COMMUNITY NEWS

SHELBYVILLE TIMES-GAZETTE

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Senior property tax freeze proposal makes it out the chute

Expectations are for the May Commission agenda

By Dawn Hankins
dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net

Commissioner Eric Maddox told the Rules and Legislative Committee on Tuesday that sending the proposed senior property tax proposal for low-income seniors on to the County Commission in May is just the right thing to do.

He believes too, after all these months of study, that it is time for the proposal to move on, simultaneously to Commission and Finance Committee, for final vote.

His counterpart in the senior tax freeze proposal has been City Councilman Josh Blevins, who told the Rules Committee Tuesday that such a proposal is "peace of mind" and "insurance" for low-income seniors.

Blevins told the Rules Committee members that they would like to enact the freeze at the lower of the two income levels and then revisit after the departments have had a year of actually processing the applications, so they can get a better feel for the workload.

The income levels for the Tennessee senior property tax freeze are as follows:

• $33,460: This is the income limit for the state-level senior exemption. Homeowners must be 65 or older and have this income level or lower to qualify for the exemption.

• $60,000: This is the income limit for the local option tax freeze, which is an alternative to the standard limits produced annually. The local option income limit is set by the local legislative body and is adjusted annually by the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for Social Security recipients.

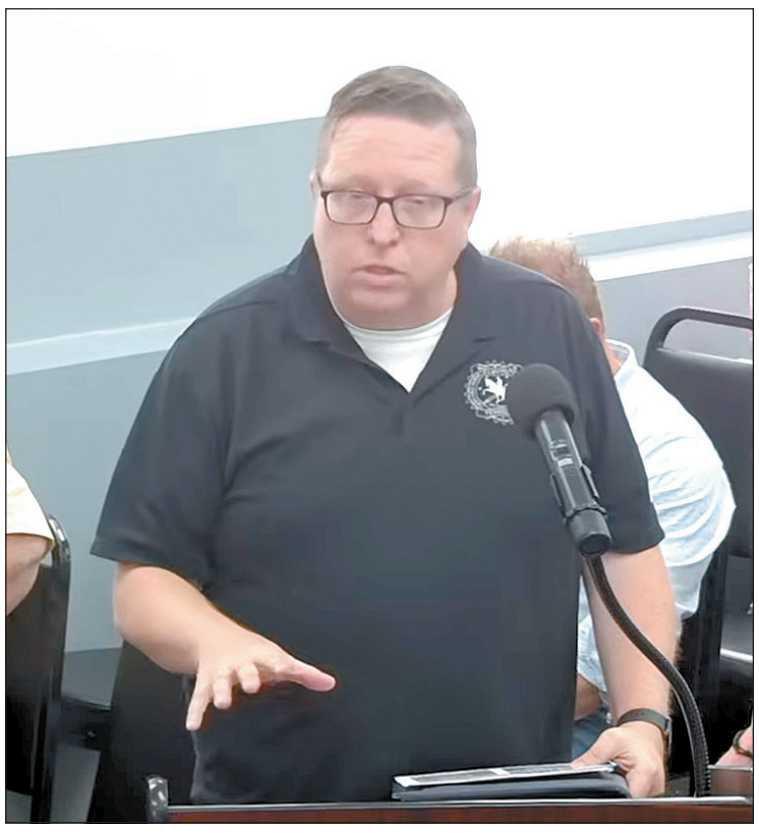
These income limits are subject to change each year based on federal guidelines, so it is essential to verify the current limit when applying. Additionally, the property must be the applicant's primary residence, and the applicant must have owned and resided in the property for a specified period, generally at least one year before applying for the exemption.

When the Rules Committee voted Tuesday, Commissioners Greg Vick and John Boutwell voted 'no' against the proposal going to Commission in May- with or without a recommendation from finance.

Boutwell read the minutes from earlier this year and said that they reflect an approval from the finance committee before heading on to Commission for a vote.

Rules Chairman Biff Farrar said a financial proposal like this has always gone before the Commission for a vote, with or without any prior committee approval.

Farrar, Commissioner Anita Epperson, who chaired a recent subcommittee for the senior tax freeze for the County (per Rules Committee recommendation) and Bill Anderson were the ones voting to move the proposal on to Finance and the County Commission.



Bedford County Rules Committee heard the last words from Commissioner Eric Maddox and City Councilman Josh Blevins on the proposed senior property tax freeze Tuesday evening. The committee voted 3:2 to send the proposal on to finance (with or without approval) and then to Commission.

The heart of the mighty Duck beats on

BC's Chris White continues committee work



Duck River Watershed

Staff Report

For most, the heart of Bedford County is the Duck River.

Locals depend on the Duck for water, recreational activities and value its scenic beauty. The City of Shelbyville even plans to place an overlook over the river.

Chris White is among those concerned about the protected water source that locals have all come to know and love.

White, who works as the planning director for Bedford County, was appointed in February to be the chair of a committee on the Partnership, charged with what he describes as "actionalizing" the November mid-term report.

He's held two meetings at the War Memorial building in Nashville which is conveniently located adjacent to the TN State Capitol.

"I wanted to share an update on the Duck River Watershed Planning Partnership and the work currently underway as the Partnership develops comprehensive watershed management recommendations pursuant to Executive Order 108," he told the T-G this week. "Our charge is to help shape recommendations for the governor, the Duck River Agency, TDEC, TWRA, and the leadership of the Tennessee General Assembly that balance water-use demands and economic growth with the need to protect the environmental integrity of the Duck River."

White said the Partnership brings together a broad range of stakeholders, including representatives from the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Tennessee Economic and Community Development, the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, the Tennessee House of Representatives, the Tennessee Senate, TVA, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Duck River Agency, local utilities within the watershed, local government representatives, academic institutions, and regional nonprofit organizations.

In addition to the appointed members, a number of agency staff members contribute substantially to the Partnership's work, he advised, particularly TDEC personnel ranging from engineering professionals to division leadership.

White said this expertise is helping support the workgroups through technical review, scoping, cost analysis, and engineering evaluation.

"Last year, Gov. Bill Lee appointed me to the Partnership, and I now serve as chair of the Studies Workgroup. That group was tasked, following the November mid-term report to Gov. Lee, with evaluating the feasibility of potential recommendations, coordinating the necessary engineering review, and refining those ideas into practical, achievable recommendations for inclusion in the final report due in August."

Because of that deadline,

See DUCK, 5A

Some County residents already fuming over tax reappraisals

By Dawn Hankins and County report

Tax reappraisals went out this week to County residents. Many people are not happy, to say the least, noting their reappraisal has doubled.

Mayor Chad Graham said Monday, "I'm waiting on our Finance Department to calculate the impact of the new certified tax rate on budgeting. We do expect property values to be significantly higher "assessment wise" but they will be **offset** with a significant tax rate **reduction**."

There is a review process through the Property Assessor's office for residents that feel their assessed value is wrong, Graham advised. Formal board meetings are scheduled for June.

The County put out the following information on Tuesday afternoon regarding the reappraisal process.

In late April, many Bedford County property owners received their reappraisal notices. Due to a variety of factors, many people will see that their property is now appraised as a higher value than it was in the last cycle. But it's important to understand that a higher appraised value may not mean an increase in the total amount of your property tax bill.

The State of Tennessee regulates the process with which counties appraise property values, and those ongoing reappraisals are meant to make sure the county has accurate figures and that each property owner pays no more or less than their fair share.

But the state also has a system in place to make sure that county governments are transparent and responsible in how they turn

See FUMING, 3A





WOMAN'S CLUB PREVIEWS SPRING AND SUMMER FASHIONS

Submitted Photos

Shelbyville Woman's Club kicked off spring with a fashion show featuring 39 designs that ladies are sure to love! Lisa Martin and Rosie Biggs were two of the 13 models presenting this year's bright and bold fashions from J Jordan Boutique. See more photos on page 2.

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Board of Education meeting

Last Thursday, Commissioner John Boutwell presented profound statistics about per pupil spending in Bedford County.

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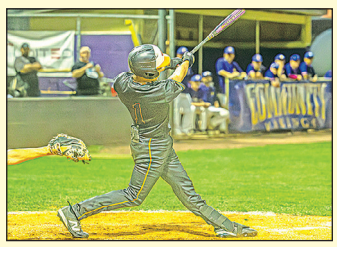

'Battle of Bedford'

CascadeChampions sweep Community Vikings in 'Battle of Bedford'

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Shelbyville Woman's Club enjoys bright and fun start to spring



SPRING FASHION SHOW MODELS

From left, Kennedy Cole, Jennifer Thompson, Rosie Biggs, Lisa Martin, Shelley Jones, second row, Cathy Mercer, Suzette McCrorey, Syndney Langford, Pam Birtcil, Dena Landers, Mary Frances Gordon, Marlee Agee, Heather Williams and Darlene Smotherman.



Lovely Spring And Summer Attire From J Jordan Boutique









SCHS STUDENT HONORS THOSE WHO GAVE IT ALL

Family Photo

Shelbyville Central senior Seth Sharp was recently recognized by his school. After visiting Washington, D.C., his junior year and witnessing the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Seth was inspired by the wreath-laying ceremony. His goal from that day forward, he said, was to take part in it. He made that a reality this year. On behalf of the Student Council, he and his family have now traveled to Arlington to place a wreath. He said it was a powerful and meaningful experience he will never forget.

FIRST COMMUNITY BANK

SHRED DAY

SATURDAY, MAY 16TH
9:00AM - 12:00PM
MAIN OFFICE PARKING LOT

PLEASE LIMIT TO 2 BOXES OR GARBAGE BAGS



NEW SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT'S SALARY APPROVED

School System Photo



During the monthly meeting last Thursday, Bedford County Board of Education approved the salary contract of Tim Harwell, newly appointed school system superintendent. Chairman Michael Cook read the first-year salary agreement, which is $165,465.30 (this amount does not include benefits.) The board unanimously approved. No other portions of Harwell's salary were discussed. Harwell, who has served as assistant superintendent the last 5 years, was appointed during a special called meeting in January to replace current superintendent Tammy Garrett, who has announced her retirement at the end of this school year. Harwell will officially assume his new role on June 2.

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FUMING

From page 1A

those appraised values into tax revenues. Reappraisal is supposed to be "revenue neutral" – it's not an excuse to raise (or lower) tax revenues.

The system, as set up by the state, works like this: After all of the appraised values have been set, the state will determine a "certified tax rate" based on the new property values. That certified tax rate is a rate that, when applied to the new property tax values, would produce the same amount of revenue that the old rate produced when applied to the old values.

For example, if the average property value doubled since the last appraisal, the certified tax rate would be half the current tax rate, in order to make the reappraisal bring in the same amount of money.

If the County Commission adopts the certified tax rate as Bedford County's tax rate for 2026-27, many property owners would see no change at all in their property tax bill. However, any rate higher than the certified tax rate would be a tax increase (even if the rate itself looks lower than last year's rate.)

The Commission is still free to set the tax rate at whatever level is necessary and appropriate, but the certified tax rate is a benchmark that citizens can use to help understand whether their taxes are being raised or not.

There are some situations where your property tax bill might go up even if the Commission adopts the certified tax rate. For example, if you've recently made improvements on your property, that raises the value of your property and may result in a higher tax bill. It's also possible that individual property owners may have an appraisal that rose more sharply (or less sharply) than the County average.

Since the certified tax rate is computed using the average increase in property values, a property that went up more than that may end up with a higher tax assessment.

