filling out the rest of the roster, Demonbreaun has been pleased with the work ethic and dedication of the younger players, especially the sophomore class.

"I've really been impressed with Caroline Parker as well as my sophomores. In the preseason, they would stay after and shoot, like I was here until 5:30 and they're still shooting," she said. "Everybody's making 100 threes, rapid-fire shooting on the gun, and when we have early practices, most mornings I would have 4-5 girls at 7:00 in the morning in the gym getting their shots in. I think that just speaks to their work ethic. They want it so bad, especially that sophomore class. The sophomore class has really impressed us this summer and in the preseason as far as how much they just want it. They want to be successful, they want to contribute, and they're putting in the work to where you're going to have to step out and guard them."

The sophomore class includes names such as Lizzie Keele, Lexi Comstock, and Jocelyn Laughlin, as well as relative unknowns in Jade Toler and the Fisher twins – Mackenzie and Makayla. The Fisher twins specifically have been putting in extra work before school starts every day, and Demonbreaun has seen a shift in mindset as the sophomores enter their second season on the varsity squad. With openings in the rotation that Demonbreaun is still piecing together, all six girls sense an opportunity to play meaningful minutes this season as Cascade moves into one of the tougher districts in all of Class AA. Loretto and Summertown, who both made the State Tournament last season, along with much-improved Community and Chapel Hill squads round out the five-team district.

"The goal is to get those underclassmen as much game experience as possible so that when we get to district play they have that in-game knowledge that they're going to need every night," explained Demonbreaun. "They are super young, but Lizzie having the experience she had last year...she could almost be considered a junior. She got a lot of experience this summer. While the numbers seem daunting, we have a very experienced core-four [Kaegan Young, Suzanna Crews, Caroline Parker, and Lizzie Keele]."

As it pertains to Keele, she became a key contributor late last season for the Lady Champions, and it all culminated with a 25-point performance in the District 9-AA Championship game against Cannon County.

"I think Lizzie sees what she can be now," continued Demonbreaun, "I really think she believes in herself in the most humble way. She is not a selfish kid at all. Just her understanding of the game, her understanding of movements, asking questions, she's just really put in an effort to be a student of the game and I think that's one of her biggest blessings."

Looking towards the senior leadership in Kaegan Young and Suzanna Crews, Demonbreaun has already felt the impact of Crews' return after missing almost the entire season a year ago due to injury.

"Suzanna's presence is huge," Demonbreaun said. "She's not one that I just want to throw inside. When you look at us we're not big at all, and from the outside she would seem to fit in at that role with her height, but she has one of the best outside shots on the team, so I want to utilize her on the outside as well. Her presence on the glass by going to get rebounds is huge, and we missed her a lot last year on our press break offense. She usually would take the ball out and be that relief for Kaegan or Caroline when we would be pressured. Being able to have that back is huge. I think she's going to have a great season. She's worked hard in her recovery [Torn ACL] and physical therapy, but she's also worked hard in our weights program and leading us in runs too. Her leadership has been there. There were so many times last year that we thought we'd be able to put her back out there on the court, and even going back to watch the Summertown game from last year, she was dressed out but I couldn't put her in. That hurt, especially with how that game ended. Having her back with her experience is going to be key."

With that lack of size, Demonbreum revealed how she has adjusted to her personnel in preparation for this season, and the biggest change has come on the offensive end.

"We're going to try and get up and down as much as possible," she said. "If you can't get to the basket, you'd better make a three, or drive and kick to someone else who will. We've put in two set offenses – one against zone and one against man-to-man – of just motion, like let's go be basketball players."

"It's a completely different look than what I've had the past three years, and kind of a different mindset. Coach Woodson called us Alabama this year in terms of the playstyle," she chuckled.

Of course, the offensive strategy is spearheaded by none other than star returner and recent UT-Southern signee, Kaegan Young. Young led the team in scoring a year ago, averaging just over 12 points-per-game, and recently reached the 1,000 points mark for her career.

Of course, she isn't the sole offensive option, and Demonbreaun expects her lead-by-example style of leadership is already paying off for her squad. She has high expectations for how hard her team should play as she begins her fourth season at Cascade.

