



McKenzie Beauty Pageants



Left, Miss McKenzie 2025: Madeline Gotshall. Center, Miss McKenzie — Queen: Madeline Gotshall, 16, daughter of Megan Gottshall. 1st Maid: Laken Fisher, 17, daughter of Valarie McMackin and Adam Fisher. 2nd Maid: Reese Gallimore, 17, daughter of Jennifer and Kim Gallimore. Right, Teen Miss McKenzie — Queen: Kinsley Wilson, 14, daughter of Sara Wilson. 1st Maid: Madelynn Pewitt, 15, daughter of Jessie and Tiffany Pewitt. 2nd Maid: Carleigh Lunn, 15, daughter of Craig and Traci Lunn. 3rd Maid: Kimyah Gordon, 15, daughter of David and Ashley Gordon. 4th Maid: Addison Milam, 15, daughter of Tyler and Laura Milam. *Photos Courtesy of Jess Martin*



Above Left, Junior Miss McKenzie — Queen: Olivia Carey, 12, daughter of Dawn Oaks. 1st Maid: Harper Allen, 10, daughter of Mark and Valerie Allen. 2nd Maid: Paisley Morgan, 11, daughter of Brittany Morgan. 3rd Maid: Tynleigh Kornegay, 10, daughter of Kristian Kornegay and Shane Barksdale. Above Right, Little Mr. McKenzie — King: Wyatt Hartz, 8, son of David and Liz Hartz. 1st Page: Josiah Branch, 5, son of Aly Branch. Little Miss McKenzie — Queen: Marlee Wheat, daughter of Jonathan and Heather Wheat. 1st Maid: Rowan Conger, 8, daughter of Mike and Susie Reid, Jolie Reed. 2nd Maid: Hasizley Mann, 7, daughter of Dusty and Kara Mann. 3rd Maid: Rachel Parham, 8, daughter of Kyle and Brandi Parham. 4th Maid: Nora Foster, 6, daughter of Matt and Morgan Foster. Right, Mini Miss McKenzie — Queen: Mattilyn Jo Bennett, 4, daughter of Austin and Nicki Bennett. 1st Maid: Harper Winstead, 5, daughter of Austin and Kelliea Winstead. 2nd Maid: Piper McMackin, 4, daughter of Justin and Valerie McMackin. 3rd Maid: Harper Moore, 4, MES, daughter of Cari Moore. 4th Maid: Vivian Hartz, 5, daughter of David and Liz Hartz. *Photos Courtesy of Jess Martin*



Above Left, Eighth grade honor students. Above Right, Seventh grade honor students. Below Left, Sixth grade honor students. Below Right, Fifth grade honor students. *Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner*



McKenzie Middle School Hosts Honors Banquet

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

MCKENZIE (April 15) — McKenzie Middle School hosted its annual Honors Banquet Tuesday evening, sponsored by the McKenzie Rotary Club.

After the meal, the program began with a welcome by Rotary Club President Christy Williams, who said, in part, “Tonight, we gather to celebrate the hard work, dedication and achievements of our outstanding students who have demonstrated excellence in academics, leadership and service.”

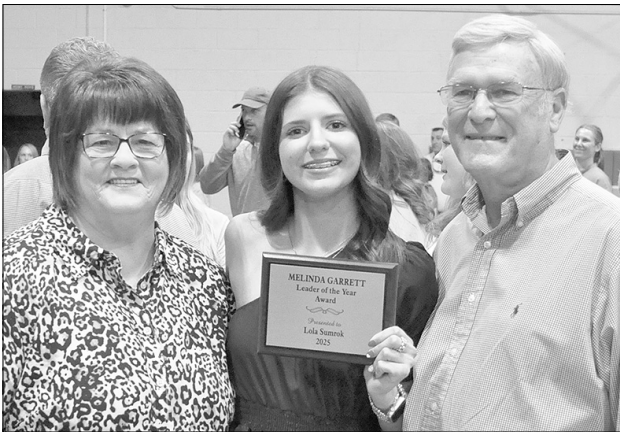
The guest speaker was Dr. Travis Russell, a local dentist and 2008 McKenzie graduate. He spoke about finding a love for dentistry and community through his

grandfather Dr. Harold Russell, who was a dentist in McKenzie for over 56 years.

Dr. Russell also spoke about the Parable of the Talents from the book of Matthew. He said, in part, “Study hard, build relationships, take advantage of opportunities, don’t waste your talents.”

MHS teacher Beth Mathis presented the Melinda Garrett Leader of the Year Award to eighth grader Lola Sumrok. The award is presented each year to a student who exemplifies the character, leadership and kindness of its namesake, who was a 2001 MHS graduate who died at age 23.

Next, Beta sponsors Rebecca Jones and Josephine Wright recognized each honor student, who has



Lola Sumrok was named the Melinda Garrett Leader of the Year. Pictured with Lola are Melinda’s parents, Faye and Dale Garrett. *Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner*

earned all As during the first three nine-week periods of the year and holds a cumulative GPA of at least 92. Then the top ten students in each class were recognized.

Honor students were (with top ten students denoted by a *):

Fifth Grade — Zoe Avila, Lola Batton, Samuel Berry,

Addilyn Brown*, Ripken Brown, Brycen Boyles, Zane Campbell, Callie Davidson, Ava Diller*, Adisyn Doede*, Andrew Ellis, Olivia Fontana, Brooklyn Fowler, Tate Gilbert, Johnathan Ham, Elian Harris, Emilee Harris*, Neyland Harris, Easton Johnsonius, Tynleigh Kornegay, Ava-cyn Latham, Taylor Little*,

Eli Mann, Cohen Martin, Benny McCaig, Maggie Nell Merrill, Paisley Morgan, Aubree Roberts*, Gracie Robertson, Ruger G. Schliemann, Bentley Siler*, Anna-Kate Tucker, Alayna Twitty, Samantha Umsted*, Mia Walker, Cord Wall*, Rumor Weatherford, Parker Wolski* and Colin Yele.

Sixth Grade — Ruthie Adkins*, Brooklyn Andrews*, Deacon Barden*, Aiden Blackwell*, Ashton Blackwell, Annabelle Bobb, Cooper Cunningham*, Eli Davis, Micah Dickinson, Julee Eubanks, Malcolm Evans*, Sonny Fuller, Alice Gallimore*, Saxon Hayes*, Mallorie Pierce, Sophie Price*, Graham Seavers and Olivia Shank*.

Seventh Grade — Andrew Arnold*, Jackson Barden, Bella Batton, Kaylee Berryhill, Serenity Bobo, Lane Brown, Abby Carroll*, Charlie Cassidy*, Colton Cobb, Finnian Evans*, Miles Fontana, Dierks

Ghyers*, Jake Ghyers, Andres Hernandez*, Nevaeh Herreris, Noah Johnsonius, Cooper Jones, Steven Long, Aiden Long, Milania Long-Townes, Bailee Lovell, Kate-lyn Martin, Sami Mathis, Ed Maynard, Cason Mayo*, Ryan McCann, John Patrick McReynolds*, McCoy Merrill, Madilyn Milam*, Zoey Neville, Will Newman, Kallie O’Rourke, Ulises Ramirez, Charles Scott, Seth Stafford, Willow Stenberg, Case Wall*, Reid Warman and Margaret Webb.

Eighth Grade — Kynlee Barden*, Alleigh Britt, Lillian Brown, Brylie Chester, MaKayla Dabbs*, Sophie Dameron*, Ryan Davis*, Alan Dixon, Ellie Doede, Clay Fowler*, Belle Glisson, Liam Moore*, Mary Ryan Morris, Brin Murray*, Helena Phillips, Tucker Redmond, Dawson Reeder*, Sebastian Bass, Hadley Smith*, Lola Sumrok, Marlee Toombs, Frannie Trout* and Kinsley Wilson.

Electric

...From Front Page

provide health insurance coverage at the maximum number of months [currently 36] as allowed under COBRA (Consolidated Omnibus Budget Recon-

ciliation Act of 1985) to the spouse and dependents of a covered employee who experiences an in-line-of-duty loss of life.”

Coverage provided will be the same as offered to any active full-time employee and includes any such supplementary items such as a Health Reimbursement

Arrangement. The policy was made retroactive to April 1.

Samantha Carlton, the widow of Chance, was present at the meeting. Board Chairman Lori Nolen told her, “We grieve along with you. We appreciate your presence here today.”

Nolen expressed the board’s urgency in calling

the special meeting “to do this as fast as we could.”

Jacob Smothers, agent for S&S Insurance, explained the basics of the policy and offered to answer any questions.

Electric department General Manager Ryan Drewry expressed the department’s intention “to hopefully al-

leviate some stress [in this] sensitive situation.”

Present members Nolen, Paul Moore and Victoria Williams unanimously approved the amendment. Members Chris Gurley and John Austin were unable to attend.

Moore commended the department’s response to do “everything that can possibly

be done for the family.” He addressed Samantha directly, “Your family and all of the other families, everybody here, from what I understand, is just one big happy family. And I’m just so sorry. As far as the electric company [is concerned], I think anything that can be done to help you will be done.”



Above, The MSSD began the retreat with breakfast at the central office. Pictured are (L to R): Spiros Roditis, Karen Fowler, Misty Aird, LaShonda Williams, Chad Brown, Director of Schools Dr. Justin Barden, George Cassidy and Bobby Young. Below, Board members discuss drainage issues at the elementary school. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner

McKenzie School Board Tours Schools, Discusses Issues

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

MCKENZIE (April 19) — The McKenzie Special School District Board of Education held a retreat Saturday morning to discuss a wide variety of issues, assess needs and prioritize actions for the short- to midterm future.

Board members and Director of Schools Dr. Justin Barden first met at the central office for breakfast before touring the three schools.

At McKenzie Elementary, they discussed drainage issues around the exterior of the school, painting needs, speaker system upgrades and upcoming work on the gymnasium floor. Dr. Barden called roof repairs “the next big project.”



At the middle school, the board inspected a minor water leak beneath the pavement in the rear, the speaker system, restroom sinks and toilets and upcoming work on the gymnasium floor. The tour wrapped up at the high school, where numerous roof leaks, gym floor upgrades (to make room

for volleyball) and the need for more trophy cases were the topics of note. Members briefly discussed the prospect of a logo for the front of the building and a digital sign near the highway. Board members will keep these issues in front of mind with budget talks on the horizon.

Tax

...From Front Page

a tax rate study in order to hone in on an amount so it can procure the necessary revenue for advancement.

According to City Clerk Jennifer Waldrup, it has been at least 18 years since the City of McKenzie has taken part in a tax study. The city has operated under the same tax rate for several years. Mayor Griffin said that incremental adjustments to the rate would ultimately allow for staff raises and improvements.

In an informal setting at the city-owned railroad depot, Public Works Supervisor Johnny Mercer kicked off the morning round of requests. Mercer listed several items on his agenda. His short-term goal was to purchase a new dump truck with a price tag of around \$67,000. He added there are plans to extend the dog pound with a fenced-in outside walking area. There is also a need to hook up a generator to the department shop which according to Trevathan Electric would cost approximately \$20,000.