One resident said on social media this week that the way she figured her taxes, based on current property assessment formulas, that her property taxes have more than doubled.

One resident said, "My taxes have always gone up, when the appraisal increases. This year is no different."

A Flat Creek resident said her appraised value on her 37 acres near her farm went from $171,500 to $606,700, as a result of the reappraisal. She said the land is hilly, basically "useless land" with no structures on it. It's too steep to mow. That's almost a $16,500 increase, she advised.

She said, "Whoever appraised our God-foresaken piece of land needs to come and buy it for that amount! You bet their office is getting a call about this mistake!"

Thou shalt not steal

Jail Intake focus for this week

By Dawn Hankins

While it has gone on for centuries, it's still against the law.

It's the 8th of the 10 commandments in the Bible.

Today, people likely look at taking property from others as probably the lowest form of crimes, next to child abuse.

Young people can become very well known, and not in a good way, for one boost over at Walmart.

There are some cases where stealing is considered a mental illness. Health experts note while stealing can be a dishonest criminal offense, it can also be the result of poor impulse control or addictive compulsive disorder.

If you believe you're suffering from theft as a mental illness, please seek professional help before it goes too far. Restitution for theft items can ruin those charged as well as their families for years. Not to mention, it can hurt the businesses or individual victims.

In the old days, if a person was caught stealing a horse—to the gallows. Now, I'm not condoning that, I'm just saying, it deterred a lot.

This week, in the Jail Intake/Crime Report, we're focusing on just that-stealing. Sorry to call people out but this is from public record/criminal court. Of course, everyone is innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Samantha Kali Gregg was in criminal court this week with 7 counts of theft of property- felony burglary (auto or plane) and misdemeanor fraudulent use of a credit card. She was arrested in February.

She was in court to set trial and was under a blanket bond in Bedford County for $15,000.

Not to leave Ms. Gregg alone, an Autumn Sintirnin was arrested and is going to court with 4 counts of theft of property.

Joining them in jail, perhaps, is Saniyia Synsere Rogers who is charged with shoplifting. For whatever it was that this person needed to lift so bad, bail alone has already set the inmate back $1,500.

THE ISSUE

Commissioner Boutwell continues plea to increase pupil dollars

Encourages school board to have involvement in process

By Dawn Hankins
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During the Bedford County Board of Education meeting last Thursday, Commissioner John Boutwell, a former school board member, presented some pretty profound statistics, when it comes to per pupil spending in Bedford County.

Basically, Bedford County ranks last in the South Central Core District and not much better overall in the state for what it spends on its students from the local budget. See the chart for comparisons in the South Central District.

Boutwell showed on his slide presentation how TISA matches up at the state level. The lack of funding he discussed, and has for years, is that Bedford County has slowly decreased its contributions for local education over the last 6 or so years.

He says he's a "stats nerd" but he really is concerned about the digression of school-related spending. He would like to see this County do more than just the minimum.

Boutwell told the board that Bedford County only pays what is expected by the state, no more, no less. He advised that if it weren't for the debt service fund the County has maintained, the state would likely reject the local budget.

Boutwell said debt service refers to the principal and interest payments made annually on the school bond indebtedness. Sort of like a house payment folks make out of their monthly income.

"The State using their education formula comes up with the dollar amount needed to educate children in each school district. Using an ability to pay sliding scale, the State tells the district their share of the cost. The district is expected to pay that amount and if they don't then the State is supposed to withhold funding until the district comes up with the money."

So far, that hasn't happened.

Boutwell said in recent years, Bedford County has not budgeted its required portion. The State has looked the other way and continued funding.

"In FY 2025, the State allowed us to take credit for the bond principal and interest payment to bridge the gap...even though the debt service has nothing to do with the daily operation of schools.

"I look at it like this... a student lacks 2 points from getting a passing grade on the test, but the teacher gives the student 2 points for coming to school every day. The State is giving us credit for education spending even though the "extra credit" spending we are getting credit for has nothing to do with the formula determining how much is needed to educate our students."

Boutwell said there's a "wrinkle" in allowing the County to do this.

"The debt service is around 6 million and the State increased our maintenance of effort from $13 million to $19 million. When the loan payments decrease below 6 million, the County will have to honor the maintenance of effort and come up with the amount of the decrease below $6 million for the regular school operating budget."

"My goal for the school board presentation was to inform the community on how we are funding our schools relative to other school districts in the State."

The Gap in Local Commitment

Boutwell said the goal is to understand how Bedford County supports its schools relative to the rest of Tennessee. The data reveals a stark contrast: **92% of Tennessee school districts** contribute at least 25% more than the State's required minimum. Bedford sits in the **bottom 8%**. While Bedford is one of only 19 counties in the state with an improving "fiscal capacity" (our actual ability to generate revenue), our local funding for education remains stagnant.

The Human Cost of Stagnation

He reasons that education is, by nature, a labor-intensive endeavor. Funding levels directly dictate three critical factors:

- The number of teachers in our classrooms.
- The skill and experience mix of our faculty.
- Our ability to offer competitive pay.

"In any industry, overworked and underpaid employees lead to high turnover. Proficiency takes time to build; if we cannot retain our educators, we lose the institutional knowledge necessary for student success. We must ask our leadership: Is our current funding level creating a "revolving door" of talent?"

Boutwell worked professionally as a human resources leader.

He also explained to board members the The **TISA Impact: Proof of Concept**.

He said thanks to the state's **TISA (Tennessee Investment in Student Achievement)** formula, the school system/County have seen what an injection of capital can do.

- **2023 State Funding**: $57,441,287
- **2024 State Funding**: $78,130,799
- **Total Increase**: **$20,689,512**

"With this $20 million increase, we have already seen improved teacher-pupil ratios and rising test scores. The correlation is undeniable: **Investment yields results**. Notably, the *increase* from the State alone was greater than Bedford's entire local contribution for 2024. The State legislature clearly recognizes the value of this investment—the question is whether we do, too.

The Question of Priorities

"My intention is simply to inform," said the commissioner. "Whether Bedford chooses to increase funding through tax adjustments or by reprioritizing existing revenue or do nothing different is a decision for the citizens. However, we must confront a difficult question: How do 91 out of 95 Tennessee counties manage to fund education at a higher relative rate than Bedford? While tax burdens vary, many of these counties operate with similar economic profiles to ours."

Bedford Briefs



VETERANS HONORED WITH SONGS

The Hometown Heroes & Harmony Community Concert will be held May 2, in Bedford County, on the public square. The event aims to honor local veterans through their stories and music and strengthen community bonds. Admission is free.

COUNTY FINANCE MEETING

Bedford County Finance Committee meets 4:15 p.m., Tuesday, April 28, at the Business Complex on Dover Street.

SUMMER MAKER MARKET

The main goal of the Maker Market at The Fly Arts Center is to provide a platform for local artists and artisans to showcase their creative talents, while providing revenue opportunities and a chance to connect with the community. In addition, organizers hope to create a place where residents and visitors can come together with local artists to enjoy and purchase quality, handmade items. Admission to the Maker Market and parking is always free. The next event is June 6 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

COME CELEBRATE, WITH FLAT CREEK CC

Flat Creek Community Center is holding its upcoming monthly 1st-Saturday potluck on May 2, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The meal will be prayed over at 6:00, and live music will follow afterwards, starting around 7:00. This month musical guests will be fiddle-guitar duo Jim Holland and Jaime Ferguson of Athens, Ala. They have been featured locally at Tate Farms, Channel 48's Tennessee Valley Living, and the Electric Belle and are regulars at regional and national festivals where they share collected tunes from places like North Alabama, Northern Ireland, and Canada.

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FEATURES FROM THE BIBLE

TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE

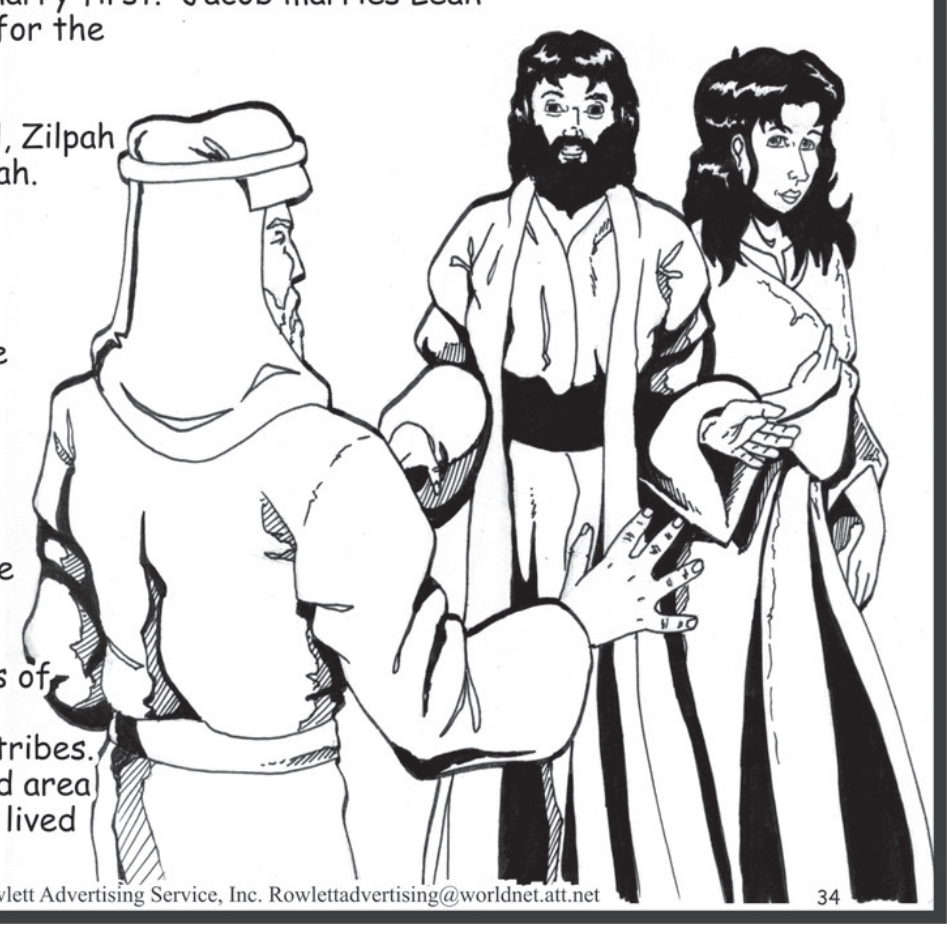
Jacob Marries
Genesis 29 & 30

Jacob arrived at his uncle Laban's house and saw the girl of his dreams whose name was Rachel. He made a deal to work seven years for Laban if he could marry Rachel. At the end of the seven years Laban informed Jacob that Rachel's sister, Leah, is the oldest of the two and therefore she must marry first. Jacob marries Leah and then works 7 more years for the privilege of marrying Rachel.

Laban gave Leah a servant girl, Zilpah and Rachel a servant girl, Bilhah.

Jacob's children were:
Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun, and a daughter, Dianah, all who were born to Leah.
Dan and Naphtali who were born to Bilhah.
Gad and Asher who were born to Zilpah.
Joseph and Benjamin who were born to Rachel.

Ten of the boys became heads of the tribes of Israel. Two of Joseph's sons were heads of tribes. Levi's descendents had no land area unto themselves but as priest lived among the other tribes.