"They [the fans] can expect intensity," she concluded, "I think my girls are gonna bring it. That's my expectation, that's what I'm harping on, just a group of girls that are going out there and doing their job, whatever that job might be, they're doing it to the best of their abilities. They're gonna dive on the floor, and they're gonna be scrappy, and when I picture it in my mind it looks like us just picking up right where we left off from the middle portion of the game against Summertown. I just feel like the intensity of our team is going to be different this year."

Middle Tennessee drops home contest with No. 13 Lady Vols

MT ATHLETICS

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – Middle Tennessee Women's Basketball (2-3) fell in a clash with No. 13 ranked Tennessee (4-1) in the Murphy Center on Thursday night, 85-41.

Savannah Davis led the Blue Raiders with 18 points, including two three-pointers, while Blair Baugus added seven rebounds. Kirston Verhulst scored 10 points off the bench, knocking down a pair of threes to give MTSU brief momentum in the first half.

MTSU faced tough full court pressure, committing turnovers that resulted in 36 Tennessee points. The Blue Raiders posted their strongest offensive stretch in the third quarter with 14 points, but were ultimately unable to cut into a deficit that grew to as many as 44.

Middle Tennessee dropped to 2–3 on the season and will continue non-conference play next week.

By The Numbers

10,212 - 10,212 fans attended tonight's game in the Glass House.

66.7 - Middle Tennessee shot 66.7% beyond the arc in the first quarter.

19 - The Blue Raiders committed 19 fouls on the floor, the mark less than the Lady Vols.

Up Next

The Blue Raiders head to Destin, Fla. for the Emerald Coast Classic. Middle Tennessee will take on Providence on Monday, November 24 at 11 a.m. CT, the Blue Raiders will then play a second game on Tuesday, November 25, the time and opponent to be announced. Both games will be broadcast on Flo-Sports and WGNS Radio.

Blue Raiders Roll Past Sam Houston on Senior Day

MT ATHLETICS

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – Middle Tennessee closed out its home slate in commanding fashion Saturday, using a balanced offensive attack and a dominant second half to pull away from Sam Houston, 31–17, on Senior Day at Floyd Stadium.

After falling behind 10–0 in the first quarter, the Blue Raiders (2–9, 1–6 CUSA) settled in and controlled the game from that point forward, outscoring the Bearkats 31–7 the rest of the way. MTSU posted 192 rushing yards and 268 through the air while scoring on five of its final seven drives.

Roman Gagliano delivered one of the most efficient performances of his freshman season, completing 21-of-34 passes for 268 yards and a touchdown while adding 67 yards and two rushing scores. His 33-yard touchdown run early in the fourth quarter gave the Blue Raiders a 24–10 cushion, and his two-yard keeper with 2:10 to play sealed the win.

Jekail Middlebrook paced the ground game with 106 rushing yards on 15 carries, averaging over seven yards per attempt. Rickey Hunt Jr. added a one-yard touchdown run in the second quarter to start the scoring surge.

MTSU's defense tightened significantly after Sam Houston's early burst, allowing just 79 rushing yards and generating the game-clinching interception in the final minute when Parker Hughes stepped in front of a pass near midfield.

By the Numbers

142: Jekail Middlebrook totaled 142 all-purpose yards (106 rushing, 31 receiving, 5 punt return), leading all players and pacing an MTSU offense that rolled up 460 total yards.

192: Middle Tennessee rushed for 192 yards, averaging 6.0 yards per carry behind big days from Middlebrook and Roman Gagliano, who added 67 on the ground with two rushing touchdowns.

24: The Blue Raiders finished with 24 first downs, controlling tempo and sustaining drives while outgaining Sam Houston by 100 yards of total offense.

BEDFORD CO HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNOUNCMENT

The Bedford County Historical Society will hold its Winter Quarter meeting on December 1, 2025, at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall of the First United Methodist Church on the Public Square. The doors open at 5:45pm); short business meeting at ~7:15; program at ~7:30. The Flat Creek Dancers will present the holiday program.

Hosts for the meeting are Larry & Patti Watkins, Marty & Lorri Gordon, Biff & Betty Farrar, Jim & Marylyn Caperton, Marc Majors, and Al & Mary Simmons. Members are reminded to please bring an extra dish for our expected large attendance.