Mercer also said there is an immediate need to start focusing on street paving. While this was considered a long-term goal, he added that there needs to be more streets paved each year. The city has over 50 miles of paveable streets. He also addressed several culvert repairs including work to be at the park on Como Street. Mercer along with Mayor Griffin stated they had met with TEMA and FEMA on a possible grant to repair the washout on Kencindot.

Police Chief Ryan White presented members of the council with figures from a recent pay study for police officers. He stated that the McKenzie Police Department and its officers are underpaid by an average of \$2.50 per hour. In 2019, officers were given a \$3 hourly raise. Chief White said it is a “bidding war” trying to retain officers. He feels that a substantial raise would make McKenzie relevant to recruiting and retention.

Chief White added there is a need to update/digitize their policy and procedures; construct a structure at the



Fire Chief Brian Tucker and McKenzie Mayor Ryan Griffin listen to department supervisors present their goals for the City of McKenzie.

impound lot; and purchase one new vehicle. His big goal is a \$6.4 million building project for the Police Department as they are in need of a larger, more updated facility.

Chief Brian Tucker of the Fire Department said his immediate goal was for the construction of a \$15,000 Safe Haven Baby Box (SHBB). The primary purpose of SHBB is to provide a safe and anonymous way for parents to surrender their newborns, prevent infant abandonment, and ensure the well-being of the infant. A baby box is a climate-controlled and electronically-monitored device built into a wall. When a parent places a newborn in the baby box, it triggers an alarm that alerts the staff inside the haven location. Another sensor goes off once the baby is placed inside. The person surrendering the baby can push a button or close the door, which triggers a third alarm. The baby receives immediate medical attention once retrieved from the box. They are then placed in the care of child protective services.

Chief Tucker said there is an immediate need to have a second firefighter on the night shift who is part of the emergency medical responder team. Also stated was his long-term goal was for a second fire station and training facility to be constructed adjacent to McKenzie High School. This would help with a reduction in call times which in turn would improve the City's ISO rating. A rough estimate of \$250,000 was provided to grade, gravel and construct the training facility.

Parks under the direction of Billy Hollowell stated several one-year goals. Most focused on the park located on Como and the splash

pad. Also, there is a request for a new truck. Only term goals include a new scoreboard at the softball and little league fields; connect the City Park walking trail to the Rotary Walking Trail along University Drive; and construct a pavilion or shaded area near the City Park play area. Over the next five years, Hollowell included possible plans for additional pickleball courts.

With water and sewer, Superintendent Earnest Umstead said there needs to be a focus on the water treatment facility as it has become dated. He also stated that he is going to have to replace long-tenured members of his staff noting the difficulty in hiring and retaining individuals. Umstead said it takes an employee four years before they have the necessary experience in obtaining certain licensing and qualifications. He added that another goal is towards finding leaks that are accounting for an approximate 39% water loss.

In General Government, Jennifer Waldrup stated she had a need to find and train someone part-time to help with event planning and marketing. She added some of the software at City Hall needed to be updated along with a need for replacement rotation for staff computers.

At the end of the session, Council members listed their main goals from what was provided by the department supervisors. The main goals were the hiring of additional help for the fire department for the night shift; looking into police officer raises; find and train an assistant for the City Clerk; work on increased street paving; construct bathrooms at the parks; and focus on upgrades for the water treatment facility.

Pre-K

...From Front Page

The ducklings will grow at MES for a few more weeks before they are sold. The proceeds will be used to buy something for the classroom.

The grant was also used to obtain supplies for two small gardens grown in planters just outside the two Pre-K classrooms. Bonnie Plants of Bells donated 60 spinach, lettuce and thyme plants.

On Thursday, May 8 at noon, Pre-K will host a garden party for parents to attend. The harvested greens will be used to make chicken wraps, and the remainder will be sold.

Baker told The Banner, “It’s really exciting the kids



Pre-K teacher Tracie Baker shows Jason Nguyen how to hold a duckling carefully. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

get to actually see the life cycle in action. It’s important that they know where

their food comes from and how they can be a part of growing it.”

Schools

...From Front Page

job interview skills, resume writing, financial responsibility, dress etiquette and community service.

Dr. Kee noted the addition will not affect the budget.

Board members approved the request unanimously.

Dr. Kee also requested an additional Special Education position at the primary school. Second grade special education is currently contracted to retired teacher Denise Lankford, who wishes to step away from the role after this school year. A motion to add the position was approved unanimously.

The board also approved

membership in the Tennessee School Board Association for the coming year for \$4,036. Board Chairman Dr. Lee Carter noted there was action in the State Senate to attempt to preclude tax dollars from being spent on TSBA membership. “[The bill] was pulled, but could be potentially dropped back in [during the] next session.”

Dr. Kee gave several updates on various subjects.

The high school sustained some roof damage, fortunately on the portion of the roof that has not been replaced. Further action is awaiting estimates to repair or replace the damage section.

Two rising seniors, Madison Dill and Paige Costello, will be interviewed for the newly-created position of school board student repre-

sentative. Dr. Carter, fellow board members Morgan Butler and Shawna Smith, Dr. Kee and a member of the high school administration will participate in the selection process.

The district recently received two TVA classrooms grants of \$5,000 each, one each for the primary and high schools.

A \$10,000 donation was received from Gränges to be split among the three schools.

Huntingdon High School's graduation is Saturday, May 17 at 6 p.m. at Paul Ward Stadium. Baccalaureate is Sunday, May 10 at 6 p.m. in the high school gymnasium.

The meeting adjourned after 15 minutes.

The board meets next on Wednesday, May 21 at 5 p.m.

Airport

...From Front Page

County Sheriff’s Office in 2007 while attending UT Martin. He became a full-time Henry County Sheriff’s Deputy in 2008 and, a year later, began his aviation career as a part-time pilot while serving on the 24th Judicial Drug Task Force. He transitioned to the Tennessee Highway Patrol (THP) in 2010 and was selected as a THP pilot in May 2012. He was transferred to the Carroll County Airport so there would be an available helicopter in northwest Tennessee. He was promoted to sergeant on November 12, 2017.

Two resolutions dealing with the Carroll County Electric Department were approved. Resolutions 4-01-2025 and 4-02-2025 deal with bonds used for the construction of the substation located near the Leach Community. Resolution 4-01-2025 states it is the initial resolution authorizing the issuance of not to exceed \$10,000,000 in electric system revenue and tax bonds of Carroll County. Resolution 4-02-2025 – authorized the issuance of not to exceed \$10,000,000 in aggregate principal amount of electric system revenue and tax bonds, series 2025 of Carroll County, Tennessee; making provision for the issuance, sale and payment of said bonds; establishing the terms thereof and the disposition of proceeds therefrom; providing for the collection and disposition of revenues from the electric system of the county; and making provision for the operation of said system.

Ryan Drewry, Carroll County Electric General Manager, was in attendance to explain some of the points of the two resolutions. Drewry stated, that the Leach substation constitutes about 60% of the expense. The other upgrades and renovations will

take place within the existing system. Part of this will be done at the substation located adjacent to Granges and improvements to the system connecting Huntingdon to Trezevant.

The improvement will alleviate some of the load strain making electricity more readily available to Carroll County's industrial sights. The last bond issued to Carroll County Electric was in 2001 and has been retired.

The Rules of Order were temporarily suspended during the meeting to revisit Resolution 11-03-2024 which allowed Sheriff Andy Dickson to research and have the County take part in a study to address pay retirement standards through hazardous duty supplemental benefits. Due to what the State felt was missing in the original resolution, the County adopted a resolution drafted by the State that mentioned paying funds for the actuarial study.

Additional resolutions approved: Resolution 4-03-2025 – Authorizing Carroll County to participate in the 24th Judicial District Recovery Courts allocation of funds received from Opioid Abatement Funds. This is a 3-year continuation, allowing the county to continue funding its participation in Circuit Court Judge Brent Bradberry’s Recovery Court utilizing our Opioid Abatement funds.

Resolution 4-04-2025 – Appointed Marty Towater to the Civil Service Commission.

Resolution 4-05-2025 – Requires the Carroll County Clerk and Master to transmit monthly fees of the Office to the County Trustee and to pay the salaries and expenses of the office from the General Fund. This is designed to address an audit finding in the Clerk and Master’s Office, due to a deficit in financial operations. This resolution addresses this by having this office func-

tion the same as our other fee-collecting offices, where revenues generated come to the County General Fund and expenses of his salary and other expenses are the responsibility of the County Government under the Central Finance Director. The resolution also proposed that it remain this way in future years.

Resolution 4-06-2025 – amended the General Fund Budget with a transfer of \$42,434 for Rural Fire. The movement went towards line items composed of salary, maintenance, dues and communication equipment.

Resolution 4-07-2025 – amended the General Fund Budget for the Trustee’s Office by \$1,321 to be moved from data processing to the line item of deputies.

Resolution 4-08-2025 – amended the School General Fund Budget by \$13,000 through line items transfers from bus drivers and career ladder to other salaries and other wages.

Resolution 4-09-2025 – amends the School Transportation Fund Budget. This amendment moved \$7,500 from unrestricted funds to a line item called Board of Education — Trustee’s Commissions.

Resolution 4-10-2025 – authorized the County Mayor to Sign a Project Proposal with the Tennessee Department of Transportation. This deals with the transfer of property to be used by TDOT on Rochelle Road adjacent to the Carroll County Airport for road improvements.

The following were elected notaries: Kaliah Adams, Lydia Chadwick, Dylan Clifft, Steven Trevor Foster, Vicky Jarrett, Selenia D. Lockhart, Cindy McMin, Dawn Oakes, Gina Pate, April Pritchard, Geneva L. Rumley, Tammy A. Simpson, Steven L. West, Anna Wheat and Katie Woolf.

The next regular meeting of the Carroll County Commission is May 12 at 7 p.m. at the Carroll County Government Complex.

Olivet

...From Front Page

Police Department on April 7, at 10 a.m.

Officers Steven Scott and

Dalton Raspberry responded to the scene, where several of the headstones had been toppled.

The report indicates the vandals could have been children playing in the cemetery.

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATE!