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Fax: 931-680-0322
Email: Mullins208@yahoo.com

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dbrownsbodyshop@united.net

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· Life · Commercial
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108 East Depot Street • 931-684-4380

Ray Brown
Owner
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Fax: 931-685-0047
rayspaintandbody@yahoo.com
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931-685-0046
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DDBarnes@gmail.com
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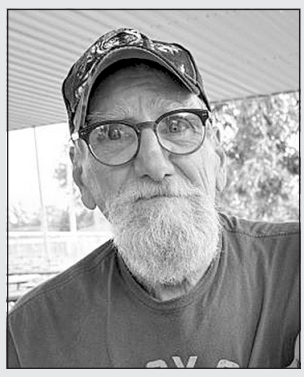
Joel Landers

Obituaries

Dennis Edward Cheek



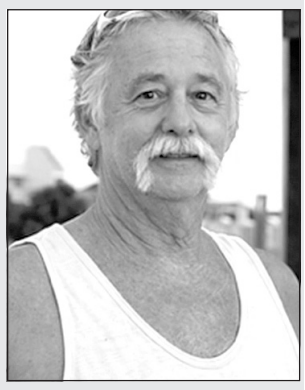
Dennis Edward Cheek, 66, of Wartrace, died April 14, 2026, at Vanderbilt-Bedford Hospital. A Memorial service will be held 5:00 P.M. Friday, April 24th, at Hillcrest Funeral Home with Jeff Collet officiating. Visitation will begin at 3:00 p.m.

Dennis was born March 2, 1960, in Indianapolis, Indiana, to his parents, Edward and Angeline Overbey Cheek. He was a Veteran of the U.S. Army.

He is survived by his wife, Debbie Clark Cheek; son, Jeremy Marcus Bragg and daughter, Toshia Gill of Indiana; step-daughter, Misty Gevedon (James) of Wartrace; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren; brothers and sisters, Beverly Bentley, James "Jimmy" Cheek (Janice), Kay McQueen, Wanda Balbridge, Donna Proffitt, Richard Cheek, Dalmas Cheek and Eugene Cheek.

Hillcrest Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

James "Jimmy" Austin Coop Jr.



James "Jimmy" Austin Coop Jr., age 72, of Manchester, TN, passed from this life on Saturday, April 18, 2026, at Alive Hospice in Murfreesboro, TN.

He was born on January 19, 1954, in Shelbyville, TN., to the late James Austin and Sarah Limbo Coop.

Jimmy was a 1972 graduate of Shelbyville Central High School and later earned his bachelor of science degree from MTSU. His passion was carpentry, a craft he learned at a young age while working alongside his father. He carried those skills into his own business, Jimmy Coop Construction, which he operated for more than 40 years.

He loved classic cars and was proudly a "Corvette man." Jimmy was a homebody at heart and found his greatest comfort at his place on Normandy Lake. He enjoyed hosting cookouts and barbecues for family and friends until his health no longer allowed him to do so.

Jimmy is survived by his significant other Cindy Ray; sisters: Connie (Rick) Smith of Beechgrove, TN and Carolyn (Ervin) Miller of Shelbyville, TN; nieces and nephews: Julie Smith, Blaine (Jennifer) Smith, Kelly (Patrick) Hall and Kyle Miller.

Funeral services will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 22, 2026, in the chapel of Doak-Howell Funeral Home with Bro. Billy Joe Calvert officiating.

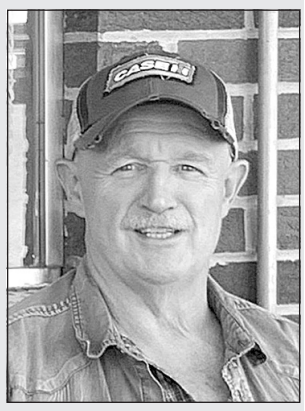
Visitation will be held prior to the service starting at 11:00 a.m. at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Sarah Coop Children's Center, c/o First Church of the Nazarene, 834 Union Street, Shelbyville, TN 37160.

Doak-Howell Funeral Home is serving the family.

www.doakhowellfuneralhome.com

Terry Ray Douglas



Mr. Terry Ray Douglas, age 64, of the New Town Community in Rutherford County, TN, passed away on Tuesday, April 21, 2026, in Murfreesboro, TN. He was born in Bedford County, TN to the late Walter Denton Douglas and Elizabeth Ann Bogle Douglas. Terry was retired from Nissan with 38.5 years of service. He was a member of the Church of Christ and a graduate of Community High School Class of 1979. He was preceded in death by sisters, Janice McCormick, Dyann Miller, brothers, Don "Weasel" Douglas, Ellis "Jack" Douglas, nephew, Willie Douglas, and father in law, Melvin Hatcher.

Terry had a hobby of working on lawnmowers. He truly enjoyed the outdoors, especially hunting deer, turkeys, and fishing. He was an avid collector of Native American arrowheads, artifacts, and Case knives. Most of all, he loved his family and participating in their activities!

Mr. Douglas is survived by his loving wife of 42 years, Cheryl Douglas of the New Town Community; daughter, Christy Douglas of the New Town Community; brother, Walter "Scutt" (Brenda) Douglas of Unionville, TN; mother in law, Anne Hatcher of the New Town Community; sister in law, Donna Burnett of the New Town Community; several nieces and nephews.

Visitation with the family will be on Saturday, April 25, 2026, from 11 AM until 1 PM at Lawrence Funeral Home. The funeral service will be conducted on Saturday, April 25, 2026 at 1 PM from the Chapel of Lawrence Funeral Home with Bro. Mike Loyd and Bro. Clay Minatra officiating. Burial will follow in the King Cemetery in the Rover Community of Bedford County, TN. Family and friends will serve as pallbearers.

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



Photos by Rene' Francis

Morgan Grannas, showing Becky Nichols, Linda Anderton, Charlene Judd and Charlene Nelson the vegetable plants.



Becky Nichols and Rebecca Parker admire squash plants.



Muriel Robinson, Charlene Judd, Sara Wood and Michael Walker explore the culinary area kitchen.



Enthusiastic Shelbyville Central students who hope and dream in the Culinary Arts program.

Town and Country Garden Club explores 'what's cookin' at Shelbyville Central

Town and Country Garden Club toured the Greenhouse Project and Culinary Arts programs at Shelbyville Central High School on April 15.

Morgan Grannas showed garden club members some projects by her agriculture students. They have a plant sale scheduled for April 22, when they'll sell the many plants they have grown from seed.

The garden club saw next the Culinary Arts kitchen where students learn the art of cooking. Michael Walker heads this program. They use the produce grown in the greenhouse and eggs from their chicken coop.

Members commented how it was a very interesting program.

The program was followed by a business meeting hosted by Nancy Fayard, the club's president.

DUCK

From page 1A

the Studies Workgroup has been meeting more frequently to identify the most viable solutions and to coordinate engineering support from third-party firms. To strengthen the group's expertise, White was authorized to appoint an additional non-Partnership member to serve with the workgroup.

He has appointed Jason Reese, general manager of Shelbyville Power, Water and Sewerage Systems, whose background, he said, in wastewater systems and prior experience auditing public utilities has brought valuable technical and operational insight to the process.

In addition, Commissioner David Salyers and TDEC have made key staff available to assist the workgroup, including April Grippo, director of the Division of Water Resources.

"Their support has been instrumental in helping distinguish between ideas that sound promising in theory and those that are both workable and financially realistic in practice," said White.

The Studies Workgroup will meet noon Thursday, April 30, at Henry Horton State Park. The full Partnership will meet the following Monday, May 4, at 10:00 a.m., also at Henry Horton State Park. The full Partnership meeting on May 4, is open to the public and will be held in the new conference room in the same building as the Duck River Education Center and Visitor Center.

Like most everything, legislation is needed to protect the Duck even more these days. Legislation protecting the mighty Duck is moving forward after lawmakers rejected a change that would have removed a clause barring landfills within two miles of scenic rivers.

The bill, sponsored by State Rep. Pat Marsh, of Shelbyville, designates portions of the Duck River, the Buffalo River and other creeks as Class II pastoral waterways. The classification allows agriculture and traditional rural uses to continue, but comes with protections against mining, commercial timber harvest and landfill uses. Private landowners along the rivers have the option to participate in protections to preserve the land's natural state.

Legislation protecting the majority of two middle Tennessee rivers received final approval from the state legislature last Thursday. The bill prohibits the installation of landfills within 2 miles of the scenic waterways.

Rep. Marsh sponsored the bill-one which designates nearly all of the Duck River, Buffalo River and their tributaries as Class II pastoral waterways. This designation includes protections against mining, commercial timber harvest and landfill uses, but allows agriculture and other traditional rural uses to continue.

Tennessee House of Representatives approved B 81-5, with seven members present but not voting. The bill previously passed in the Senate, 32-0. It now rests with Gov. Bill Lee and awaits his signature.

Lee, soon to leave office, has been supportive of efforts to protect the Duck River, which is the longest river within Tennessee's borders and the most biodiverse freshwater river in North America. Lee originally created the planning partnership in November, 2024, which was tasked with recommending ways to balance the river's conservation with growing demand for water in the region.

So, supporters/conservationists are hopeful the governor makes good on this new bill.

State Rep. Marsh said the river — which provides drinking water to at least 250,000 people in the middle Tennessee region — is vitally important to him and his community.

All members of the General Assembly whose districts touch these rivers signed onto the legislation as co-prime sponsors, he said.



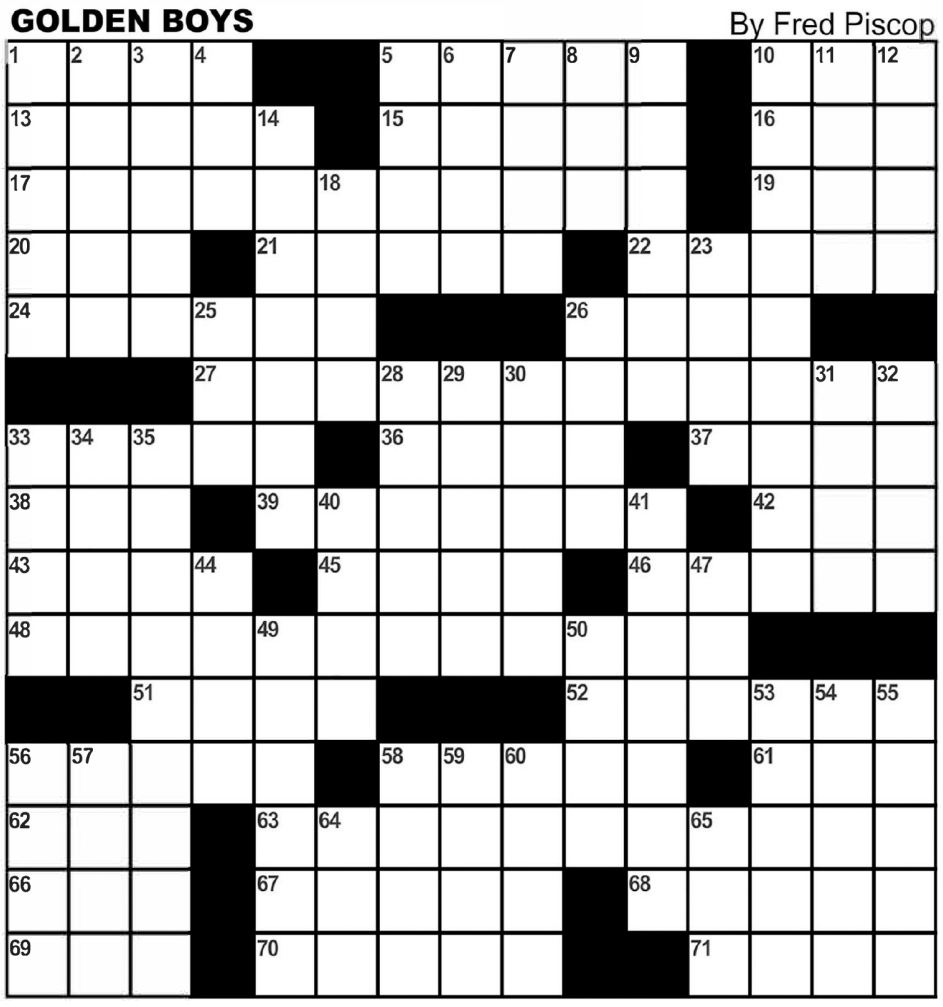
SCOUTS HONOR TOMMY ANDERTON

Submitted Photo

Members of Scouting America Troop 699 and 1581 and Pack 390 gathered at The Fly recently for the 2026 Bedford County Good Scout Award Luncheon, honoring Tommy Anderton, now retired president of Citizens Bank/Wellworth Bank. Anderton has been supporting the Scouting America program for over 50 years. Several local businesses and organizations were represented at this event to show their support to him and Scouting America. Gage Lemaster (An Eagle Scout from Troop 699 and member of the OA) was the Scout speaker. Scouts include: Owen, Declan, and Gage Lemaster and Frank, Clara, and Sam Philpott.