"We feel like we can compete with anybody in the state" – Deep, Experienced Golden Eagles Squad Looks to Build off Last Season's District Title in 2025-26

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com



Shelbyville Central looks to improve upon a 2024-25 campaign that saw the Golden Eagles take home the program's first district title in 17 years. *T-G Staff Photo by Noah Maddox.*

SHELBYVILLE, Tenn. - After winning the program's first District Championship in 17 years in 2024-25, the Shelbyville Central Golden Eagles enter the third season under Shane Young continuing to strive for new heights.

Coach Young feels like this year's squad is by far the best team he's had so far at Shelbyville Central. Last year, Shelbyville finished as the District 9-4A champs with a Region 5-4A quarterfinal berth at 14-14 overall, an eight-win improvement over a 6-22 season in 2023-24.

However, last season came to an abrupt end just four days after celebrating making history in a 62-30 home loss to Nolensville.

"I think we stayed celebrating too long, and with such a quick turnaround from Tuesday to Saturday, we never got past that and moved onto the new tournament with a fresh start," admitted Young. "Being able to celebrate, but then re-focus and get back to business is what I'm hoping we learned from last year."

The vast majority of major contributors from a season ago are back for the Golden Eagles, and Young feels like the depth of his team is one of its strengths.

"This team's bench depth is better than last year," he said, "I feel pretty confident putting guys in the game to sustain and keep up what we're trying to do. I do think we are a better team than last year for sure."

Part of this reason is due to Young's philosophy of playing the young guys even as freshmen so they can begin that development process and start to gain confidence in themselves and the program.

"I've always believed in playing the younger guys for a few reasons. One, because it's the future, and the other one is you never know who might get hurt, and you have to have the next man up. I developed that philosophy very early in my career because I always wanted to be prepared in case of a situation like a key rotation piece in Jack [Conditt] gets hurt and we can have faith in the other guys to step in," he explained. "On top of that, the team has faith in those guys, and Jack has faith in those guys, for example. I think that's a cool part about what we have developed as a team is that they believe in one another and they believe in a freshman. Last year, Braylon Johnson was a freshman that they brought in. This year, it's Cyonn Rucker. When they bring a guy in, they're saying that we believe in you and we believe that you can help us, so go do your thing."

"Another thing about playing that many guys last year is that going into his sophomore year, guys like Braylon are more confident than if I had sat him and I need him now all of a sudden," Young continued. "Now, he's already played at this level and got a taste of what it's like, so we can trust him. It's about building that trust, especially in the non-district games the first month and a half of the season or so. Of course, we want to win as many games as possible, but they are not the end goal. The end goal is to advance in the postseason and try to get to state. So the question is who can help us by then? That's what happened last year. Jordan Taylor – who averaged over 13 PPG – and Tommie Cannon got hurt. It forced Malek [Johnson] and Jack Conditt to step up in the guard roles, and we won the district without two of our better guards. I think last year prepared a lot of them, and coming into this year you hope that they can all mesh and play well together."

That preparation over the past two seasons led to some breakout performances on the way to a district title, including a game-high 20 points from then-sophomore Jevon Lee – 14 of which came in the second half – as well as the go-ahead bucket late in the 60-56 win over Lincoln County. This season, he promises to be an integral part of the Golden Eagles' success.

Another reason Young is confident in his team's ability to peak in February and March once again? The senior leadership, both on and off the court paired with the youth. Point guard Malek Johnson, center Tae'Shawn Shelton, shooting guard Jordan Taylor, wing Ladarius Sparrow, and guard Jack Conditt. "This senior group leads by committee," said Young. "Their biggest strength is each other. They all have their own leadership qualities – they hang out with each other, they eat together, they go out and get the young ones involved – so it's good to see them be that for the whole team. Jordan [Taylor] is the fiery and energetic one. Tae ['Shawn Shelton] is a quiet assassin, and he's a guy that everybody kinda gravitates towards because he rocks with everybody. Jack [Conditt] on the outside is the nice and quiet one, but he's got a flare to him and he's a competitor. Ladd [Sparrow] is the glue guy, the energy guy, but they're all connected. I trust in every one of them to get points across and to help the younger ones catch up fast, but Malek [Johnson] is by far the main go-to guy. He orchestrates a lot of the things that we need done. They all have their own qualities that mesh together."