Chelsey Doe SMITH

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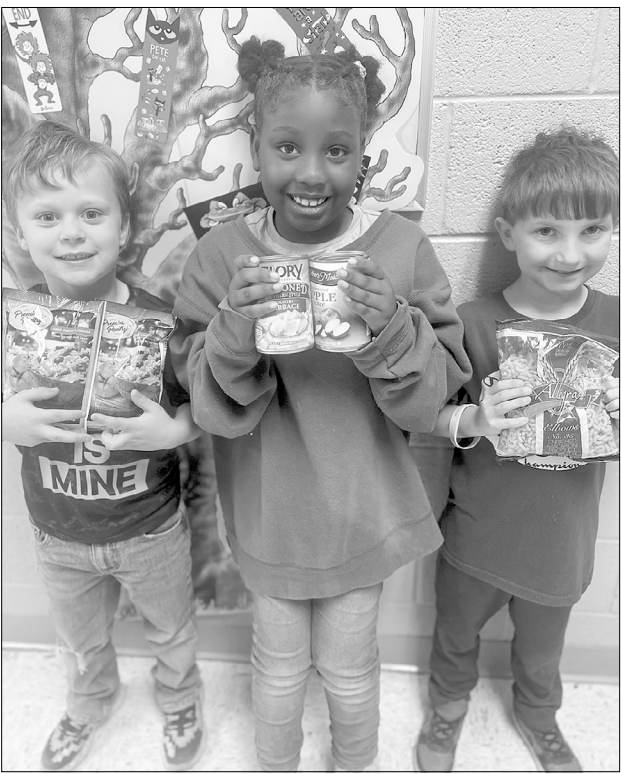
McKenzie High School FBLA state competitors (L to R) Front Row: Olivia Pate, Addi Davis and Carleigh Lunn. Back Row: Tobey Brooks, Brody Berryhill, Aleecia Williams, Carlton Townes, Gracie Aird and Sophie Cole. Photo courtesy MHS

MHS FBLA Excels at State Competition

CHATANOOGA (April 6-9) — The McKenzie High School Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) recently competed at the state competition. Nine students competed in various categories, and six advanced to the national competition in Anaheim in June. Sophie Cole and Aleecia Williams will compete in Social Media Strategies. Carlton Townes will compete in Hospitality and Event Management. Tobey Brooks and Gracie Aird will compete in International Business. Brody Berryhill will attend a leadership conference. Other state competitors were Addi Davis, Carleigh Lunn and Olivia Pate. Mignon Denton is the FBLA sponsor.

West Carroll Primary Joins Forces With United Neighbors to Give Back

West Carroll Primary School is proving that even small hands can make a big difference. In partnership with United Neighbors, a vital community-focused organization based in McKenzie, students, faculty and staff came together to support local families in need. United Neighbors provides essential services—from transportation and health screenings to education and fitness programs—that enrich the lives of Carroll County residents. Recognizing the importance of giving back to the community that continually supports them, West Carroll Primary embarked on a heartfelt mission to contribute. Through the generosity of parents and local residents, the school collected over 950 cans and non-perishable items, ensuring that families facing hardship have access to nutritious food. More than just a donation drive, this effort united the school in a shared purpose, reminding everyone that even the smallest acts of kindness can create a lasting impact. Would you like to be part of this ongoing movement? Join West Carroll Primary and make a difference by supporting United Neighbors today. Call (731) 352-0547 or visit 2451 Cedar St, McKenzie, TN 38201 to learn more about how you can help.



First graders (L to R) Kenson Keymon, Livaeh Harrell and Lucas Edwards showing some of the donated items. Photo courtesy WCSSD

Siegel Topic of Huntingdon Historical Society Program



A statue of Sam Siegel stands in Bruceton as a memorial of his contributions to the town and surrounding area

HUNTINGDON (April 16) — Bruceton's Sam Siegel and the Henry I. Siegel Company were the topic of a program by guest speaker Linda Smothers at the Huntingdon Historical Society meeting Wednesday. Smothers gave background on the Siegel family, who immigrated from Europe during the first half of the 20th century. She spoke about the H.I.S. factory that opened in Bruceton in 1940 and the opportunities it created. In the latter part of the century, the company's Chic Jeans brand was third only to Levi's and Lee in popularity. Siegel served as mayor of Bruceton for 16 years from 1958-1974 and died in 1975. Smothers concluded her remarks with a collection of anecdotes about Siegel's kindness and generosity.



Leadership Carroll County graduates were recognized during the forum. Graduates present were (L to R) Front Row: AJ Maxwell, Jordan Allen, Chris Finley, Hannah Belew and Natalie McMasters. Officials present for the photo were (L to R): Ryan Griffin, Mayor of McKenzie; Brad Hurley, President of the Carroll County Chamber; Congressman David Kustoff; Joseph Butler, Mayor of Carroll County; and Chad Edwards, Mayor of Huntingdon.

Congressman David Kustoff Visits County on Good Friday

Congress Working on \$1.75 Million Grant for County

BY JASON R. MARTIN
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HUNTINGDON (April 18) — Congressman David Kustoff (R-Germantown) spoke at a forum hosted by the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce on April 18 at the Carroll County Shooting Park. Local political leaders, Chamber members, and members of the Carroll County Leadership Carroll County class were in attendance. Brad Hurley, president of the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, welcomed Kustoff. The congressman visits Carroll County each year on Good Friday. During the congressman's address, he brought up Community Funding Requests. He noted that he has asked Congress for \$1.75 million for Carroll County. The funding would go towards a battery energy storage system. This is a type of energy storage technology that uses a group of batteries in the grid to store electrical energy. Battery storage can be used for short-term peak power and ancillary services, such as providing operating reserve and frequency control to minimize the chance of power outages, especially for hospitals and/or lift stations.



Above, Congressman David Kustoff (left) speaks with retired Tennessee State Trooper Steve Russell (right). Russell is the father of the late Trooper Helicopter Pilot Sgt. Lee Russell. Below, State Representatives Tandy Darby (left) and Brock Martin (right) converse with Congressman Kustoff.



lishes that a non-U.S. national is inadmissible if the individual has admitted to or is convicted of acts constituting the essential elements of stalking, child abuse, child neglect, child abandonment, a sex offense, conspiracy to commit a sex offense, a violation of certain protection orders, or domestic violence (including physical or sexual abuse or a pattern of coercive behavior when it occurs within certain close relationships). Next, the bill establishes additional grounds for deportation. Under current law, a non-U.S. national is deportable for certain criminal convictions, including domestic violence, stalking, and child abuse. The bill makes any sex offense (including crimes against minors) or conspiracy to commit a sex offense a basis for deportation. The bill also expands the domestic violence crimes that make a non-U.S. national deportable to include physical or sexual abuse or a pattern of coercive behavior when it occurs within certain close relationships. Congressman Kustoff stated that arrests have increased 627%. He added arrests at the border in February 2024 were roughly 141,000; a year later they were at 8,300. On the economy, he touched on President Trump's tariffs. He, like the President, believe in the power of free and fair trade but cited countries like China were placing tariffs on the goods exported from the United States. Thus, it was necessary for the United States to respond in kind and bring nations to the negotiating table. The Congressman said 75% of the countries globally have come to proverbial agreement.

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Obituaries

'WAYNE' DEDMON
1960 — 2025

BIG SANDY — Graveside services for Kenneth "Wayne" Dedmon were Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 3 p.m. at Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

Mr. Dedmon, 65, died at his residence on Saturday, April 12, 2025. He was the owner of Superior Hoods and Stacks, a professional hood cleaning company. He was born in East St. Louis, Ill., on January 23, 1960, to Jack and Grace Madeline Poole Dedmon.

He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Tammy Tesneair Dedmon; daughters, Brandi Lynn Dedmon of Pataskala, Ohio, Talia Jean Dedmon (Jason) of McKenzie, and Kayla Michelle (Justin) Morgan of Paris; a son, Marty Wayne Dedmon of Murray, Ky.; sister, Carolyn Turner; two brothers, Danny Eck and Alan Dedmon; and five grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents and his siblings, Betty Smith, Marilyn Price, Richard Eck, Chuck Eck, Henry Eck and Jerry Dedmon.

NORMA JO COOPER
1938 — 2025

McKENZIE — Funeral Services for Norma Jo Cooper were Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at 2 p.m. at Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home. The family received friends on Tuesday from 11 a.m. until the time of the service. Interment followed at New Prospect Cemetery.

Mrs. Cooper, 86, died at Baptist Hospital Carroll County on Friday, April 18, 2025. She is a member of New Prospect Missionary Baptist Church; she worked as a line supervisor for Wilker Brothers and retired as a dental assistant for Dr. Harold Russell, DDS.

She was born on October 31, 1938, in Ridgley, to Ira B. (Shorty) and Bonnie Mae Hodge Sullivan.

She is survived by her daughters, Debbie Pence of Greenfield and Patricia (Hal) Crocker of Conway, Ark.; a sister, Judy (Danny) Cooper of McKenzie; three brothers, Tommy Sullivan of Trezevant, Harold (Debbie) Sullivan of McKenzie, and Johnny (Betty Joe) Sullivan of Trezevant; four grandchildren, Andy Pence, Amanda (Matthew) Jones, Nick (Colleen) Crocker and Connie Michelle (Charles) VanLoon; 13 great-grandchildren, Arianna Casta Crocker, Dylan Crocker, Ashley (Paul) Billingsley, Cody (Emily) VanLoon, Hunter (Sabrina) VanLoon, Micah VanLoon, Chelsea Pence, Jack Pence, Mady Pence, Layla Jones, Cullen Jones, Bo Jones and Luke Jones; and three great-great-grandchildren, Cooper, Emma and Wyatt.

She is preceded in death by her husband of more than 50 years, Jere Cooper; her parents; and her sisters, Pat Jones, Dorothy Crocker, and Jackie Sullivan.

If you need further assistance, please call Brummitt-McKenzie Funeral Home at 731-352-4848 or visit our website at brummittmckenziefuneralhome.com.

JOSH JACKSON
1994 — 2025

CAMDEN — Mr. Josh Jackson, 31, of Camden, died Friday, April 18, 2025, at Camden General Hospital.

Funeral services are in the Chapel of Chase Funeral Home on Wednesday, April 23, at 2 p.m. Burial to follow at Mt. Carmel Cemetery in Camden.

Mr. Jackson was born on February 15, 1994, in Paris. He was preceded in death by his paternal grandmother, Barbara Elaine Jackson.

He is survived by his fiancé, Chelsea Caudill; his father, Chris Jackson (Jennifer) of Big Sandy; his mother, Christy Altom (Ted) of McKenzie; his paternal grandfather, Bobby Jackson (Shelby) of Big Sandy; his maternal grandparents, Ted and Dorothy Herrin of Camden; two sisters Tori Brister (Justin)

of Paris and Alissa Jackson of Ocala, Fla.; and a brother, Alan Davis of Atwood.

GARY WEBB
1952 — 2025

HUNTINGDON — Mr. Gary Webb, 72, of Huntingdon, died Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at Huntingdon Health and Rehab.

Funeral services are 11 a.m., Wednesday, April 23, 2025, in the Chapel of Dilday-Carter Funeral Home. Interment will follow at Shiloh Cemetery.

The family will receive friends at Dilday-Carter Funeral Home from 5-8 p.m., Tuesday, April 22, 2025, and again on Wednesday, April 23, 2025, from 9 a.m. until time of service at 11 a.m.

Mr. Gary was born May 21, 1952. He is preceded in death by his father, Wallace T. Webb; step-mother, Peggy Webb; son, Jeremiah "J.J." Webb; and brother, Bobby Webb.

He is survived by his mother, Maxine Hammond of Camden; two sons, Jamie (Jennifer) Webb of Lexington, Ky.; and Randy Webb of Murray, Ky.; one brother, Harold (Denise) Webb of Huntingdon; and two grandchildren.

Dilday-Carter Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements, 731-986-8281.

CELIA HOPPER
1959 — 2025

PORT HOPE, Mich. (formerly McKenzie) — Celia Brashear Hopper, 66, died at her home in Port Hope, Mich., on Wednesday, March 19, 2025, after a brief illness. Her husband, John, and her sister, Angie, were with her.

She was born on March 9, 1959, to Ed and Lucille Brashear of McKenzie.