Crossword

GOLDEN BOYS By Fred Piscop



CLUES ACROSS

1) Successfully pitch
5) Reads quickly
10) Tick off
13) In a tough spot
15) Carb-rich fare
16) Prankster's missile
17) WWII hero-turned-movie star
19) Uncle Sam costume part
20) Shoulder-fired weapon, for short
21) "Alice in Wonderland" pastries
22) Sandcastle setting
24) Trample underfoot
26) Roget's abbr.
27) Mike Myers' spy
33) Lecherous deity
36) Son of Seth
37) Not of the cloth
38) Unreturned serve
39) Spread far and wide
42) After-school org.
43) Bowie's musical genre
45) Employs
46) For face value, as a stock
48) "The Thinker" sculptor
51) Tennis legend Arthur
52) Emcees' deliveries
56) Goodie from Linz
58) Titicaca's locale
61) Hobby farm denizen
62) "Tell me more ... "
63) Hanna-Barbera pooch
66) Versatile truck, for short
67) Tot's ride, briefly
68) Family reunion attendee
69) Scale unit
70) Gregory of "Tap"
71) River to the Baltic Sea

CLUES DOWN

1) Marquee names
2) Blow one's stack
3) Place for flowerpots
4) Sweet-smelling necklace
5) Railroad siding
6) Links ride
7) Hieroglyphic snakes
8) To the__ degree
9) Verbally refuses
10) Bit of Apple software
11) Delivery door locale
12) Winslet of "Titanic"
14) Highway annoyances
18) Assigns workers to
23) Haunted house sound
25) Settle up
26) Basilica center
28) Flirty sort
29) Prefix with "face" or "faith"
30) "Au contraire!"
31) The Beatles' meter maid
32) Emotional wound
33) "Beowulf," for one
34) Scopes trial org.
35) Place for an outdoor cuppa
40) Pleasing to look at
41) Spoils, as a parade
44) Has to
47) Blaster's need
49) Sword holder
50) Went kaput
53) Made like a hurricane
54) Chilling
55) Beef on the hoof
56) Like a tuned string
57) Knowledgeable about
58) Opposed, in Dogpatch
59) Brand with a "swoosh" logo
60) Miserable marks
64) Ocean State sch.
65) Acqua di___ (men's fragrance)

AD VERITAS

Local news doesn't work without local support



Daniel Richardson
Publisher/ Owner
daniel@RichardsonMediaGroup.net

Every now and then, I'll see someone pick up a copy of the paper because their child or grandchild is in it.

Maybe it's a ball-game photo. Maybe it's a school event. Maybe it's a feature story or a little recognition that means something to the family. And for that week, the paper is worth a dollar. It gets taken home, shown around, maybe even saved.

That's one of the best parts of what we do.

But it also points to a bigger reality that isn't always as obvious:

Local news doesn't work without local support.

A community newspaper isn't something that just exists on its own. It doesn't show up each week by accident. It takes reporters, photographers, editors, printing, delivery, and a whole lot of coordination behind the scenes.

And it takes support.

Across the country, more and more communities are waking up to something they never expected — life without a local newspaper. These areas are often called "news deserts," places where there is little to no consistent coverage of local government, schools, businesses, or everyday community life.

At first glance, it may not seem like a big deal. After all, there's still national news on television, social media, and online.

But what's missing is the local connection.

Who's covering the school board meeting? Who's reporting on the county budget? Who's telling the story of the local business that just opened, or the family that's going through a difficult time?

Without local news, those stories often go untold.

And the effects go deeper than that. Communities without local journalism tend to be less informed, less engaged, and less connected. Accountability can slip. Participation can decline. Over time, something important is lost — not all at once, but gradually.

That's why local support matters.

Subscribing to your local newspaper isn't just about getting the paper. It's about making sure it continues to exist. It's a vote for keeping your community informed and connected.

The same goes for advertising. When local businesses choose to advertise in the newspaper, they're not just promoting their services — they're helping sustain a platform that benefits the entire community.

It's a shared effort.

We all enjoy seeing the highlights — the photos, the stories, the moments that capture our towns and our people. But those things only continue if there's steady, consistent support behind them.

A newspaper can't survive on occasional purchases alone. It depends on readers who choose to subscribe, and businesses that choose to invest in reaching their neighbors.

No one expects every resident to think about this every week. But it's worth considering from time to time.

Because one day, if that support isn't there, people may notice something missing.

Not all at once. Not with a big announcement. Just a quiet absence where something important used to be.

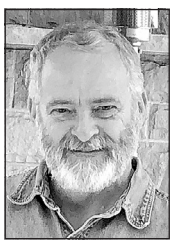
So, if you're a subscriber, thank you. Are your friends, neighbors, and family? If not, encourage them to subscribe as well. Share the paper with them. Tell them why it matters to you. And when you're out supporting local businesses, let them know you appreciate seeing them in the paper. Encourage them to advertise. A strong newspaper depends on a strong network of readers and businesses working together, and that support makes all the difference.

Local news doesn't work without local support.

And strong communities don't either.

Daniel Richardson is the owner of Richardson Media Group and the publisher of The Shelbyville Times-Gazette. Reach him at daniel@richardsonmediagroup.net.

Is God Dead? Flavius Josephus



Ty B. Kerley, DMin
Columnist

In our investigation of non-Christian sources that speak of Jesus and His crucifixion, we have thus far looked at the writings of Cornelius Tacitus. We also began investigating what the ancient historian Josephus had to say about Jesus. This week, we continue to look at his writings. The Jewish historian Flavius Josephus mentions Jesus in a work dated AD 93 titled *Antiquities of the Jews*. This passage, known as the *Testimonium Flavianum*, reads:

"About this time there lived Jesus, a wise man, if indeed one ought to call him a man. For he was one who wrought surprising feats and was a teacher of such people as accept the truth gladly. He won over many Jews and many Greeks. He was the Messiah. When Pilate, upon hearing him accused by men of the highest standing amongst us, had condemned him to be crucified, those who had in the first place come to love him did not give up their affection for him. On the third day, he appeared to them restored to life, for the prophets of God had prophesied these and countless other marvelous things about him. And the tribe of the Christians, so called after him, has still to this day not disappeared."

This passage is perhaps the most thorough, non-biblical account of the crucifixion of Jesus. It confirms Jesus as a real person in history and substantiates the biblical account of Jesus as a teacher and miracle worker who Pilate crucified. As in the case of Josephus's writing in James, the brother of Jesus, it is vital to consider the inherent accountability associated with the writing of an event when there are still living eyewitnesses of the event.

The use of descriptive language in this passage by Josephus: "if indeed one ought to call him a man," "he appeared to them restored to life," and "He was the Messiah," has been pointed to by critics as items of objection to the authenticity of the passage. Critics consider it to be unlikely that Josephus, the Jew, would have acknowledged Jesus with such affectionate terms. In addition, critics also state that the Romans would have suspected Josephus of treason for writing of Jesus in such glowing terms. However, twice in Origen's writings, he states that Josephus did not believe that Jesus was Christ. According to E. M. Blaiklock, "Josephus probably wrote the 'the so-called Messiah' as he did in the passage of James, the brother of Jesus." It is important to note that Christianity, by this time, had become identified with the Gentiles, and there is no reason, therefore, to believe his writing about Jesus as the Messiah would have brought reprisal from the Romans. However, this dispute over whether Jesus was acknowledged as the Messiah or as Christ has no bearing on the existence of Jesus as a real historical person.

Although it is widely accepted that some interpolation (changing of the text by later writers) of the Josephus passage has occurred, an Arabic copy of the passage is believed to have not been interpolated by Christian influence. It reads:

"At this time, there was a wise man who was called Jesus, and his conduct was good, and he was known to be virtuous. And many people from among the Jews and other nations became his disciples. Pilate condemned him to be crucified and to die. And those who had become his disciples did not abandon their loyalty to him. They reported that he had appeared to them three days after the crucifixion, and that he was alive. Accordingly, thy believed that he was the Messiah, concerning whom the Prophets have recounted wonders."

The critic G. A. Wells takes an unusual approach regarding this passage. Wells states, "It is very noticeable that in the Arabic, the order in which the statements about Jesus are made differs sharply from that in the Greek text." Here, Wells seems to focus on minor details to debunk the passage, also pointing to the wording of "perhaps the Messiah" as opposed to the direct wording of "the Messiah" in the Greek version as problematic. Nevertheless, the key words remain:" Jesus, crucified, resurrected. This document stands as additional, non-Christian evidence that the man called Jesus was a real historical person, had a devout following, and was crucified by Pilate. Historian Earle Cairns notes, "Even granting some interpolation by Christians, most scholars agree that this basic information . . . is most likely a part of the original text." Therefore, despite slight interpolation, the text still shows that Jesus of Nazareth did exist.

This is merely a sampling of a few independent, reliable, non-biblical sources from the period that provide evidence for the historicity of a man named Jesus. These sources stand as reliable accounts in rebuttal to the claim that there is insufficient independent evidence to substantiate His existence in history. Christian apologist Norman Geisler summarizes best: "In light of these non-Christian references, the theory that Jesus never existed is clearly unreasonable."