"By tournament time, I believe that we'll be firing on all cylinders," he continued, "We have a tough schedule this year, but for us it's not about the wins and losses early on as much as it is the development and game-planning to get ourselves ready for February and March. I feel like our goal as a unit is to make it to state. For them, it's to make it, for me it's to win it, but that's the competitor in me. It's just going to come down to if we do what I think we're capable of."

Young also recognizes that outsiders may continue to think that last year was some sort of one-off run for Shelbyville Central, but he says that both him and his team are focused on improving one day at a time to build for tournament time.

"People might doubt us, people might not respect what we did last year, and that's fine," he said, "We don't want them to. We'll keep doing what we're doing because the process that we're trying to form to get to where we want to go has already started. We did something for the first time in 17 years last season, but that's not the end goal. That's nice, but that's the standard now. We want to continue to build on top of that and stay trending in the right direction."

Finally, Young expects his team to play a high-intensity, high-tempo brand of basketball that may not appeal to every fan, but does appeal to the win-loss record come the end of the season that, hopefully for his Golden Eagles, ends a bit further down the line than the region quarterfinal round.

"Sometimes, it may not be the typical game that people want to see or some fans want to see, but it's going to be the game that we want to play. For the most part, we want to get at you defensively and we want to push the tempo. We believe that we can compete with anybody in the state," he concluded. "It's going to be exciting, and they might see our guys do some things that they've never seen before. At the end of the day, they'll see the growth in our players."

This season, the Golden Eagles have moved to District 6-AAAA within Region 3-AAAA. The district looks slightly different yet similar with familiar faces like Coffee County, Warren County, and Lincoln County joining Cookeville to comprise the five-team district.

Viqueens' Annie Prince, Haylee Webb Sign With Chatt State

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com

UNIONVILLE, Tenn. - Two Community Viqueen softball stars, Annie Prince and Haylee Webb, signed with the Chattanooga State Tigers on Friday morning to continue their softball careers at the next collegiate level.

Prince put together a dominant 2025 spring in the circle, compiling a 22-3 record as well as finishing with just a 0.85 ERA across 139.1 innings in 28 appearances. Prince struck out an incredible 295 batters while issuing just 34 walks and allowed opponents to bat just a paltry .103 at the plate. For good measure, Prince's splits at the plate were .343/.373/.614 with an OPS of .987. She smacked eight doubles, drove in 16 runs, and homered three times.

"It's a blessing," Prince said, "I'm really proud of how hard I've worked for this, and it's very, very exciting that I get to go with Haylee."

Webb, a second baseman, had a great junior season as well, tallying splits of .321/.359/.486 with an OPS of .845. She drove in 22 runs, hit 11 doubles, and showcased tremendous bat-to-ball skills by striking out just 10 times in 117 plate appearances.

"It means everything," Webb said, "Ever since I was a kid I always wanted to go to college to play softball, and that dream finally came true. I've always worked for it, and now I get to do it with my best friend."

In their junior seasons, Prince and Webb helped lead the Viqueens to a dominant 33-5-2 record and a program-best finish at the State Tournament where they fell to the eventual champs and now-Class AAA school, Liberty Creek, in the semifinals.



Annie Prince (left) and Haylee Webb (right) celebrated signing with Chattanooga State on Friday afternoon at Community High School. *T-G Staff Photo by Noah Maddox.*

Carriage House of Shelbyville staff celebrate thankfulness, along with residents

Photos by Mary Ellen Butler and staff































I will praise the name of God, with a song; I will magnify him with thanksgiving. Psalm 69:30

Shop local during **Black Friday** *and throughout Christmas!*
Celebrate the Advent season with song!

Plans underway for local Christmas celebrations

WARTRACE CHRISTMAS MARKETPLACE

Wartrace CHRISTMAS MARKETPLACE is Saturday, Nov. 29, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Handmade gifts, treats, art and more. Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus pictures, music, Dickens Dancers, Christmas Cloggers and Nativity scene. The Wartrace Tree Lighting Ceremony is at 6:00 p.m. Fun for the whole family. Located in Historic Downtown Wartrace. Booth spaces are available. Facebook.com/The Wartrace Voice, wartracemerchants@gmail.com or 209-499-3432.

OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS IN BELL BUCKLE

The old-fashioned Christmas in Bell Buckle is planned for Dec. 6, 13 and 20 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sleigh rides, carolers and more! The annual pet parade is at noon on Dec. 6.

HERE COMES, ANOTHER BEDFORD COUNTY CHRISTMAS!!