Celia was known for her kind heart, creativity and outgoing personality. She was a retired high school teacher known for her ability to inspire students.

Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Anthony Brashear.

She is survived by her husband, John Hopper; her sister, Angie Collier; her aunt, Joy Brashear; and numerous cousins. +

CHUCK WALLACE
1950 — 2024

HUNTINGDON — Mr. Chuck Wallace, 74, of Huntingdon, passed away Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at Henry County Medical Center in Paris.

A service is to be planned at a later date.

Wallace served in the United States Postal Service and was the postmaster at McKenzie for several years.

Dilday-Carter Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements, 731-986-8281.



The Ultimate
Potato

6 large baking potatoes, boiled
1 cup half and half cream
6 tablespoons (3/4 stick) butter
1 (8 oz.) package shredded cheddar cheese
1 (8 oz.) carton sour cream
1/2 cup chopped onions
6 strips bacon, fried, crumbled
Preheat oven 350 degrees. Peel cooled potatoes and grate in bowl. Combine half and half cream, butter, cheese and sour cream in double boiler and stir just until they melt. Add cheese mixture to grated potatoes and place in sprayed 4 quart baking dish. Cover and bake for 30 minutes. Top with onions and crumbled bacon. Serves 8.

Twice Baked
Potatoes

8 medium baking potatoes
2 tablespoons butter
1 (10 oz.) can cheddar cheese soup
1 tablespoon chopped dried chives
Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Bake potatoes

until done. Cut potatoes in half lengthwise and scoop out flesh leaving thin shell. Whip potatoes with butter and 1/2 teaspoon salt in bowl. Gradually add soup and chives and beat until light and fluffy. Spoon into shells and sprinkle with paprika. Bake for 15 minutes. Serves 8.

Mexican
Meatball Soup

1 (14 oz.) can beef broth
1 (16 oz.) jar hot salsa
1 (16 oz.) package frozen whole kernel corn, thawed
1 (16 oz.) package frozen meatballs, thawed
1 teaspoon minced garlic
Combine all ingredients in slow cooker and stir well. Cover and cook on LOW for 4 to 7 hours. Serves 4 to 6.

R25499
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AN EVENING WITH CARROLL ARTS JUNE 21

Carroll Arts, Inc. presents An Evening with Carroll Arts on Saturday, June 21, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at the First Cumberland Presbyterian Church in McKenzie. The event will feature artists from Carroll County and include an art exhibit at 6:30 p.m. and live performances at 7 p.m. For more information, please email carrollartsinc@gmail.com. Other upcoming events include: The Creativity Camp for Carroll County elementary and middle school students is July 7-11; Southern Fried Funnies during McKenzie's Sweet Tea Festival in August; Storytelling during the Huntingdon Heritage Festival in September; A Mistletoe Christmas Program during McKenzie's Christmas Celebration in December; and the 15th Annual Trivia Bowl in January 2026.

UPCOMING DATES, EVENTS

The following list of events was provided by Carroll County Chamber of Commerce. Specific information about events may be available at a later date.

May 1 — National Day of Prayer.
May 3 — Carroll County Sports Hall of Fame and Bethel University Spring Commencement.
May 17 — Bruceton in May.
May 22 — Chamber Golf Tournament.
May 22 — Last day of school spring semester.
May 26 — Huntingdon and McKenzie Memorial Day Celebrations.
June 28 — Eastview Fireworks Celebration.
July 4 — McKenzie and McMoresville July 4th Celebrations.
August 5 — 2025-2026 school year begins.
August 22-23 — McKenzie Sweet Tea Festival.
September 27 — Huntingdon Heritage Festival.
October 13-17 — Fall Break.
October 27 — County Chamber Banquet.
November 7-8 — Carroll County Christmas Market.
November 24 — Ducks Unlimited Banquet.
December 19 — Last day of fall semester.

McKENZIE HIGH SCHOOL DECADES REUNION

McKenzie High School is hosting the annual football Homecoming on Friday, September 19, 2025. The Rebels will play Camden Lions at Rebel Stadium. In conjunction, the MHS Alumni Association will host its second annual De-

cadés Reunion. Any MHS class hosting a reunion should contact the MHS Alumni Association to help promote the class reunion.

SINGING AT ABUNDANT LIFE FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER

Ivan Parker will sing at Abundant Life Family Worship Center, 4375 Hwy 70, Cedar Grove on Sunday, June 1 at 6 p.m. A love offering will be taken.

McKENZIE SENIOR CENTER EVENTS

Every Tuesday — Jam session with Steve Morris, 6 p.m. Open to the public.

CARROLL COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME CEREMONY

The Carroll County Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony is Saturday, May 3 at 6 p.m. at the Carroll County Civic Center. The event will honor one male and one female senior from each high school, along with outstanding athletes who have graduated from the five local high schools. For ticket information, contact Lex Suite at 731-415-2834.

VFW 4939 AUXILIARY YARD SALE

The VFW 4939 Auxiliary, 9750 Cherrywood Road, McKenzie, hosts a yard sale, renting spaces and tables

for the city-wide yard sale on May 2-3. On Saturday, May 3, there will be hamburgers and hot dogs with extras sold at the VFW. This is a fundraiser for Children's Christmas. Please come out and support. For more information, call 731-207-1024 or 731-415-7040.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

Huntingdon Location — Adult Education Building, 14155 Paris Street. Office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Classes are offered for one-on-one instruction on Mondays, 1-4 p.m. and Thursdays, 9 a.m.-NOON. For more information, phone 731-364-5481.

CARROLL HUMANE SOCIETY EVENTS Cat Vouchers

We always have spay/neuter vouchers for cats at a cost of \$60 and to be used at Paris Vet Clinic. If you need to pay with cash, come by the shelter to purchase. Otherwise, we have a NEW NUMBER to purchase using a credit/debit card. Please leave a message and the volunteer will return your call very soon, 731-514-0878.

Dog Vouchers

Dog vouchers are available for \$60 each cash or card only. These must be purchased at the shelter during business hours Tuesday-Saturday 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

Appointments will be made at the time of purchase. The participating vet clinic is Huntingdon Animal Clinic. You'll be responsible for paying the clinic when you pick up your animal. We do recommend that you have your pet vaccinated due to exposure to other animals. Puppies must be a minimum of 4 months of age (older if small breed) at the time of surgery.

LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

The Northwest Tenn. Economic Development Council is accepting applications for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program. This program assists low-income households through direct energy payments to their energy provider. Individuals interested in applying for the LIHEAP Program should make an appointment at the Northwest TN Economic Development Council office in their county of residence. Go to our website for county site contact information: nwcommunityaction.org.

McKENZIE TOPS MEETS MONDAYS

The McKenzie Chapter of TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meets Mondays at 3 p.m. at the McKenzie Church of Christ gym. Anyone interested in losing weight can join. The first

meeting is free. For more information, call (731)- 352-7309. If no answer, leave a message.

CARROLL DEMOCRATIC PARTY MEETS

The Carroll County Democratic Party meets the third Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. at 12740 Lexington Street, Huntingdon.

CARROLL REPUBLICAN PARTY MEETS

Carroll County Republican Party meets monthly each fourth Tuesday, 7 p.m. in the Public Safety Building in Huntingdon.

CARROLL COMMISSION MEETS MONTHLY

Carroll County Commission meets the second Monday of each month, 7 p.m., in the Conference Room of the Carroll County Office Complex, High Street, Huntingdon. There are no meetings in February and July.

GET THE WORD OUT

The newspaper publishes most news items for free. Submit to EVENT@mckenziebanner.com or call 731-352-3323 Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Thank you for reading and supporting your community newspaper.

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SINNERS (R)

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Thurs. 7:25

MINECRAFT (PG)

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Wed. 7:30
Thurs. 7:30

THE KING OF KINGS (PG)

Tues. 7:30
Wed. 7:30
Thurs. 7:30

THE AMATEUR (PG-13)

Tues. 7:35
Wed. 7:35
Thurs. 7:35

DROP (PG-13)

Tues. 7:35
Wed. 7:35
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A WORKING MAN (R)

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Tennessee Confirms Two Additional Measles Cases

NASHVILLE (April 17) — The Tennessee Department of Health is confirming today two additional confirmed cases of measles in middle Tennessee. Both persons are currently recovering at home. This brings Tennessee's total to six confirmed cases of measles during 2025. Both confirmed cases were cooperating with public health officials by quarantining at home because of known exposure to previously confirmed cases in Tennessee. TDH is not currently aware of additional exposures related to the newly confirmed cases. There is no evidence of sustained measles transmission in the community or state. As an update, there is an ongoing, national measles outbreak, involving over 700 cases in 25 states, with two confirmed fatalities in the U.S. Measles typically has a classic red, spotty rash that begins on the face and spreads over the body. Additional symptoms can include fever, headache, and

generally not feeling well, followed by rash, cough, red eyes, or congestion. Measles is a highly infectious and potentially fatal disease which spreads very easily through the air when an infected person speaks, coughs or sneezes. TDH encourages consultation with your medical provider about measles prevention. Two doses of the MMR vaccine are highly effective at preventing measles. More information for the public and for providers about measles is available on this page of the TDH website (tn.gov/health/cedep/reportable-diseases/measles-rubeola.html). It is important for medical providers to consider measles and report suspected cases immediately to TDH at 615-741-7247. The mission of the Tennessee Department of Health, tn.gov/health, is to protect, promote, and improve the health and well-being of all people in Tennessee.

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World's Biggest Fish Fry is this Week

PARIS — The World's Biggest Fish Fry festival starts Saturday April 19 with a 5K run, 8 a.m. at the Fairgrounds, Car and Bike Show at Henry County High School at 8 a.m.; and a Boxing Event at noon on the Court Square. The evening includes a Demolition Derby at 7 p.m. at the Fairgrounds. The Carnival is April

22-27. Tuesday is a Country Dance at 7 p.m. at the Fairgrounds. The Fish Tent opens April 23, 5-9 p.m. and April 24-26, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. A Christian Concert is April 23, 7 to 8:45 p.m. at the Fairgrounds. The Grand Parade, on Wood Street, is Friday, April 25, 10 a.m.. Championship Bulls

and Barrels Showdown is April 25-26, 7:30 p.m. at the Fairgrounds. The Small Fry Parade is April 26, 10 a.m. at Barton Field. The Catfish Races is April 26, 11 a.m. on the Court Square. The final event is the Junior Fishing Rodeo, April 26, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Williams Lake.