Join us next week as we continue to give due consideration to historical sources of evidence for the life and death of Jesus of Nazareth. Until then, and with a steady gaze at the evidence, ponder the question: *is God dead?*

GOLDEN BOYS By Fred Piscop

1 S	2 E	3 L	4 L	■	5 S	6 C	7 A	8 N	9 S	■	10 I	11 R	12 K
13 T	R	E	E	14 D	■	15 P	A	S	T	A	■	16 P	E	A
17 A	U	D	I	E	18 M	U	R	P	H	Y	■	19 H	A	T
20 R	P	G	■	21 T	A	R	T	S	■	22 S	23 H	O	R	E
24 S	T	E	25 P	O	N	■	■	■	26 A	N	O	N	■	■
■	■	■	27 A	U	S	28 T	I	29 N	30 P	O	W	E	31 R	32 S
33 S	34 A	35 T	Y	R	■	36 E	N	O	S	■	37 L	A	I	C
38 A	C	E	■	39 S	40 C	A	T	T	E	41 R	■	42 P	T	A
43 G	L	A	44 M	■	45 U	S	E	S	■	46 A	47 T	P	A	R
48 A	U	G	U	49 S	T	E	R	O	50 D	I	N	■	■	■
■	■	51 A	S	H	E	■	■	■	52 I	N	T	53 R	O	54 55 S
56 T	57 O	R	T	E	■	58 A	N	59 D	60 E	S	■	61 A	N	T
62 A	N	D	■	63 A	64 U	G	I	E	D	O	65 G	G	I	E
66 U	T	E	■	67 T	R	I	K	E	■	68 N	I	E	C	E
69 T	O	N	■	70 H	I	N	E	S	■	■	71 O	D	E	R

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Pastor Abe Zimmerman of **First United Methodist Church Shelbyville** will preach this Sunday: "Encounters After Easter: Part 2" from John 21:1-19. "We are now in the Season of Easter and will explore Jesus' encounters with the disciples during this time and see what we can glean from them." 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 offer a livestream on Facebook and YouTube and a broadcast on WLIJ 98.7 FM and AM 1580.

DECORATION DAY EVENT

Burns Chapel Cemetery on Burns Road will have its annual Decoration Day on May 17 at 2 PM.

Bedford County property transfers

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

File date: April 14

Location: 240 Republic St; Seller, Ole South Properties Inc; Buyer, Caleb Robert Tidwell, Emily Kathryn Tidwell; Price, $375,990 (Deed).

Location: 227 Republic St; Seller, Ole South Properties Inc; Buyer, Robin Timberlake, Carson Graham; Price, $300,990 (Deed).

Location: 307 Brooklyn Circle; Seller, Purchasing Fund 2024 1 LLC; Buyer, Purchasing Fund 2021 1 LLC; Price, $217,300 (Deed).

File date: April 15

Location: Clark Cemetery Rd; Seller, Clifton A Beasley, Alicia K Beasley, James Brennan Sanders; Buyer, Larry Kevin Smith; Price, $166,430 (Deed).

Location: 743 Amos Gamble Rd; Seller, Jerry Dennis Fair, Blythe Cutler Fair, Jerry D and Blythe Cutler Fair Living Trust; Buyer, Blythe Cutler Flair; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 2928 Midland Rd; Seller, Rebekah R Hendren; Buyer, William Morgan, Jenny Londa Morgan; Price, $299,900 (Deed).

Location: 912 Old Columbia Rd; Seller, Benjamin D Stevens, Hannah Stevens; Buyer, Kevin M Hogue, Denise L Hogue; Price, $649,900 (Deed).

File date: April 16

Location: 913 Shelbyview Dr; Seller, Melena A Greene, Jay Mark Greene; Buyer, Ryan Drummond, Blake Switalski; Price, $135,000 (Deed).

Location: 852 Longview Rd; Seller, Daniel Lee Bacus, April Bacus; Buyer, Matthew Noah Hunsinger, Maegan Larayne Hunsinger; Price, $675,000 (Deed).

Location: Cedar Grove Rd; Seller, Betty Mullins; Buyer, Clifton A Beasley, Alicia K Beasley, James Brennan Trace Sanders, Borienne Anabelle Sanders; Price, $1,350,000 (Deed).

Location: 485 Naron Rd; Seller, Sharon R Carrick Howard; Buyer, James L Howard; Price, $0 (Deed).

Location: Liberty Pike; Seller, James David Miller, Meriam Miller; Buyer, Gary Yates, Ann Yates; Price, $298,000 (Deed).

File date: April 17

Location: Unionville Deason Rd; Seller, Randall Boleyjack; Buyer, RHB LLC; Price, $83,000 (Deed).

Location: 306 Burns Rd; Seller, Timmy Brown Jr, Jessica A Brown, Jessicca Brown Rochelle; Buyer, Timmy Brown Jr; Price, $0 (Deed).

Seller, Jennifer R Thomason, Jennifer Uredi; Buyer, James William Thomason, Jennifer R Thomason; Price, $0 (Deed).

Location: 1521 Green Lane; Seller, Curl Properties LLC; Buyer, Vu A Nguyen, Giau T Lam; Price, $227,500 (Deed).

Seller, Savannah Houk, Chris Houk; Buyer, 111 West End Avenue LLC; Price, $380,000 (Deed).

Location: 530 New Herman Rd; Seller, Sharon Elaine Russell; Buyer, Sharon E Russell, Pistole Family Trust; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 404 Tines Dr; Seller, Brandon Trice, Tiffany Ewing; Buyer, Robert Turnbow, Vicki Turnbow; Price, $321,000 (Deed).

Location: 744 Happy Valley Rd; Seller, Kelso Construction LLC; Buyer, Jake Grubbs, Taylor Grubbs; Price, $329,000 (Deed).

Location: 529 Hickory Hill Rd; Seller, Darren R Boyce; Buyer, Walnut Creek Properties; Price, $175,000 (Deed).

Location: Mount Lebanon Church Rd; Seller, Russell E Boothe, Angela M Boothe; Buyer, John Cody King, Kelli D King; Price, $140,000 (Deed).

Seller, Roseann Bautista; Buyer, Rose Ann Bautista, Alfreo Inestroza Rios; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: Bridge St East; Seller, Isaac Shane Pitts, Anna Pitts; Buyer, Keith Derek Belcher; Price, $224,900 (Deed).

File date: April 20

Location: 1714 North Main St; Seller, MDC Coast 26 LLC; Buyer, MDC Mercury 2604 Propco 4 LLC; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 149 Brown Lane; Seller, Clarence E Lamb Jr; Buyer, Michelle Jones; Price, $424,900 (Deed).

Seller, Michelle Lacey; Buyer, Michelle Lacey Living Trust; Price, $0 (QD).

Seller, JC Builders LLC; Buyer, Grable Properties LLC; Price, $0 (QD).

Seller, Jones Construction Company; Buyer, Grable Properties LLC; Price, $0 (QD).

Location: 202 Canova Court; Seller, J Phillip Jones, Jessica D Binkley; Buyer, Tennessee Housing Development Agency; Price, $0 (TRD).

Location: 160 Haskins Chapel Rd; Seller, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Title 365 Company; Buyer, Karen Harper, Todd Jay; Price, $295,000 (Deed).

Location: 407 Dow Drive; Seller, Spencer McClain Forsythe, Wiliam Hunter Forsythe, Zachary Lee Brazier; Buyer, Bryson Edward Crowder, Bethany Faith Crowder; Price, $372,500 (Deed).

Location: 913 Shelbyview Dr; Seller, Ryan Drummond, Blake Switalski; Buyer, Southern Bridge Homes LLC; Price, $10 (QD).

Location: 2660 Unionville Deason Rd; Seller, Terri Lynne King, Emma Jean Molder Estate; Buyer, Terri Lynne King; Price, $0 (QD).

SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the terms, conditions, and payments provided in a certain Deed of Trust dated NOVEMBER 16, 2021, executed by JACQUELYN KIMMONS AND JEREMY KIMMONS, WIFE AND HUSBAND, to MELANIE BLANK, Trustee, of record in BOOK TD1032, PAGE 573, for the benefit of REGIONS BANK D/B/A REGIONS MORTGAGE, in the Register's Office for BEDFORD County, Tennessee and to J. PHILLIP JONES AND/OR JESSICA D. BINKLEY, either of whom may act, appointed as Substitute Trustee in an instrument of record in the Register's Office for BEDFORD County, Tennessee, to secure the indebtedness described; the entire indebtedness having been declared due and payable by REGIONS BANK D/B/A REGIONS MORTGAGE, being the present owner/holder or authorized agent, designee or servicer of the holder/owner of said indebtedness, has requested foreclosure proceedings to be instituted; and as provided in said Deed of Trust, I, J. PHILLIP JONES/JESSICA D. BINKLEY, will by virtue of the power and authority vested in me as Substitute Trustee, on THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2026 AT 1:00 P.M., LOCAL TIME AT THE FRONT DOOR OF THE BEDFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN SHELBYVILLE, BEDFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE, sell to the highest bidder for cash, free from the equity of redemption, homestead, and dower, and all other exemptions which are expressly waived, and subject to any unpaid taxes, if any, the following described property in BEDFORD County, Tennessee, to wit:

PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE COUNTY OF BEDFORD, TENNESSEE:

LAND located in the Seventh (7th) Civil District of Bedford County, Tennessee, and being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a stake in the north margin of Chestnut Drive (formerly known as Valley Road) 725 ft. eastwardly from the east boundary of Gordon Road, running thence north 87 deg. 20 min. east with the north boundary of Chestnut Drive 75 feet to a stake; thence north 2 deg. 45 min, east 152 feet to a stake; thence south 87 deg. 55 min. west 75 feet to a stake; thence south 2 deg. 45 min. west 152.75 feet to the beginning, being all of Lots 30, 31 and 32 of Block "E" in Rolling Fields Subdivision, a plat of which is recorded in Deed Book No. 58, Page 537, Register's Office of Bedford County, Tennessee.

BEING THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED TO JACQUELYN KIMMONS AND JEREMY KIMMONS, WIFE AND HUSBAND, BY WARRANTY DEED DATED NOVEMBER 16, 2021 AND RECORDED IN BOOK D369, PAGE 498, REGISTER'S OFFICE FOR BEDFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE.

THIS IS IMPROVED PROPERTY KNOWN 221 CHESTNUT DRIVE, SHELBYVILLE, TN 37160.

MAP 078B GRP B PARCEL 017.00

THE SALE OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, AND IS FURTHER SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT OF ANY TENANT(S) OR OTHER PARTIES OR ENTITIES IN POSSESSION OF THE PROPERTY. ANY REPRESENTATION CONCERNING ANY ASPECT OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY BY A THIRD PARTY IS NOT THE REPRESENTATION/RESPONSIBILITY OF TRUSTEE(S)/ SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE(S) OR THEIR OFFICE.

THIS SALE IS SUBJECT TO ANY UNPAID TAXES, IF ANY, ANY PRIOR LIENS OR ENCUMBRANCES LEASES, EASEMENTS AND ALL OTHER MATTERS WHICH TAKE PRIORITY OVER THE DEED OF TRUST UNDER WHICH THIS FORECLOSURE SALE IS CONDUCTED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE PRIORITY OF ANY FIXTURE FILING. IF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY/ INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, THE STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, OR THE STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORK FORCE DEVELOPMENT ARE LISTED AS INTERESTED PARTIES IN THE ADVERTISEMENT, THEN THE NOTICE OF THIS FORECLOSURE IS BEING GIVEN TO THEM, AND THE SALE WILL BE SUBJECT TO ALL APPLICABLE GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES RIGHT TO REDEEM THE PROPERTY, ALL AS REQUIRED BY 26 U.S.C. 7425, T.C.A. 67-1-1433, AND 28 U.S.C. 2410 (C). THE NOTICE REQUIREMENTS OF T.C.A. 35-5-101 ET SEQ. HAVE BEEN MET.