The Chamber of Commerce will sponsor the second annual Bedford County Christmas on Friday, December 5th, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. on the Historic Shelbyville Square. Evening festivities Include: a live performance by Hannah Nicolaisen (American Idol Top 20, Season 21), photos with Santa, live reindeer, Disney characters and superheroes, The Mid-State Cloggers, a live nativity



presented by Shelbyville First United Methodist Church, the lighting of the courthouse and Christmas tree. Special features include a Lowe's of Shelbyville Build-A-Toy Workshop, merchants open on the square, special activities, and activities by non-profits. Various vendors will be available.

A VERY NORMANDY CHRISTMAS

A Very Normandy Christmas will be held Saturday, Dec. 6, from 1 to 6 p.m. Activities include food trucks, Santa, a food drive event and a tree lighting ceremony.

THE 52ND ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARADE

Theme: Christmas Around the World. Saturday December 6th at 4:00 p.m. (Rain Date: TBD) Fill out the entry form and return NO LATER THAN 4:00 PM THURSDAY November 20, 2025. MAIL TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS: Shelbyville Jaycees, P.O. Box 361, Shelbyville, TN 37162. If you have questions, please Call Connie Smith 931-307-5285. Rules: • Only one Santa is Permitted in the Parade • Tossing Candy is not permitted by anyone but Santa due to safety issues-You may walk beside your float and hand children candy • NO ATV's- 4 Wheelers are allowed only if pulling trailer • 40 ft Max- Includes truck & trailer • Vehicle Burnouts are prohibited • NO DRUGS OR ALCOHOL PERMITTED

BC Ministerial Association presents: 'A Night of Christmas' Nov. 30

"A Night of Christmas" (Lessons and Carols) will be presented 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 30, at Edgemont Baptist Church, 150 Fairfield Pike, in Shelbyville.

Bedford County Ministerial Association advised recently that this is a community-wide service and will be a great way for all in the community to begin the Christmas season.

Pastor Abe Zimmerman said, "It will be an evening of scripture, song, and celebration. We are excited for special guest singers Jody McBrayer, Gene McDonald, and Angela Primm. Come experience the wonder of the season as voices unite across our community to tell the story of Christmas through songs and powerful readings. All are welcome — bring your family, invite a friend, and let's fill the sanctuary with light and love!"



TREATS: A GOOD APPRECIATIVE HOLIDAY GIFT

Treats like cookies, wine or cider are always nice Christmas gifts. But if you're out shopping this weekend, it might be good to make a BIG batch of those favorite Christmas cookies! Shop local!

SHELBYVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
"THE CHURCH ON THE SQUARE"
Rev. Abe Zimmerman, Pastor

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2025
Pastor Abe's Advent Message Series-"The Light Has a Sound"

Sun. Nov. 30
First Sunday of Advent
10 am Hanging of the Greens Service
7 pm at Edgemont Baptist Church
"A NIGHT OF CHRISTMAS"
sponsored by the Bedford Co. Ministerial Association; featuring vocalists Jody McBrayer, Gene McDonald, Angela Primm and the Combined Choirs of First United Methodist Church & Edgemont Baptist Church

Fri. Dec. 5
Live Nativity
at Courthouse/Square 5-6 pm

Sun. Dec. 7
Second Sunday of Advent
Worship 10 am
5 pm-Children's Christmas Musical
"Good News Flash"
featuring Wesley Warriors & J.A.M. (Jesus and Me) Choirs

Sun. Dec. 21
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Worship 10 am

Wed. Dec. 24
Candlelight Communion
Christmas Eve Services 4 pm & 11 pm
Pastor Abe's message-
"The Cry That Changed Everything"
With Special Music

Sun. Dec. 14
Third Sunday of Advent
Worship 10 am
"A Song…A Son…A Savior"
featuring the Chancel Choir, Soloists & Handbell Choir

All worship services feature keyboardist Lori Schuler on piano and pipe organ.
Sunday School classes are available for all ages at 9 am.
Children's Moment for all & Children's Church available during morning worship services for age 5 through 5th grade.
Sunday Morning Worship Services are aired on WLIJ 1580 AM and 98.7 FM at 10 am.
Our prayer is that we can be a place for you and your family to connect with the true meaning of this holiday season.
You will be welcome here!