Gasoline Prices Decrease During Week

TENNESSEE (April 21) — Average gasoline prices in Tennessee fell 4.1 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$2.65/g today, according to GasBuddy's survey of 3,821 stations in Tennessee. Prices in Tennessee are 2.0 cents per gallon lower than a month ago and stand 56.3 cents per gallon lower than a year ago. The national average price of diesel has decreased 2.7 cents in the last week and stands at \$3.519 per gallon. According to GasBuddy price reports, the cheapest station in Tennessee was priced at \$2.22/g yesterday while the most expensive was \$5.11/g, a difference of

\$2.89/g. The lowest price in the state yesterday was \$2.22/g while the highest was \$5.11/g, a difference of \$2.89/g. The national average price of gasoline has fallen 3.4 cents per gallon in the last week, averaging \$3.10/g today. The national average is down 1.8 cents per gallon from a month ago and stands 54.6 cents per gallon lower than a year ago, according to GasBuddy data compiled from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering over 150,000 gas stations across the country. Historical gasoline prices in Tennessee and the national average going back ten years: April 21, 2024: \$3.21/g (U.S. Average: \$3.64/g) April 21, 2023: \$3.33/g (U.S. Average: \$3.66/g) April 21, 2022: \$3.85/g (U.S. Average: \$4.11/g) April 21, 2021: \$2.67/g (U.S. Average: \$2.88/g) April 21, 2020: \$1.54/g (U.S. Average: \$1.78/g) April 21, 2019: \$2.58/g (U.S. Average: \$2.84/g) April 21, 2018: \$2.55/g (U.S. Average: \$2.76/g) April 21, 2017: \$2.17/g (U.S. Average: \$2.42/g) April 21, 2016: \$1.92/g (U.S. Average: \$2.11/g) April 21, 2015: \$2.25/g (U.S. Average: \$2.46/g) "The national average

has seen its second straight weekly decline, with gas prices falling in over 40 states. However, some states have seen increases due to localized price cycling," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "With oil prices rallying over the past week, we may start to see the downward trend in gas prices begin to stall. So far, 2025 has been relatively calm at the pump for most Americans, thanks in part to OPEC's ongoing restoration of oil production and continued uncertainty surrounding tariff policy and its potential impact on the global economy. Regardless, Americans are currently spending over \$200 million less per day on gasoline compared to this time last year." GasBuddy is the authoritative voice for gas prices and the only source for station-level data. GasBuddy's survey updates 288 times every day from the most diverse list of sources covering nearly 150,000 stations nationwide, the most comprehensive and up-to-date in the country. GasBuddy's averages, graphs, maps and historical pricing data covering the U.S. and Canada is available 24/7 at http://prices.GasBuddy.com. SOURCE GasBuddy

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Two Upcoming Ribbon Cuttings Set for Downtown McKenzie

McKENZIE — McKenzie Chamber of Commerce will host two ribbon cuttings this week in downtown McKenzie. Premier Furniture Company in the former Williams Furniture Company building will cut the ribbon on Thurs-

day, April 24, 11 a.m., at 26 Broadway. McKenzie Taproom will host its ribbon cutting for the new business at 27 Broadway at 11:30 a.m. The taproom serves food and beverages. It is an expansion of the downtown Paris Station.

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Carroll County Sheriff’s Reports

Drugs into Penal Institution — According to a report made by Deputy Alex Sherwood, on April 13, he conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for failing to maintain lane. The driver, Jeremy Coleman, 34, of Atwood, had a metal tray containing a small amount of meth and a bag of .5 grams located on the ground next to the driver’s door. He was arrested and taken to Carroll County Jail where correction officer Shane Kollaszan found .6 grams of meth on Coleman.

Simple Assault — According to a report made by Deputy Heather Townes, on April 12, deputies responded to a home on Briar Creek Road regarding an assault that had taken place between Robert Johnson and Robert Doede. The victim, Robert Doede, stated that an issue between the two has been going on for years. He stated that Johnson comes outside and yells at him and threatens him often. In this incident the vic-

tim stated Johnson came up to him and punched him multiple times. Robert Johnson, 65, of Huntingdon, said he did hit him, but he was antagonized to do so.

Possession of Drug Paraphernalia — According to a report made by Deputy Alex Sherwood, on April 12, he conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle because the driver Frank McCord had a suspended driving license. He immediately detected marijuana and saw a “roach” in the ash tray in plain view. The passenger Elizabeth McCord, 55, of Atwood, handed over two rolled marijuana cigarettes weighing 2 grams, 2 small baggies weighing about 6 grams, and a used glass meth pipe in her pocket. Frank was placed under arrest for an active warrant out of Milan, and Elizabeth was placed under arrest for drug paraphernalia.

Aggravated Assault — According to a report made by Deputy Parker Graham, on April 16, Epiphany

Jewel Taylor, 25, of Milan, committed the offense of aggravated assault by repeatedly striking a victim in the head with handcuffs. This violent incident took place while both individuals were in the lock up cell at the courthouse, vicinity reported hearing commotion, and this prompted immediate intervention.

Possession of Drug Paraphernalia — According to a report made by Deputy Daniel Thomas, on April 11, he suspected criminal activity and attempted to stop an Escalade, but it fled and finally crashed. The driver exited the vehicle and ran away. The passenger, Megan Smith, 36, of Humboldt, was captured. In the vehicle 4.3 grams of a white crystal substance was found along with a cigarillo pack containing marijuana. The driver, Matthew Miller, 24, of Atwood, is wanted for evading felony, driving on suspended license, and reckless driving.

Property Transfers

Charles Timothy and Jacqueline R. Johnson to Charles Timothy Johnson as trustee.

William D. and Patricia Scarbrough to Paul S. and Ida L. Mast in District 3.

Donald G. Taylor and Nancy E. Taylor to Brady H. Bryan.

Mary Elizabeth Akins Goff to Jennifer Gilliland in District 6.

Penny Moder to Stephen K. Kemp in District 24.

Sylvia L. Onyensoh to John and Kaitlyn Henderson in District 4.

Lavonda Crider to Lavonda Krystina Shafer in District 12.

Ben W. Hooper to Emily Bolding in District 24.

Emily Boldin to Joseph N. and Lindsey D. Foster in District 24.

Efrain Clemente to Cindy Gaylord in District 4.

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P.C. to Carl Haynes.

Johnnie L. Higdon to Kimberly King Taylor.

Sandra P. Hunt to Mark M. and Annette R. Stokes in District 9.

J. Clay and Meredith M. Sydnor to Ben Thomas and Meredith K. Surber in District 22.

GMJ Properties, INC to TF Holdings, LLC in District 22.

Debbie Jordan Manor to Doris Ellen Lewis.

Amber Mueller to Brennan Vance Smith in District 4.

J. Clay Sydnor to Felty D. and Edith Mast in District 3.

Faye Rogers to Kevin Dwayne and Terri Justine Rogers in District 16.

Donald G. and Nancy E. Taylor to Charles Lee and Jennifer Michelle Johnson in District 1.

Donald G. and Nancy

E. Taylor to James Daryl and Billie Mayberry in District 1.

Mark W. and Deborah Griffin to Nelson Management, LLC in District 21.

Bomar Branch Partners to Jacob A. Smothers in District 9.

Seth Bennett Properties, LLC to Cachengo, INC in District 12.

Tammy Cathey to Morgan Katherine Limbaugh in District 22.

Eddie M. Bolton to Patile and Kenneth Earl Underwood.

Garrett Lee Meggs to Jason Postlethwait in District 11.

Max Lee Bybee to Patricia Holt.

Barbara Robertson to Charles W. and Glenda E. Allen.

KLP Investments, LLC to Olivia Williams.

John T. and David W. Rushing to David W. and Terri L. Rushing.

McKenzie Police Reports

Domestic Assault — Bobby T. Demyers, II., 20, Clarksville and Yazmevin Redman, 19, Clarksville were both arrested for Domestic Assault after each reported they were assaulted by the other on April 19.

Officer Darren Davis said he responded to the McKenzie residence where they claimed to be boyfriend and girlfriend. Both had visible injuries. Both were arrested and transported to Carroll County Jail. Authorities determined the two had an altercation from earlier in the week which was captured on surveillance cameras.

Evading Arrest — Timothy S. Hickey, 36, Brighton, Tennessee was arrested for Evading Arrest and two outstanding warrants of Failure to Appear and Vandalism on April 18.

Officer Matthew Cunningham observed Hickey in the driveway of a residence on Reynolds Street and attempted to make an arrest for the outstanding warrants. Hickey went into the residence and then fled on foot. Several officers pursued and apprehended him near Donnell Avenue. He was charged as noted and transported to Carroll County Jail.

Domestic Assault, False Imprisonment — A teenage McKenzie male juvenile was arrested after he reportedly assaulted his girlfriend and kept her from leaving the scene.

Officer Darren Davis filed a report in which the male physically assaulted the female inside a vehicle and then left the scene prior to the police’s arrival. He was arrested and placed under a \$7,500 bond.

Driving on Revoked License — Thomas Randy Verdell, 61, Old State Route

22, McKenzie, was charged with Driving on a Revoked License on April 14.

Officer Justin Brister stopped Verdell’s vehicle for a malfunctioning rear taillight. A check of the driver’s license revealed Verdell had a prior DUI and required a alcohol interlock device in the vehicle. There was no such device.

Verdell was arrested and his vehicle was impounded.

Outstanding Warrants — Kyeana N. Sneed, 19, Walnut Circle, McKenzie, and Aaliyah Aletha Teague, 21, Jackson Street, McKenzie were both arrested on April 18 on outstanding warrants.

Officer Darren Davis and Officers Billy Burson and Dustin McClure served a warrant on Walnut Circle where the two females were located. Teague was wanted in Obion County for Failure to Appear. Sneed was wanted for Simple Assault in Obion County. Both were transported to Carroll County Jail.

Simple Possession, Drug Paraphernalia — Christopher Arnold, 48, Highway 423, McKenzie and Stacy R. Hilliard, 50, Page Lane, Gleason, were both charged after a traffic stop on April 18.

Officer Dustin McClure made a traffic stop of a vehicle driven by Arnold. The vehicle had a malfunctioning headline. The officer interviewed the driver and noticed he was signaling to the passenger during the interview. A canine was requested to come to the scene, where it alerted on the vehicle. The passenger, Hilliard, had items hidden in her bra. A pipe, six used needles, and a jar of what is believed to be marijuana shake were discovered in

the vehicle.

Both subjects were transported to Carroll County Jail.

Arnold was charged with Simple Possession-Schedule II, Unlawful Drug Paraphernalia, Light Law Violation, and Violation of Financial Responsibility. Hilliard was charged with Simple Possession-Schedule II.

Driving on Suspended License — Jonathan Navarro, 21, Stonewall Avenue, McKenzie, was charged with Driving on Suspended License, Window Tint Violation, and Violation of Financial Responsibility on April 20.

Officer Dustin McClure stopped Navarro’s vehicle for violation of window tint. A check of the driver’s license revealed the suspended status. He was cited into Carroll County General Sessions Court.

Obstruction of Service of Legal Writ or Process — Jessie L. Townes, 63, McClure Street, McKenzie, was charged with Obstruction of Service of Legal Writ or Process on April 15.

Officer Dustin McClure stopped Townes’ wife’s car for a suspected window tint violation. Soon, Townes arrived at the scene and was highly irritated, according to the report. Townes, a city councilman, told the officer that the window tint was within legal specifications. The officer advised Townes to return to his vehicle without success. The officer stated Townes did not comply and was asked to place his hands behind him. The officer stated that Townes then struck him with his elbow. Other officers arrived on the scene for support. Townes was cited into Carroll County General Sessions Court.

Huntingdon Police Reports

Simple Possession — On 04-09-25, Officer Brad Allen was dispatched to Cash Saver on a citizen complaint. Upon arrival, the store management told him that a man had been in the bathroom in the store for a while and they could smell marijuana. Officer Allen waited for the customer, Charles Hill, 31, of Huntingdon, was requested to come out of the restroom and

Facilitation.