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. THE TRUSTEE/SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO RESCIND THE SALE

IF YOU PURCHASE A PROPERTY AT THE FORECLOSURE SALE, THE ENTIRE PURCHASE PRICE IS DUE AND PAYABLE AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE AUCTION IN THE FORM OF A CERTIFIED/BANK CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO OR ENDORSED TO LAW OFFICE OF J. PHILLIP JONES. NO PERSONAL CHECKS WILL BE ACCEPTED. TO THIS END, YOU MUST BRING SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO OUTBID THE LENDER AND ANY OTHER BIDDERS. INSUFFICIENT FUNDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. AMOUNTS RECEIVED IN EXCESS OF THE WINNING BID WILL BE REFUNDED TO THE SUCCESSFUL PURCHASER AT THE TIME THE FORECLOSURE DEED IS DELIVERED.

Non-bank successful bidders will be required to provide information required by the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCen) before the deed will be delivered. The information includes, but is not limited to, full legal name, a tax identification number, date of birth, complete current residential street address for the beneficial owner(s) of the foreclosed property.

OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES: NONE OF RECORD

THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

This is improved property known as 221 CHESTNUT DRIVE, SHELBYVILLE, TN 37160.

THIRD-PARTY INTERNET POSTING WEBSITE: www.foreclosurestn.com

J. PHILLIP JONES/ JESSICA D. BINKLEY, SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE

1800 HAYES STREET, NASHVILLE, TN 37203

(615) 254-4430, www.phillipjoneslaw.com F26-0319 (4162tc)

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 12, 2017, executed by TYLER CAMPBELL, UNMARRIED, to U.S. BANK TRUST COMPANY, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, as Trustee for U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, its successors and assigns, recorded on June 9, 2017 in Book TD881, Pages 902-911, in Instrument Number: 17003469, in the Register of Deeds Office for Bedford County, Tennessee, to which reference is hereby made; and

WHEREAS, U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, hereinafter "Creditor", the party entitled to enforce said security interest, having appointed Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC, as Substitute Trustee.

NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable, and that Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC, as Substitute Trustee, or its agent, by virtue of the power, duty, and authority vested in and imposed upon said Substitute Trustee, will, on May 26, 2026, at 11:00 AM local time, at the Bedford County Courthouse, 1 Public Square, Shelbyville, TN 37160, in Bedford County, Tennessee, offer for sale certain property hereinafter described to the highest bidder for cash or certified funds paid at the conclusion of the sale, or credit bid from a bank or other lending entity pre-approved by the Substitute Trustee. The property to be sold is described as follows:

SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF BEDFORD, STATE OF TENNESSEE, TO-WIT: LOT NO. 89 GREEN MEADOWS SUBDIVISION, SECTION III, OF RECORD IN PLAT CABINET B, ENVELOPE 86, REGISTER'S OFFICE FOR SAID COUNTY, TO WHICH REFERENCE IS MADE FOR A MORE COMPLETE AND ACCURATE DESCRIPTION OF SAID LOT.

SUBJECT TO ALL EASEMENTS, COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, RESERVATIONS, LEASES AND RESTRICTIONS OF RECORD, ALL LEGAL HIGHWAYS, ALL RIGHTS OF WAY, ALL ZONING, BUILDING AND OTHER LAWS, ORDINANCES AND REGULATIONS, ALL RIGHTS OF TENANTS IN POSSESSION, AND ALL REAL ESTATE TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS NOT YET DUE AND PAYABLE.

BEING THE SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED BY DEED RECORDED IN VOLUME 284, PAGE 137, OF THE BEDFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE RECORDS

Commonly known as: 314 COTTONWOOD DR SHELBYVILLE, TN 37160

Parcel number(s):

In the event of a discrepancy between the legal description, the street address, and/or the parcel number(s), the legal description shall control.

The sale is subject to the following: tenant(s)/occupant(s) rights in possession, if any; all matters shown on any applicable recorded plat; any unpaid taxes; any restrictive covenants, easements, or setback lines that may be applicable; any statutory rights of redemption of any state or federal governmental agency; any prior liens or encumbrances; any priority created by a fixture filing; and any matter that an accurate survey of the property might disclose. Additionally, the following parties might claim an interest in the property: TYLER CAMPBELL; VANDERBILT MORTGAGE AND FINANCE, INC.

If the United States, the State of Tennessee, or any agency thereof have any liens on the property and are named herein as interested parties, timely notice has been given to them in accordance with applicable law, and the sale will be subject to any applicable rights of redemption held by such entities, as required by 26 U.S.C. § 7425 and/or T.C.A. § 67-1-1433.

The property will be sold AS IS, WHERE IS, WITH ALL FAULTS, and without warranty of any kind, express or implied, as to the condition of the property or any improvements thereon, including but not limited to merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. The Substitute Trustee makes no covenant of seisin or warranty of title, express or implied, and will only convey the property by Substitute Trustee's Deed. Except as noted above, all right and equity of redemption, statutory or otherwise, homestead, and exemption are expressly waived in the Deed of Trust.

The sale held pursuant to this notice is subject to the express reservation that it may be rescinded by the Substitute Trustee at any time. If the sale is rescinded for any reason, the purchaser shall only be entitled to a refund of funds tendered to purchase the subject property, and shall have no further or other recourse against Creditor, the Substitute Trustee, or their successor(s), assign(s), agent(s), and attorney(s). The right is reserved to adjourn 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. Notice of such adjournment will also be mailed to interested parties when required by applicable law.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:
Robertson, Anschutz, Schneid, Crane & Partners, PLLC
Attn: TN Foreclosure
13010 Morris Road, Suite 450
Alpharetta, GA 30004
(423) 498-7400
tnfc@raslg.com

Please reference file number 26-396199 when contacting our office.

Investors website: https://www.rascranesalesinfo.com and https://BetterChoiceNotices.com

THIS OFFICE MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.(4162tc)

National Library Week highlights importance of rural libraries

Rhea Landholm
Center for Rural Affairs

Libraries play a vital role in rural communities, serving as gathering spaces, technology hubs and educational resources, as National Library Week is observed April 19-25.

Rural libraries serve approximately 30 million people across the United States, according to the Institute of Museum and Library Services. In addition to lending books, many provide internet access, computers and staff assistance for research and everyday needs.

Libraries also function as community centers, offering spaces for events such as workshops, meetings and celebrations. Many house local history collections and unique materials such as community cookbooks.

Despite the growth of digital resources, library usage remains strong. About 90% of libraries in North America offer e-books and audiobooks through services such as Libby, a mobile app that allows users to borrow and return materials with a library card.

In Lyons, Nebraska, the local library serves multiple generations of residents and includes features such as a community room and a children's area with murals.

National Library Week provides an opportunity to recognize the services libraries offer and their continued role in supporting education, access to information and community connection.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE SHELBYVILLE POWER,
WATER, AND SEWER BOARD
WILL MEET

April 28, 2026, AT 5:00 PM
AT THE SHELBYVILLE POWER
SYSTEM OFFICE,
308 SOUTH MAIN STREET.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO
ATTEND ANY AND ALL MEETINGS.

ANYONE DESIRING TO COMMENT TO
THE BOARD ON MATTERS GERMANE TO
THE ITEMS ON THE AGENDA SHALL
CONTACT JASON REESE BY NOON ON
THE DAY BEFORE THE MEETING.

SHELBYVILLE POWER, WATER & SEWER BOARDS
931-684-7171

"If you want it, hit it" – Viqueens Sweep Summertown Behind Daniel's Late Home Run

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@richardsonmediagroup.net

UNIONVILLE, Tenn. – In an emotional District 9-AA match-up on Tuesday, Gracie Daniel launched a two-out, go-ahead sixth-inning 3-run home run over the centerfield wall to put the Community Viqueens (16-6, 5-0) ahead for good in a 6-3 comeback win over Summertown (15-7, 4-2).

"Gracie Daniel is by far one of the best all-around softball players that I've ever coached, and I've been coaching for a very long time and coached some great players," Community Head Coach Cam Farrell said postgame about his shortstop, "No matter how hard I am on her, that kid is looking for ways to figure it out, and you can't ask for more than that."

Daniel, who finished 2-for-3 at the plate with four RBIs and a walk while batting fifth in the lineup, also drove in the first run of the game in the bottom of the third inning on a one-out single to drive home Anna Haskins.

The Viqueens doubled their advantage in the bottom of the fourth inning on a two-out RBI-double from Kamryn Farrell to take a 2-0 lead into the fifth.

However, the Lady Eagles seemed to figure out Community's ace, Annie Prince, in the top of the sixth. Summertown's leadoff hitter, Mae Ricks, singled before being driven home on a controversial double from Elizabeth Garland that hit off the top of the wall in left field before landing back in the field of play. The Summertown fans and coaches were perplexed as to how Garland's rocket wasn't ruled a home run with the ball seeming to have deflected off the left-field porch to come back in play.

Nonetheless, the very next batter, Greenley Taylor, connected on a go-ahead 2-run home run to left-center field, this time leaving no doubt to put the visitors ahead, 3-2. This resulted in some choice words from Lady Eagles' Head Coach Wes Wood directed at a handful of Community fans along the third-base fence, prompting a warning from the on-site SRO officers.



Community celebrates Gracie Daniel (4) hitting a go-ahead 3-run home run in Tuesday's win over Summertown.
Submitted Photo by Austin Holland.



Community HC Cam Farrell (left) and Gracie Daniel (4) celebrate after Daniel's two-out go-ahead 3-run home run in the bottom of the 6th inning of Tuesday's win over Summertown.
Submitted Photo by Austin Holland.

"Summertown can hit it," Farrel said, "Good luck if you've got a pitcher who can shut them out from top to bottom. I told Annie coming into this game that maybe she'll come out here and blank 'em, but that's not likely, so if we give up some, let's just get it back. Last year she got so caught up with striking everybody out that it was a panic if somebody hit her. I think she has shown a ton of growth in that."

Going into the bottom of the sixth, the Viqueens needed another set of late-game heroics for the second-consecutive game. First, Kamryn Farrell delivered a seeing-eye RBI-single to score Taylor Harris from second and tie the game up at 3-3. Anna Haskins then came through with a one-out single to move Farrell into scoring position, but Kailani Allen's infield fly to second brought up Daniel in a massive spot with two outs, and the Viqueens' shortstop delivered the goods with her first career home run to put Community ahead for good.

"The message in the dugout heading into the bottom of the sixth inning was 'if you want it, hit it,'" Farrell said, "It's not really anything else, either you're going to or you're not, there's no in-between. As a coach, when you see them talking and buzzing around – especially certain ones that are quiet – that's when you know. I was proud of how they attacked in that inning. This district in general is tough and solid. You can't be out here thinking, oh we're up five runs in the first, we got this. I feel like this is the toughest district in the state, and I'm proud of them."

Despite giving up three runs the previous inning, Prince came out and shut the door in the top of the seventh to secure the regular season series sweep over the Lady Eagles. Prince finished with another quality start with 7.0 complete innings pitched, giving up just three earned runs on seven hits and one walk while striking out five batters on 99 pitches.

"I'm really pleased because we can't just come out here and live on Annie [Prince] alone, we have got to have our bats going," said Farrell, "That's one thing we've focused on for the last month and a half. I'm pleased with what I saw, and I'm proud that the girls...I don't have to motivate them. They want to win, and for a coach, that's everything. I don't have to come in there and have some big dugout conversation. And all that extra stuff, it mentally takes you out of a ballgame. We have a goal, we need to work towards hitting that goal, and they did that."

At the plate, Community tallied 10 hits as a team, led by Anna Haskins leading off and going 3-for-3 with a walk and a double. Farrell also went 3-for-3 with a double, Allen was 1-for-4, Daniel was 2-for-3 with four RBIs and a walk, and Ryleigh Lassiter finished 1-for-2.

Meanwhile, in the circle, Summertown's Mary Parson got the start, throwing 5.0 innings while giving up just two earned runs on seven hits and three walks with four strikeouts on 95 pitches. Olivia Woods came in for the bottom of the sixth, giving up the four earned runs on three hits and one walk on 29 pitches.

Community now has a strong grip on the top seed for the District 9-AA Tournament with three games remaining. The Viqueens travel to rival Chapel Hill on Thursday with first-pitch set for 5:30 p.m.

Cascade Sweeps Vikings in 'Battle of Bedford'

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@richardsonmediagroup.net

GAME ONE

BELL BUCKLE, Tenn. – Jayden Hathcock pitched yet another complete game, Wickey Parker launched his fifth home run of the season, and the Cascade Champions (17-7, 5-3) outlasted the Community Vikings (4-22, 0-8) in a pitchers' duel, 3-1, to pick up the win on Senior Night on Monday.

"This senior class [Jayden Hathcock, Jordan Childress, Nicholas Mayhorn, Elijah Wesenberg, Thomas Demartelaere] is special to me," Cascade Head Coach Travis Sheffield said postgame, "We came into Cascade together, trying to turn a program around. There were no expectations in the beginning, but we had every intention to try and change that and set the bar high. Those guys have done that for four years. They've raised the bar for themselves, they've raised the bar for the school building, they've raised the bar for the community, and they've raised the bar for their teammates. This senior class is special, and it shows on the field. The leadership they possess, they're like coaches out there. They're going to be extremely successful outside of baseball."

Hathcock pitched 7.0 innings, giving up just a single unearned run on one base hit and two walks with 11 strikeouts on a season-high 107 pitches to pick up the win.

"He just goes out there and battles," Sheffield said about his starter, "He couldn't find the strike zone early with his fastball, but he was finding it with his off-speed pitches. His off-speed was working really well. He's got four pitches, and he can throw them all for strikes at any point."

Meanwhile, for the Vikings, Wes Haley managed to work through 6.0 complete innings, giving up three earned runs on three hits and four walks with six strikeouts on 92 pitches.

Neither team scored in the first three innings as Cascade left a runner stranded in scoring position in all three.

However, the Champions finally were able to plate a pair of runs in the bottom of the fourth after loading the bases with nobody out. Elijah Wesenberg flipped the lineup over with a bunt that drove home River Maddox from third base before Jordan Childress delivered a sacrifice-fly to left field that scored Nicholas Mayhorn from third to take a 2-0 lead.

After Hathcock set down the Vikings in order in the fifth, Wickey Parker jumped on the first pitch he saw to leadoff the home half, launching his fifth home run over the right field wall to extend the Champions' lead to 3-0.

Community scratched across their lone run of the night after Josh Powers delivered a two-out single into right before coming around to score on a dropped fly ball hit by Brody Armstrong to trim the lead to 3-1.

Hathcock settled down and set down the Vikings in order to slam the door shut in the top of the seventh inning to secure the win.

At the plate for Cascade, Jordan Childress went 0-for-3 with an RBI, Wickey Parker went 1-for-2 with a walk and a home run, Jayden Hathcock was 1-for-3, and Xykaiah Dixon finished 1-for-3. Nicholas Mayhorn went 0-for-2 with a walk and a run scored, and Elijah Wesenberg finished 0-for-3 with an RBI.

For the Vikings, Josh Powers delivered the lone hit of the night, finishing 1-for-3 with a run scored. Armstrong finished 0-for-2 with an RBI.

GAME TWO

UNIONVILLE, Tenn. – Despite trailing 3-2 entering the top of the sixth inning on Tuesday night, the Cascade Champions rallied for 10 unanswered runs over the final two innings to secure a series sweep in the District 9-AA 'Battle of Bedford' series against Community,12-3.

"You can't practice for a rivalry like this between Community and Cascade," Champions' Head Coach Travis Sheffield said postgame.

Continued on 9A...

Shelbyville Central Splits Final D6-4A Series Against Cookeville

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@richardsonmediagroup.net

GAME ONE

COOKEVILLE, Tenn. – The Shelbyville Central Golden Eagles (22-8, 5-3) were held to just three hits, committed two errors, and fell at District 6-AAAA leaders Cookeville (19-6, 6-2), 6-0, on Monday.

The Cavaliers scored four runs in the bottom of the second before tacking on two more in the bottom of the third to take an insurmountable 6-0 lead.

Landen Severance was dominant on the mound for the hosts, pitching a complete-game shutout while giving up just three hits and two walks with seven strikeouts on only 83 pitches.

Meanwhile, Brody Thomas got the start for the Golden Eagles, getting through 4.1 innings of work while giving up six runs – four earned – on seven hits and two walks with five strikeouts on 92 pitches. Ashton Whorley came on in relief for the final 1.2 innings, giving up just two hits and one walk with two strikeouts on 31 pitches.

At the plate for Shelbyville Central, Stephen Bobo led off going 1-for-3, Elijah Westbrooks went 1-for-3, and Whorley finished 1-for-1 for the third and final hit.

Cookeville came through with nine base hits, including a triple from Ty Harrison. Cole Teeters led off for the Cavs and went 2-for-4 with an RBI, KJ Anderson was 2-for-4 with an RBI, and Jackson Jones finished 2-for-3 with a run scored. Zolten Knight was 1-for-3 with an RBI, Easton Davidson went 1-for-3, and Tyler Smith went 0-for-2 with an RBI.

GAME TWO

SHELBYVILLE, Tenn. – After falling behind 6-0 in the top of the third inning on Tuesday, the Shelbyville Central Golden Eagles mounted yet another furious rally in the fourth and fifth innings to take their first and final lead of the District 6-AAAA series over Cookeville in a 7-6 victory.

Cookeville picked up right where they left off from Monday's victory, plating one run in each of the first two innings before putting up four runs in the top of the third inning to take a commanding six run lead.

However, the Golden Eagles would not go away, getting one run back in the third inning before plating four of their own in the fourth. It started out with a leadoff walk – as many rallies do – to Elijah Westbrooks. Brody Thomas singled to center, then Ashton Whorley singled to load the bases with nobody out.

Braxton Vari struck out, then Miles McCullough's ground ball resulted in a force out at home plate, and all of a sudden the rally was on life support. However, thanks to McCullough's hustle to stay out of a double play, the lineup flipped over to Stephen Bobo with two outs.

After Bobo took a pitch in the dirt to go ahead 3-1, Brody Thomas took advantage of the passed ball to score the Golden Eagles' second run of the game, trimming the Cavs lead to 6-2. Bobo then worked a full-count walk to load the bases for Blake Bone. After Whorley scored to make it 6-3 on another passed ball, Bone delivered a big time base hit into right field, scoring both McCullough and Bobo to get Shelbyville Central right back in the game, trailing by just a single run, 6-5.

After Maillet put up a zero in the top of the fifth, Elijah Westbrooks once again led off the inning by reaching base safely, this time after getting hit by a pitch. Thomas bunted Westbrooks to second, and then Whorley singled to left, putting runners at first and third. Vari grounded out to first, but Westbrooks was able to score the tying run from third. Then, Cookeville committed a crucial error to concede the go-ahead run on a McCullough ground ball. The Cavaliers' first baseman, Landen Severence, was unable to make the play, allowing Whorley to score what turned out to be the winning run from third.

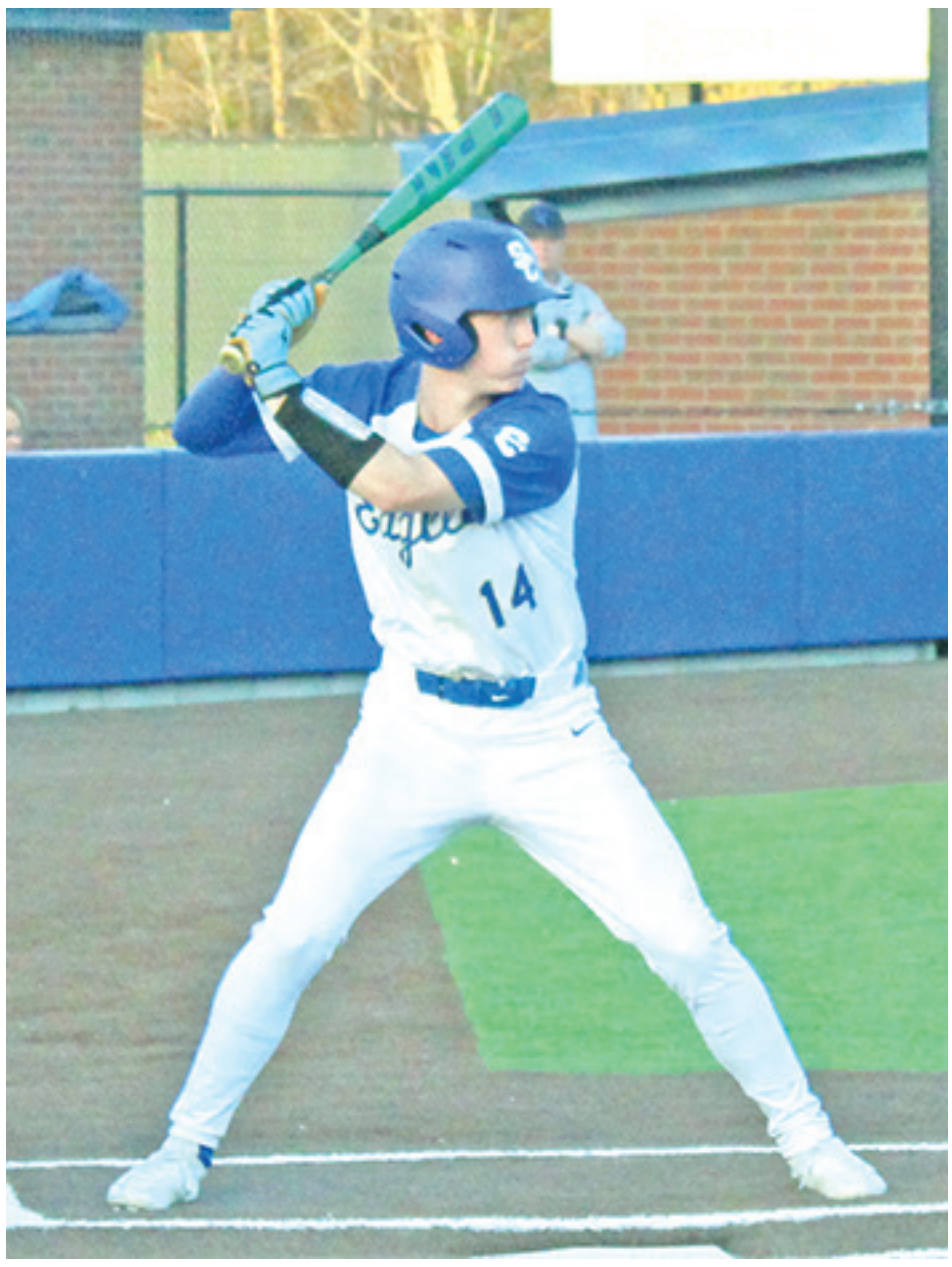
After Kaleb Maillet battled for five innings against a tough Cookeville lineup, Shelbyville Central Head Coach Chase Jones brought on Stephen Bobo for the final two innings to record the extended save. Bobo did not allow a baserunner, sitting down all six batters he faced with four of them coming via strikeout. Of Bobo's 22 pitches, 16 were strikes.