Jean-Pierre Godener, Galaxy Drive, Jackson, dismissed, Simple Possession, dismissed, Use of Counterfeit Mark or Logo, must forfeit counterfeit clothing.

Charles Hill, Green Allen Spring Road, Huntingdon, dismissed, Simple Possession.

Shayla Johnson, McCall Street, Huntingdon, dismissed, Child Abuse/Neglect.

Whitney Kirkpatrick, Highway 641, Paris, dismissed, Simple Possession.

Jessica Perry, Walnut Circle, Huntingdon, dismissed, School Attendance/Withdrawal.

Rayshonda Puckett, Williams Street, Huntingdon, dismissed, Aggravated Crim-

inal Trespass; dismissed, Vandalism.

Vitas Saintelme, Galaxy Drive, Jackson, dismissed, Simple Possession, dismissed, Use of Counterfeit Mark or Logo, must Forfeit interest in counterfeit clothing.

Cody Thomas Schwark, Bell Avenue, Dyersburg, dismissed, Violation of Order of Protection; dismissed, Resist Stop, Arrest, Search.

Gertie Silencieux, Galaxy Drive, Jackson, dismissed, Simple Possession, dismissed, Use of Counterfeit Mark or Logo, must forfeit interest in counterfeit goods.

Carla Wagner, Park Circle, McKenzie, dismissed, Aggravated Criminal Trespass; dismissed, Vandalism, victim does not want to proceed.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated 13-7-105, The Carroll County Commission does hereby give notice of a public hearing on the 12th day of May, at 6:45 p.m. at the Carroll County Office Complex. The purpose of the hearing is to receive public input regarding a proposed resolution which would amend the text of to the Carroll County Lake Zoning Resolution to revise the definition of “Accessory Structure.”

Copies of the proposed text amendment and revised zoning map are available in the office of the County Mayor during normal business hours. All interested persons are invited to attend.

A13/16-2

PUBLICATION NOTICE

TO: RHONDA RAE RUESS

PENDING IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

ROBERT THOMAS FRENCH, Plaintiff,

VS. DOCKET NO. 25-DR-71

RHONDA RAE RUESS, Defendant.

In this cause, it appearing from the Plaintiff’s pleading, which is sworn to, that the residence of Rhonda Rae Ruess is unknown and cannot be ascertained upon diligent inquiry or she is a nonresident of Tennessee.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT publication be made for four (4) consecutive weeks as required by law in the McKenzie Banner, a newspaper of general circulation published in Carroll County, Tennessee, notifying Rhonda Rae Ruess to serve upon Plaintiff’s attorney, Steven L. West, WEST & WEST ATTORNEYS, 19765 E. Main Street, Huntingdon, Tennessee 38344, and the Clerk of this Court, an Answer to the Complaint for Divorce filed against him in this action within thirty (30) days from the date of last publication which will be April 30, 2025, or a judgment by default will be entered on June 5, 2025, and the action set for hearing ex parte as to him.

Dated this 5th day of June, 2025,

Kenneth Todd, Clerk and Master, Carroll County Chancery Court

Steven L. West, WEST & WEST ATTORNEYS
19765 E. Main Street, Huntingdon, TN 38344 (731) 986-5551

A8515/14-4

BID NOTICE

HVAC REPLACEMENT

McKenzie Housing Authority

The **McKenzie Housing Authority** invites sealed bids for **HVAC REPLACEMENT of Fourteen (14) Dwelling Units and One (1) Maintenance Building at Development No. TN0082-002**, located in McKenzie, Tennessee.

Bids are subject to TN State Law. Bids will be received until **10:30 a.m. on Tuesday May 13, 2025**, and publicly opened at McKenzie Housing Authority, 22 McDonald Avenue West, McKenzie, TN 38201. General bids shall be accompanied by a bid bond that is not less than five (5%) of the base bid.

Plans, Specifications, and Bidding Documents are available at the Memphis Reprographics’ Plan Room www.mrplanroom.com

One (1) complete set of bidding documents, drawings, and specifications in electronic or paper format shall be obtained from Memphis Reprographics, 6178 Macon Road, Memphis, TN 38134, telephone (901) 381-9811 for a fee. Bid documents are not refundable. However, bid documents may be viewed on-line prior to purchasing them.

All bidders must be licensed Contractors as required by the Contractors Licensing Act of 1976 (TCA Title 62, chapter 6). All bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the PHA, as contained in the project manual and detailed within. Refer to the Project Manual Specifications Section 00012, Invitation for Bids; Section 00150, Instructions to Bidders; Section 00151 Additions to Instructions to Bidders; and 01302, Submittals and Substitutions for complete instructions to bidders.

For additional information, contact David Hays or Chad Reynolds at the office of Wilbanks Architecture and Associates, LLC at (901) 867-5220.

A **Prebid Conference** will be held for the purpose of answering questions Bidders may have at **10:30 a.m. on Tuesday April 29, 2025**, at the Housing Authority office, followed by a walk-through at the job site. **All contractors are strongly recommended to attend this walk-through and Prebid Conference.**

A473/15-2

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL



Left, Rebel pitcher Craegen Travis got the start, allowing one unearned run on one hit while striking out five and walking two in three and a third innings. Right, Rebel left fielder Lelan Gordon makes the catch for the out. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner

Rebels Sweep Warriors in Home-Away Set

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

MCKENZIE/McEWEN (April 14-15) — The McKenzie High School Rebels swept McEwen in convincing fashion in a pair of district baseball contests. Monday, the Rebels earned a 15-1 home win. Tuesday, they traveled for an 18-9 victory.

McKenzie Rebels 15, McEwen Warriors 1

In Monday's home game, McKenzie struck first with a run in the bottom of the first, then added six in the second. McEwen plated a lone run in the top of the third, and the Rebels doubled their score with seven in the home half.

McKenzie scored the final run in the fourth.

Rebel Xander Johnsey was 3-for-4 with a double, an RBI and three runs scored. Cole Brown went 2-for-4 with an RBI and three runs scored. Maddox Shiell was 1-for-2 with an RBI and a run scored. Cooper Davidson was 1-for-3 with two RBIs. Tate Surber went 0-for-2 with two walks, two RBIs and two runs scored. Fletcher Holt was 0-for-2 with two walks, an RBI and a run scored. Craegen Travis went 0-for-2 with a walk and three RBIs.

Craegen Travis got the start for McKenzie, allowing one unearned run on one hit while striking out five

and walking two in three and a third innings. Ripken Thompson threw an inning and two-thirds of relief, allowing no runs or hits while striking out two and walking none.

Rebels 18, Warriors 9

In Tuesday's road game, McKenzie struck first with a run in the top of the first. McEwen responded with three in the home half to briefly take the lead. The Rebels plated six in the top of the second, but the Warriors tied it with four in the bottom half. McKenzie took the lead for good with six in the fourth and added another in the top of the fifth. McEwen's final two runs came in the home half. The Rebels sealed the win with three in the sixth and one in the seventh.

Rebel Xander Johnsey was 1-for-6 with a home run, three RBIs and a run scored. Craegen Travis went 3-for-4 with two doubles, two walks, two RBIs and three runs scored. KD Cunningham was 2-for-4 with two doubles, three RBIs and a run scored. Cooper Davidson went 1-for-4 with a double, two walks, three RBIs and two runs scored. Cole Brown was 1-for-4 with two walks, two RBIs and three runs scored. Tate Surber went 1-for-4 with a double, two walks, an RBI and two runs scored. Lelan Gordon was 1-for-3 with two walks, an RBI, two runs scored and a stolen base. Fletcher Holt went 1-for-4 with two walks and two runs scored. Maddox Shiell was 0-for-0 with five walks, two RBIs, two runs scored and a stolen base.

Cole Brown got the start for McKenzie, allowing three earned runs on no hits with four walks in a third of an inning. Xander Johnsey threw five and two-thirds innings of long relief, allowing six runs (four earned) on 12 hits while striking out seven and walking one. Lelan Gordon pitched the final inning, allowing no runs on one hit with no walks.

HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER



Left, Rebel Jony Hernandez scores the game-winner with 33 seconds to play. Right, Rebel goalkeeper Nate Dameron scoops up the ball with a Union City striker closing in. Dameron had six saves in the win. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner

Rebels Win Thriller in Over Union City

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

MCKENZIE (April 17) — McKenzie High School hosted Union City Thursday for a district soccer match. Rebel Jony Hernandez scored a tie-breaking goal with 33 seconds to play for

a 2-1 win.

McKenzie stepped up the intensity in the final minute with a 1-1 tie, relentlessly attacking the Tornadoes' goal.

Hernandez fired a shot from close to the goal, which was stopped, but not secured, by the Union City keeper. The freshman

striker was all over the deflection, firing again, this time into a wide-open goal.

Guillermo Hickman scored McKenzie's other goal.

Goalkeeper Nate Dameron recorded six saves in the victory.

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL

Lady Rebels Fall to Houston County

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

MCKENZIE (April 14) — McKenzie High School hosted Houston County Monday for a district softball contest. The Lady Rebels fell behind early for an 8-3 loss to the Lady Irish.

Houston County struck first with a run in the top of the first and added four more in the second. Both teams plated three runs in the sixth.

Lady Rebel Aurora Johnson was 2-for-2 with a home run, a double, a walk, three RBIs and a run scored. Maggie Hall went 2-for-4 with a double and a run scored. Ady Freeman was 1-for-2 with a walk.



Left, Lady Rebel shortstop Jaycee Stafford fields a grounder for an out. Right, Lady Rebel left fielder Maggie Hall makes the catch near the fence. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner

Braylin Auvenshine went 1-for-4 with a run scored.

Aurora Johnson took the complete-game loss for

McKenzie, allowing eight runs (five earned) on ten hits while striking out seven and walking five.

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL



Left, Lady Rebel pitcher Braylin Auvenshine earned the complete-game win, allowing two unearned runs on four hits while striking out two and walking three. Right, Lady Rebel second baseman Kailie Hudgins scoops a ground ball for the out. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner

Lady Rebels Top South Fulton, 5-2

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

MCKENZIE (April 15) — The McKenzie Lady Rebels

hosted South Fulton Tuesday and took a 5-2 win with one big inning of offense.

The Lady Rebels scored all five runs in the bottom of the third. The Lady Red Devils plated two runs in the top of the seventh.

Lady Rebel Kailie Hudgins was 1-for-2 with a triple and a walk. Carli Beeler went 1-for-3 with two RBIs. Aubrey Jackson was 0-for-1 with two walks and an RBI. Ady Freeman went

0-for-1 with two walks and a run scored. Maggie Hall was 0-for-2 with two walks and a run scored. Aurora Johnson went 0-for-2 with a walk, an RBI and a run scored. Jaycee Stafford was 0-for-2 with an RBI and a run scored.

Braylin Auvenshine earned the complete-game win for McKenzie, allowing two unearned runs on four hits while striking out two and walking three.

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

PROBATE CASE NO: 2025PA92

ESTATE OF: MATTIE JANE SMOTHERS, LATE OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Notice is hereby given that on the 11TH day of APRIL, 2025 Letters Testamentary, of Administration, in respect to the Estate of MATTIE JANE SMOTHERS deceased, who died DECEMBER 10TH, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court Clerk & Master of Carroll County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the Estate are required by law to file the same with the Clerk of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this Notice to Creditors at least sixty (60) days before date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the Notice to Creditors, if the creditor received a copy of the Notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting) as described in (1) (A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

All persons indebted to the above Estate must come forward and make proper settlement with the undersigned at once.

This 11TH day of APRIL, 2025.

THIS NOTICE WILL RUN TWO CONSECUTIVE WEEKS.

FILE CLAIMS IN TRIPLICATE WITH: KENNETH TODD - CLERK & MASTER
99 Court Square, Suite 105, Huntingdon, TN 38344

BRENDA LANKFORD, Executor/Administrator
STEVEN L. WEST, Attorney
KENNETH TODD, Clerk & Master

A561/R25485/16-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

PROBATE CASE NO: 2025PE87

ESTATE OF: ALBERT EARL GARDNER, LATE OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Notice is hereby given that on the 8TH day of APRIL, 2025 Letters Testamentary, of Administration, in respect to the Estate of ALBERT EARL GARDNER deceased, who died FEBRUARY 18TH, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court Clerk & Master of Carroll County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the Estate are required by law to file the same with the Clerk of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this Notice to Creditors at least sixty (60) days before date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the Notice to Creditors, if the creditor received a copy of the Notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting) as described in (1) (A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

All persons indebted to the above Estate must come forward and make proper settlement with the undersigned at once.

This 8TH day of APRIL, 2025.

THIS NOTICE WILL RUN TWO CONSECUTIVE WEEKS.

FILE CLAIMS IN TRIPLICATE WITH: KENNETH TODD - CLERK & MASTER
99 Court Square, Suite 105, Huntingdon, TN 38344

RANDI KAY STORYE, Executor/Administrator
PAUL R. HUTCHERSON, Attorney
KENNETH TODD, Clerk & Master

A561/R25486/16-2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

PROBATE CASE NO: 2025PA90

ESTATE OF: JUDITH FAY HARTZLER, LATE OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Notice is hereby given that on the 8TH day of APRIL, 2025 Letters Testamentary, of Administration, in respect to the Estate of JUDITH FAY HARTZLER deceased, who died OCTOBER 20TH, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court Clerk & Master of Carroll County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the Estate are required by law to file the same with the Clerk of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this Notice to Creditors at least sixty (60) days before date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the Notice to Creditors, if the creditor received a copy of the Notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting) as described in (1) (A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.

All persons indebted to the above Estate must come forward and make proper settlement with the undersigned at once.

This 8TH day of APRIL, 2025.

THIS NOTICE WILL RUN TWO CONSECUTIVE WEEKS.

FILE CLAIMS IN TRIPLICATE WITH: KENNETH TODD - CLERK & MASTER
99 Court Square, Suite 105, Huntingdon, TN 38344

STEVEN MARTIN, Executor/Administrator
STEVEN L. WEST, Attorney
KENNETH TODD, Clerk & Master

A561/R25488/16-2

INVITATION TO BID

McKenzie Special School District — Custodial Services

The McKenzie Special School District is accepting bids for Custodial Services for the following locations: McKenzie High School, McKenzie Middle School, McKenzie Elementary School, and McKenzie Board of Education.

Bids must be sealed and marked “Custodial Bids” and will be accepted until 1 p.m., Friday, May 9, 2025, at which time bids will be opened and read publicly. Proposals may be delivered (hand delivered, express mail services, or mailed) to:

McKenzie Special School District, 114 Bell Avenue, McKenzie, TN 38201

Specifications are available at the Board of Education office, or McKenzieSchools.org/About/Manuals, Plans, and RFPs/MSSD Custodial RFP April 2025, or by contacting Justin Barden, Director of Schools bardenj@mckenziebannerschools.org, 731-352-2246.

The McKenzie Special School District Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids, any or all portions of specific bids, and to select the best bid, which may or may not be the lowest bid.

It is the policy of the McKenzie Special School District not to discriminate on the basis of gender, ethnicity, age, creed, marital status or disability in its educational programs, activities, or employment policies as required by Title VI and the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments and Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Late proposals will not be accepted.

A460/15-2



Left, Mustang award winners (L to R): Hayes Eubanks, EJ Lewis, Braylin Dearmon, Bryson Whiteside and Caleb Ezell. Not pictured is Kenton Smith. Right, Fillies award winners (L to R): Claire Cary, Sara Beth Smith, Delaney Byars, Josey Stokes, Knox Bennett and Quinn Kelley. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner

HHS Basketball Teams Feted at Banquet

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

HUNTINGDON (April 12) — The Huntingdon High School basketball teams celebrated their successful seasons with a banquet Saturday afternoon.

Mallard’s Restaurant catered the event, held in the school’s cafeteria.

Cheer sponsor Ashten Pierce spoke for herself and fellow sponsor Amber Douglas, thanking many people for their support. She recognized each cheerleader and presented them with certificates.

Girls basketball Head Coach David Wilkins followed, also thanking many. He presented certificates and spoke about the team. He noted how unique it was to only have seniors and freshmen and commended the players for their performance and teamwork on and off the court.

Awards were presented. Delaney Byars earned the award for highest free throw percentage (84.3 percent). Quinn Kelley earned Most Steals with 101, a Fillies single-season record. Kelley also earned Most Made Three-Pointers with 92. The Rookie of the Year was Knox Bennett. Most Assists went to Josey Stokes with 153. Stokes also set the Fillies career record with 415 assists. Best Teammate was Claire Cary. The Most Outstanding Player was Sara Beth Smith, who scored a team-best 14.3 points per



Huntingdon basketball cheerleaders in attendance (L to R): Madisyn Barton, Brylee Douglas, Destani Whitson, Bella Souza, Grace Smothers, Emily Tippitt, Claudia Cooper and McKinzie Drinkard. Photo by Brad Sam/The Banner

game with the highest field goal percentage at 57. The Hustle and Heart Award went to Byars, who finished her career fifth among Fillies scorers all-time with 1,196 points.

Wilkins spoke about seniors Byars, Stokes, Kelley, Smith and Cary, commending their character and dedication. “These are some of the most phenomenal girls in our community. They’re winners, through and through. I could not be more proud. You are going to do wonderful things in this life, and I’m so excited to see that. You are truly a Filly for life.”

Coach Porsche McClerking spoke next about the Mustangs. He thanked supporters and recognized players with certificates.

McClerking commended his team for numerous accomplishments, including the first district championship

in 23 years, tying the team record for winning percentage (.704), most points in a Mustang season (2,097), second-most wins by a Mustang team (19) and most points per game by a Mustang team (67.6).

Individual awards were presented. The Rookie of the Year was Hayes Eubanks. Co-Defensive Players of the Year were Bryson Whiteside and Braylin Dearmon. Co-Offensive Players of the Year were Clint Ezell and Kenton Smith. The Mustang Award and Senior Award went to EJ Lewis.

McClerking called Lewis, the lone senior, “a true servant leader.” The coach said, “He’s always doing the right thing all the time because it’s the right thing to do, not because somebody’s watching.”

The banquet concluded, but guests lingered for photos and fellowship.

McKenzie Middle School Soccer Celebrates Eighth Grade Night

MCKENZIE (April 14) — McKenzie Middle School boys soccer celebrated Eighth Grade Night during Monday’s match against Henry County at Walter Butler Stadium on the campus of Bethel University.

Seven players and two managers were recognized and joined on the field by parents.

Draven Black was escorted by his mother LaTasha Cashman.

Alan Dickson was escorted by his mother Erin Dixon.

Cal Fawcett was escorted by his parents Blake and Laura Fawcett.

Diego Hernandez was escorted by his parents Sandra Hernandez and Patrick McCasland.

Liam Moore was escorted by his mother Heather Moore.



MMS boys soccer eighth grade players and managers (L to R): Bentlee Shands, Bryson Nolen, Alan Dixon, Sophie Dameron, Meghan Cowan, Diego Hernandez, Liam Moore, Cal Fawcett and Draven Black. Photo by Joel Washburn/The Banner

Bryson Nolen was escorted by his mother Sharie Kalis.

Bentlee Shands was escorted by his mother Brittany Shands.

Manager Meghan Cowan was es-

corted by her parents Amanda and Brent Cowan.

Manager Sophie Dameron was escorted by her parents Danita and Steven Dameron.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BASEBALL



Above, MMS eighth grade baseball players, joined by family members (L to R): Sammy Willen, Bryson Smith, Tucker Redmond, Dawson Reeder, Parker Ross, Brin Murray, Cayden Gordon, Brayden Mort and Hudson Garrett. Below Left, Parker Ross was one of four McKenzie pitchers to appear in the blowout win. Below Right, Rebel Hudson Garrett scores on a wild pitch. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner



Rebels Crush Lions on Eighth Grade Night

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

MCKENZIE (April 17) — McKenzie Middle School hosted Camden Thursday and celebrated Eighth Grade Night. Nine eighth graders were recognized before the game with family members. The Rebel offense exploded for a 12-3 win in four innings.

Eighth graders were Hudson Garrett, son of Heather and Hunter Garrett; Brayden Mort, son of Kyle Mort; Cayden Gordon, son of Ashley and David Gordon; Brin Murray, son of Brinnen and Dawn Murray; Parker Ross, son of Patrick and Anita Ross; Dawson Reeder, son of Brittany and

Tyler Reeder; Tucker Redmond, son of Jack and Nicole Redmond; Bryson Smith, son of Amanda and Todd Gottshall and Brandon Smith; and Sammy Willen, son of Carla Wagner and grandson of Shannon Beck.

McKenzie set the tone with ten runs in the first inning and followed with a run in each of the next two frames. Camden’s three runs came in the top of the third.

Rebel Seth Stafford was 2-for-3 with a triple, a double and two runs scored. Dawson Reeder went 2-for-3 with a double and four RBIs. Dierks Ghyers was 2-for-2 with a double, a walk, an RBI and a run scored. Hudson Garrett went 2-for-3 with a run scored. Parker

Ross went 1-for-2 with a double, a walk, an RBI and two runs scored. Leighem Broyles was 1-for-2 with a walk, an RBI and a run scored. Lane Brown went 1-for-3 with a run scored.

Tucker Redmond got the start and the win for McKenzie, allowing no runs or hits while striking out three and walking one in an inning and two-thirds. Parker Ross threw two-thirds of an inning, allowing two earned runs on one hit while striking out two and walking two. Seth Stafford pitched an inning, allowing one earned run on one hit while striking out three and walking four. Hudson Garrett got the final two outs, allowing no runs or hits with one strikeout.

HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS



Above, Rebel Owen Walker returns a volley in doubles play with partner Alex Garcia. Below, Lady Rebel Morgan Little returns a serve in her singles win. Photos by Brad Sam/The Banner

Lady Rebels Defeat Westview, Rebels Tie

BY BRAD SAM
brad@mckenziebanner.com

MCKENZIE (April 14) — McKenzie High School hosted Westview Monday for district tennis matches. The Lady Rebels earned their first win of the season, 5-2, and the Rebels drew 3-3 against the Chargers.