Meanwhile, despite the tough start, Maillet managed to get through 5.0 innings, giving up six runs – five earned – on four hits and six walks with three strikeouts on 93 pitches.

For Cookeville, Case Collins pitched the first 3.2 innings, but was unable to get out of the fourth, giving up five earned runs on six hits and two walks with four strikeouts on 74 pitches. Colby Hunt came on in relief, lasting 0.2 innings and giving up two runs – one earned – on one hit and one walk before Zolten Knight entered for the final 1.2 innings.

At the plate for Shelbyville Central, Stephen Bobo led off going 1-for-3 with a walk and a double. Blake Bone went 2-for-4 with three RBIs, Caden Peacock was 1-for-3 with a walk and a double, and Westbrooks went 0-for-1 with a walk and a HBP. Thomas was 1-for-2 with a run scored, and Ashton Whorley finished 2-for-3 with two runs scored.

Shelbyville Central secures the No. 3 seed in the District 6-AAAA Tournament, and will travel to No. 2 seed Lincoln County next week in a win-or-go-home best-of-three series. First, the Golden Eagles wrap up the regular season with a two-game series against Franklin County, starting with Senior Night on Thursday at 6:30 p.m.



Shelbyville Central's Blake Bone (14) went 2-for-4 with three RBIs in Tuesday's comeback win over Cookeville. *T-G Staff Photo by Noah Maddox*

Continued from 8A...

"I told the boys coming into last night's game, no matter who's down that year, it's always going to be a close game. It's always going to be a battle. Despite their record, they [Community] have played some really close games this year. I didn't expect them to play anything less than their best against us, and that's what they did. They played really good and had us up against the ropes for five innings. I commend our guys for being resilient, being patient, and withstanding the jabs they kept throwing at us. I commend our guys for standing tall and taking those off the chin before finally executing and finding barrels there towards the end of the game."

Cascade took an early 1-0 lead in the top of the first against the Vikings' starter, Logan Reed, after Jayden Hathcock drove home Caleb Crouch from second on an RBI-single into right.

However, the Vikings responded with a two-out run of their own in the home half. Josh Powers greeted Cascade starter, Wickey Parker, with a hard-hit single into center. Parker struck out the next two batters, but then Masyn Hill placed a pop-fly perfectly in between shortstop and left field to drive home Powers to tie the game at 1-1.

Community then took their first lead of the series in the bottom of the third inning. Hill singled with one out, Dylan Markum doubled into right before Hill was able to come home and score on an infield error to take a 2-1 lead. Isaiah Beech then delivered a perfectly placed sacrifice bunt to double the Vikings' lead to 3-1.

Cascade trimmed the lead in half in the top of the fourth after Daymien Maldonado reached safely on a ground ball via a two-out error that allowed Xykaiah Dixon to touch home plate.

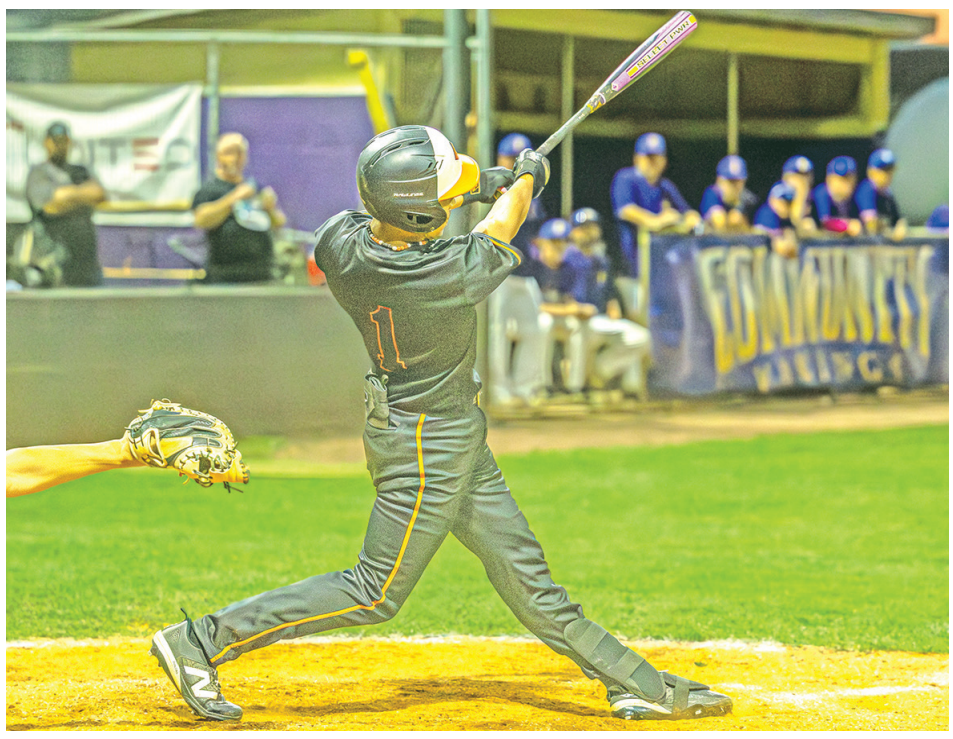
Reed was able to get out of a bases loaded jam in the top of the fifth to keep the Vikings in front, and then Community created a glorious opportunity to extend their lead by loading the bases themselves with two outs. Sheffield countered by bringing his second baseman, Caleb Crouch, to the mound, and Crouch froze Ty Wood with a 3-2 fastball to escape the jam.

In the top of the sixth, River Maddox led off by reaching safely via an infield error, and then Maldonado moved Maddox over all the way to third on a perfectly placed sacrifice bunt. This allowed Maddox to score the tying run after a pitch went to the backstop, eventually resulting in an Elijah Wesenberg walk.

With Reed at 110 pitches, Community Head Coach Parker Gunn brought in Josh Powers from centerfield to relive his starter. Jordan Childress greeted Powers with a double to move Wesenberg to third. Crouch grounded out before Wickey Parker was intentionally walked, leading to another Jayden Hathcock RBI-single. This time, Hathcock cleared the bases with some help from the right fielder, and the Champions took the lead for good, 6-3.

After a Dixon walk, Thomas Demartelaere drove home both Dixon and Hathcock with a two-out single, giving the Champions an 8-3 lead heading into the bottom of the sixth.

"Their guy [Logan Reed] pitched well," Sheffield said, "He kept us off balance early. I feel like our team gets better as the game goes along, and if we start to wear a pitcher down, eventually we start finding barrels. That's how it's been all year long."



Cascade's Jordan Childress (1) went 3-for-5 with a 2-RBI home run - his fifth of the year - along with a double while batting leadoff in Tuesday's win at Community. *Submitted Photo by Austin Holland.*

Crouch struck out the side in the bottom of the sixth, leading to Cascade scoring four more runs in the top of the seventh. Maldonado doubled home River Maddox to go up 9-3, then Jordan Childress launched his fifth home run of the year on a 2-run moonshot to left. Finally, Hathcock drove in his third run of the game on a sacrifice fly to punctuate the 12-3 win.

On the mound for Cascade, Wickey Parker went 3.0 innings, giving up three earned runs on four hits and three walks with four strikeouts on 75 pitches. Jacob Cagle came on in relief, pitching 1.2 innings and giving up three walks with one strikeout on 38 pitches. Crouch followed Cagle, striking out all four batters he faced on 26 pitches before Brody Greene got the final three outs in the seventh.

At the plate for Community, Powers led off going 1-for-3 with a walk, Masyn Hill went 2-for-2 with an RBI and a walk, and Dylan Markum finished 1-for-4 with a double. Isaiah Beech went 0-for-1 with an RBI and a HBP.

For Cascade, Childress led off going 3-for-5 with two RBIs, Crouch was 1-for-3 with two walks, and Parker finished 1-for-3 with a walk. Hathcock went 2-for-4 with three RBIs, Demartelaere was 1-for-4 with RBIs, Maddox went 1-for-3 with a walk, and Maldonado finished 2-for-3 with an RBI.

Cascade will travel to No. 2 seed Summertown next week for the first round of the D9-AA Tournament.

People Around Town

Meeting the Candidates

Photos by Martha Akers

Bell Buckle held its "Meet the Candidates" forum last Friday night at the fire hall. Organizer Martha Akers said she is very appreciative of Amy Strobel of Bell Buckle, Sarah and Matt Keeler, newcomers to Bell Buckle, for helping with decorations and food prep. As well, BB Fire Department for hosting the event at the firehall.











Early Voting Schedule
April 15 - April 30, 2026

Apr 15, Wed ..... 8:00a - 5:00p	Apr 23, Thur ..... 8:00a - 5:00p
Apr 16, Thur ..... 8:00a - 5:00p	Apr 24, Fri ..... 8:00a - 5:00p
Apr 17, Fri ..... 8:00a - 5:00p	Apr 25, Sat ..... 8:00a - 12:00p
Apr 18, Sat ..... 8:00a - 12:00p	Apr 27, Mon ..... 8:00a - 5:00p
Apr 20, Mon ..... 8:00a - 5:00p	Apr 28, Tue ..... 8:00a - 5:00p
Apr 21, Tue ..... 8:00a - 5:00p	Apr 29, Wed ..... 8:00a - 5:00p
Apr 22, Wed ..... 8:00a - 5:00p	Apr 30, Thur ..... 8:00a - 5:00p

Michelle Murray seeks re-election as Circuit Court Clerk

Michelle Murray of Shelbyville has announced her candidacy for re-election to the office of Bedford County Circuit Court Clerk, in the Republican primary on May 5th, and the following general election on August 6th.

Murray is a native of Bedford County and has served in the position for the past 12 years. She notes that she was the first Republican elected to a county-wide office in Bedford County since before the Civil War. She remains active in the Bedford County Republican Party and was awarded the Republican Chairman's Award in 2021.

Before serving as clerk, she worked for many years as the administrative clerk for three General Sessions and Juvenile Court Judges. In 2009, she received the State of Tennessee Award for Outstanding Juvenile Court Worker from the Tennessee Juvenile Court Services Association.

Murray is a graduate of Shelbyville Central High School, class of 1986, and earned a bachelor's degree from Middle Tennessee State University. She has achieved the distinction of a Certified Public Administrator from the University of Tennessee and is also a graduate of the Tennessee Government Leadership Program. Michelle is an active member of the Tennessee Clerk's Association and the County Officials Association. She has had the honor of serving on the boards of both Associations and has served as President of the Middle Tennessee Clerk's Association.

Murray helped co- author and created the Manual of Reference Handbook for all the Tennessee Court Clerks.

She continues to serve on several committees for the Clerk's Association, including Legislation and Education. She helped co- author the Manual of Reference Handbook for all the Tennessee Court Clerks Locally, Murray served for several years as Secretary of the Bedford County Fair Board Association and as a board member for the Middle Tennessee Spay and Neuter Clinic. She is a continuing member of the Shelbyville Lions Club.

Recently, she was selected to help develop a statewide case management system for clerks across Tennessee to improve efficiency, transparency, and service.

"My staff and I are deeply committed to working hard every day to operate the Circuit Court Clerk's office with courtesy, efficiency, and professionalism. One of the greatest honors of my life is serving the people of Bedford County and being a part of this wonderful community. I respectfully and humbly ask for your vote and continued support.