The Lady Rebels were 4-1 in singles play with wins by Ashley Dunavant (8-2 over Sophie Bowlin), Kyla Beveridge (9-8 over Rylan Diehl), Willow Arnold (8-0 over Audri Dowdy) and Morgan Little (8-2 over Cami Carlson). Ava Hastings fell to Gryphon Roland (8-5).



In doubles play, Beveridge and Arnold topped Diehl and Dowdy (8-3). Hastings and Dunavant fell to Roland and Bowlin (8-2).

The Rebels were 2-2 in singles play with wins by Davarion Gilbert (8-5 over Carter Peevyhouse) and Caleb Burke (9-7 over Isaac Ostenson). Alex Garcia fell to Alistair Braddock (8-5), and Owen Walker was defeated by Dylan Parker (8-5).

In doubles play, Burke and Gilbert topped Peevyhouse and Ostenson (8-5). Garcia and Walker fell to Parker and Braddock (8-6).

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

PROBATE CASE NO: 2025PE89

ESTATE OF: REBECCA JANE WALLS, LATE OF CARROLL COUNTY, TENNESSEE

Notice is hereby given that on the 8TH day of APRIL, 2025 Letters Testamentary, of Administration, in respect to the Estate of REBECCA JANE WALLS deceased, who died FEBRUARY 20TH, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court Clerk & Master of Carroll County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the Estate are required by law to file the same with the Clerk of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this Notice to Creditors at least sixty (60) days before date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the Notice to Creditors, if the creditor received a copy of the Notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting) as described in (1) (A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the date of the decedent's date of death.

All persons indebted to the above Estate must come forward and make proper settlement with the undersigned at once.

This 8TH day of APRIL, 2025.

THIS NOTICE WILL RUN TWO CONSECUTIVE WEEKS.

FILE CLAIMS IN TRIPLICATE WITH:

KENNETH TODD - CLERK & MASTER

99 Court Square, Suite 105, Huntingdon, TN 38344

STEVEN R. WALLS, Executor/Administrator

STEVEN L. WEST, Attorney

KENNETH TODD, Clerk & Master

A561/R25487/16-2

State of Tennessee Carroll County Probate Division	NOTICE TO CREDITORS As Required by TCA §30-2-306	Case Number 2025-PA-93
Estate of VIRGIE LEE CARVER, Deceased		
Notice is hereby given that on the 14th day of April, 2025, letters testamentary (or of administration as the case may be) in respect of the estate of Virgie Lee Carver, who died December 9, 2024, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of Carroll County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:		
(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or		
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors, if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting) as described in (1)(A); or		
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.		
All persons indebted to the above Estate must come forward and make proper settlement with the undersigned at once.		
Date: Feb 27, 2025	Valerie Carver, Administrator	
Date: 3-4-2025	John W. Whitworth, Attorney	
Date: 4/14/2025	Kenneth Todd, Clerk & Master	
A561/R25484/16-2		

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JOB OPENING

City of McKenzie Seasonal Marketing

The City of McKenzie is looking for a summer worker who is studying marketing and who will have summer availability on a part time basis. This position is under development so the potential candidate could have some input as to the development, implementation and outcome of this project. Additionally, please see the following employment and personnel requirements:

Part time hours have not been assigned and may be available as morning or afternoon hours consistent with the business hours of the City of McKenzie and the availability of the person hired.

Administrative background, office training, computer skills- word/ excel etc., telephone and business etiquette – dealing with the public, skills and abilities (KSA's) to accomplish tasks and goals as assigned.

Able to work independently on duties and tasks, develop protocols consistent with the mission, goals and requirements of the position.

The position will be housed on the Local Government side and will be supervised by the City Clerk.

Interested persons should submit a detailed resume by April 25, 2025 to Jennifer Waldrup at City Hall or mail to PO Box 160, McKenzie, TN 38201 or email to jennifer.waldrup@cityofmckenzie.com.

A1/15-2

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McKenzie, Tennessee

Tri-County Publishing, Inc. dba The McKenzie Banner is seeking a qualified news and sports stringer to cover meetings, events and sporting events in the Carroll, Henry and Weakley County area of West Tennessee while representing The McKenzie Banner. This is a part-time, contract position with the possibility of full-time. Some nights, weekends and holidays required.

JOB TYPE: PART-TIME TO FULL-TIME | EXPECTED HOURS: 20 – 40 PER WEEK

JOB DUTIES:

- Check in for assignments.
- Attend meetings/events.
- Fact check. Strong ethics. Positive attitude.
- Work with various entities to gather news.
- Take notes and record meetings.
- Take photos and video with camera and/or smartphone.
- Write stories in AP style using correct spelling and grammar.

- Type 600-1100 word stories and submit to editor within 24-48 hours after news and events.
- Meet deadlines.
- Some breaking news coverage, published within 1-2 hours of happening.
- Some feature writing.
- Edit photos.
- Post stories on website and update social media.

Schedule: Varies based on assignment. Some nights, weekends and holidays.

CANDIDATE REQUIREMENTS:

- High school diploma or equivalent.
- Valid driver's license. Reliable transportation.
- Clean background and drug test.
- Computer skills (PC), i.e. Google products.
- Internet access and E-mail.
- Basic knowledge of photography.

PLUSES:

- Photo editing experience.
- InDesign and Photoshop experience.
- Knowledge of social media platforms.
- Sales & advertising experience.
- Customer service experience.
- Smartphone with ability to update social platforms from event.

COMPENSATION: \$25-\$50 PER EVENT, pay scale based on experience.

Apply via email: hiring@mckenziebanner.com

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Monica Heath receives her certificate from CIS Executive Director Paul Jennings and TCED Program Director Tintin Czach.

Monica Heath Graduates as a Certified Economic Developer

NASHVILLE — Executive Director of the McKenzie Industrial Development/McKenzie Chamber of Commerce Monica Cravens Heath was part of The University of Tennessee Center for Industrial Services' (CIS) 21st graduating class of its Tennessee Certified Economic Developer (TCED) Program. This cohort brings the total number of Tennessee Certified Economic Developers to 135. Heath is the lone person with that designation in Carroll County.

"Our Tennessee Certified Economic Developers have shown remarkable dedication in earning this designation," said TCED Program Director Tintin Czach. "Their expertise will be a huge asset to

their communities, helping to drive growth and lead innovation across the state. We're excited to see the positive impact they will have on Tennessee's future."

Graduation was held at the UT Institute for Public Service (IPS) Training Center in Nashville, where graduates presented their Capstone Projects - the final requirement for earning the TCED designation. Heath's final project was titled "Developing an Internship Program in a Rural, At-Risk Community."

TCED candidates completed a week-long Basic Economic Development Course, along with six core courses and eight elective hours focused on economic and community

development, totaling 92 instructional hours. The TCED Program provides participants with a comprehensive understanding of economic trends, tools and core components required to compete in today's global economy.

Heath is the full-time executive director of the City of McKenzie Industrial Development Board that works to support existing industries and recruit additional industries. She is also the director of the McKenzie Chamber of Commerce and Industry, an organization to support the retail and business sectors of the city of McKenzie.

The offices are located on Broadway Street in downtown McKenzie.



The view from the ferris wheel of Overflow Church's Easter Community Carnival. Photo by Brittany Martin/The Banner

Overflow Hosts Annual Community Carnival

MCKENZIE (April 19) — Each year Overflow Church hosts a free community Easter Carnival. This year was no exception. Individuals not only from McKenzie but from the surrounding area took part in the event. From the Overflow's Facebook, "Each year, on the day before Resurrection Sunday, we host a Free

Community Easter Carnival for our entire town in celebration of the fact that already know how the story ends... Jesus is Alive!"



Sterling Award Winners from Carroll County — (L to R) Lori Dillahunt, LaShonda Williams and Brittany Martin. Photos by Joel Washburn/The Banner

Carroll Countians Recognized Among 20 Most Influential Women in West Tennessee

JACKSON (April 15) — On Tuesday, the Jackson Area Business and Professional Women (JABPW) hosted the 2025 Sterling Awards recognizing the 20 Most Influential Women in West Tennessee, the Outstanding Woman Military Veteran and the Sue Shelton White Award recipient.

The friends and families of the approximately 22 women gathered in the J. Walter Barnes Conference Center at Jackson-Madison County General Hospital to celebrate the milestone. The free event lasted approximately an hour and was followed by a reception.

The 20 Most Influential Women in West Tennessee 2025 are:

Carroll County: Lori Dillahunt, chairperson for the Carroll County Inclusion Park; Brittany Martin, publisher of the McKenzie Banner, president of Tri-County Publishing Inc., president of Carroll Arts, Inc.; LaShonda Williams, owner of Lake-way Nutrition and Rexair distributor.

Chester County: Courtney Bingham, systems operations analyst at Jackson Energy Authority (JEA); owner of

Mimi's Boutique; Kim Morris, co-founder and president of 45 South Offroad; insurance agent at Godfrey Insurance in Selmer.

Hardeman County: Harriet Thompson, Hardeman County General Sessions and Juvenile Court judge, Bolivar city judge, Middleton city judge, attorney at law.

Henderson County: Mary Jowers, attorney at law, city judge of Lexington.

Madison County: Virginia Conger, volunteer, retired educator; Delois Dailey, aerospace science instructor at Haywood High School; Anita Hamilton, certified public accountant, senior director of personal financial strategies at Home LLP; Mamie Hutcherson, executive director of Wo/Men's Resource & Rape Assistance Program (WRAP); Sarah Jones, major crimes and special operations intelligence analyst with the Jackson Police Department; Brenda Locke, Catering sales manager (acting), Double-Tree by Hilton Jackson, and independent contractor affiliate broker, Conner Real Estate; Pam McCarty, certified grief counselor, consultant for university writing classes, board member and found-

er of the nonprofit Morgan McCarty Scholarship Foundation; Liz Mayo, English professor and global learning coordinator at Jackson State Community College (JSCC); Twana Miller, executive clinical director and owner of The Positive Living Group; Angela Snider, attorney at law; Debbie Swacker; Community activist, entrepreneur.

Tipton County: Rose Stemmons, President, CEO, and founder of Krayola Learning Academy Inc.

Weakley County: Rafielle Boone Freeman, Executive, Healthcare Dynamics International, Quality and Business Strategy.

Winning the 2025 Outstanding Woman Military Veteran Award is Peggy McLean of Jackson, US Navy 1978-1989, post service officer at American Legion Post 12 in Jackson, retiree.

Winner of the 2025 Sue Shelton White Award is Sara Barnett of Jackson, attorney at Spragins, Barnett & Cobb, PLC.

For more information about Sterling Awards, email Jacque Hillman, editor of the Sterling Awards magazine, at jacquehillman@gmail.com.



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► **72% of adults in Tennessee read public notices in newspapers**

- 64% of Tennesseans believe they should STAY in newspapers
- 84% of adults in Tennessee feel newspapers are the most trusted source for public notices

Source: Coda Ventures Market Study 2020

Rebel Tate Surber Named TSWA All-State Basketball



McKenzie High School senior Tate Surber was among the 15 players named to the Class 1A Basketball All-State team by the Tennessee Sports Writers Association. File photo