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North Side High School graduates are represented.

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Featuring the USJ Bruin Class of 2024 and Sacred Heart of Jesus High School graduates.

One Jackson native just earned his bachelor's degree from UT Martin. Learn about his continuing education plans.

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Jackson TN Pride awards three graduating students scholarships.

Union students help younger students talk through ways to solve problems for different members of the local community.

Page 1B
Madison County Finance Manager Karen Bell is back on the job and clears up a few misconceptions about her month-long leave of absence.

The Madison County Commission conducts its monthly business in unusually quick order.

Downtown business leaders bring concerns and questions about the men's homeless shelter to City of Jackson leadership, and the two sides talk things out.

Page 2B
The Madison County Sheriff's Department and Jackson Police Department recognize Law Enforcement Memorial Day.

Page 3B
Columnist Todd Brady asks what all the hostility is about one graduation commencement speech by an NFL kicker.

Sabrina Parker warns of wolves in sheep's clothing that say they come to bring racial reconciliation but do nothing but stir up more strife.

Dooley Noted tackles the lessons that can be learned when God has us wait for His will.

Page 7B
One local middle school athlete came close to winning a track and field state championship recently.

Read about JMCSS' new Rolling Recess Bus that's bringing new P.E. options to students.

Get an update as of The Post's press time as to what all has transpired in Murfreesboro at TSSAA's Spring Fling.

Page 8B
The Greater Jackson Chamber loses one of its more experienced team members to the Tennessee Board of Regents.

The local NAACP prepares for its annual fundraiser coming up on Sunday.

CLASS OF 2024



Jackson-Madison County School System hosted commencement ceremonies last week for the Class of 2024 representing the seven high schools in the public school system. (Photo courtesy of JMCSS Communications)

Record-setting scholarship total, credentials, AA degrees define JMCSS Class of 2024

Submitted by JMCSS Communications

A total of 804 seniors were recognized last week as the district's seven high schools participated in graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2024.

The cumulative accomplishments achieved by this talented group of students - in academics, athletics, and the arts - highlight the impactful options offered among public schools in Jackson-Madison County.

From college credits to industry certifications, both collegiate and workforce opportunities await this cohort.

"If you look back at recent classes for comparison, this cohort of students is as talented and decorated as any class in recent years. Their final numbers really illustrate their comprehensive success in the classroom as well as extracurriculars," Deputy Superintendent Dr. Vivian Williams noted this week.

More than \$22 million in college scholarship dollars were awarded to seniors among Jackson Academic STEAM Academy, JCM-Early College High, North Side, Liberty Technology, South Side, Madison Academic, and Jackson Central-Merry. That's a \$2,417,940 increase from 2023. Several students began their postsecond-

ary education while still in high school, including 41 students at JCM-Early College High (ECH) who gained associate degrees through Jackson State Community College, which is the highest number to date for ECH.

Seniors in the Jackson-Madison County School System have amassed 8,606 tuition-free college credit hours through partnerships with local colleges and universities. More than 800 of those hours were completed by Madison Academic students at the University of Memphis Lambuth.

"Behind all of these numbers is a story of opportunity. Gaining college credit in high school increases the likelihood of these students pursuing additional education and specialized training after graduation. This speaks to the increasing value of public education and the great return on this community's investment in public education," Superintendent Dr. Marlon King commented.

Workforce Development opportunities continue to trend upward among our public schools as nearly 400 industry credentials were obtained by our seniors. Occupational safety, nursing assistant, food service, auto maintenance, and mechanical design are among the list of certifications earned by members of the senior class.

"We are equipping our city and the West Tennessee region with a workforce that is skilled, trainable, and ready for the challenges and rewards of industrial employment. This senior class has spent the past thirteen years developing a foundation of comprehension and resilience," Chief Innovation Officer Dr. Teresa McSweeney added.

Rounding out their collective achievements, which include state titles in soccer (Madison) and girls basketball (South Side), the Class of 2024 had a heart for the community as they amassed more than 33,000 volunteer hours.

Last week, Superintendent Dr. Marlon King also held a ceremony for the 16 senior members of his ACT 30+ Club. The district celebrates the many accomplishments of the graduating class of 2024 and commends the families and educators who contributed to these successes.

"These students have satisfactorily completed the curriculum prescribed by the state Department of Education and much, much more. We commend them and their families on these achievements and their future endeavors," said Superintendent King.

See JMCSS, Page 3A

MADISON ACADEMIC TOP 10



Representing the Top 10 students at Madison Academic High School for the Class of 2024 are (from left) 1. McLane Daugherty, 2. Edie Howell, 3. Keylee Harvill, 4. Brandon Granillo, 5. Julia Bowman, 6. Elena Korth, 7. Emily Yang, 8. Rachel Mingledorff, 9. Josie Halford and 10. Gracie Chattin (Photo courtesy of Madison Academic)



Class of 2024

SOUTH SIDE HIGH SCHOOL



ABOVE: South Side's valedictorian Meloney Niswonger (second from right) was among the district seniors who earned an industry certification while in high school by passing the state's Certified Nursing Aide (CNA) certification exam through the Tennessee Department of Health. Niswonger plans to study exercise science at Memphis Lambuth. BELOW: The three pictures are candid images from South Side's graduation ceremony held last week. (Photos courtesy of JMCSS Communications)



Bryce Alexander Adams
Elizabeth Meek
Alexander
Amber Inez
Anderson
Elesheia Janna Arnold
Jeremiah
Thomas Artis
Jashoun Deonte Askew
Noah Blake Azbill
Maurice Dewayne Barber
Christopher Lawson Barberinin
Laura Beltran
De La Rosa
Weston ZDirk
Blankenship
Kerri Ann-Marie Bond
Myles wade Bond
Shelby Alexa Bond
Jurmone Derrell Bonds
La'Darius
Da'Shawn Bowers
Audrey La'Dre Brawner
Aaron Wesley Broadway
Aliyah Marie Brooks
Kevin Deshawn Brooks
Eryk Thomas Burns
Jaycee Lynn Butler
Nathan Ray Cain
Amaiah Mary-campbell
Amaree Miguel
Campbell
Micah James
Campbell
Shakaria Ja'Niya
Campbell
Kendall Braelyn Cardwell
Braelyn Nicole Carle
Madison Nicole Carnell
Sacoya Asiana
Carter
Logan Andrew Casey
Coleman Johnston Coffman
Robert Kyle Collins
Shyla Nicole Cooper
Caitlin Elizabeth Cox
Bella Bliss Crawford
Joseph Mitchell Crossett
Kimora Ray-

nise Currie
Annalyn
Di'Nae Dailey
Brett Shelton Davis
Jonathan Ariel Doblado
Dalton Tyler Drake
Brodye Du-vil DuBose
Kalin Elizabeth Earnest
Jacob Hunter Earney
Alexander
Glenn Elder
Gage Landon Elder
Mitchell Wayne Ellison III
Shaccora Sherrrell Ellison
Tyhiya Ali Ellison
Samuel Lawrence Evans
Terrion Gregory Evans
Sydney Hope Faulkner
Jakari Nyke'
Tremaine Ford
Madison Marlee Foster
Hope Michelle Frazier
Ta Kierra La Treanna Geanes
Charlie Madison George
Zaria Lashay Givens
Jaycen David Glancy
Bryce Tyler Gildewell
Katherine Marie Ann Goff
Gabriela Jeannette Gonzales
Tiara Simone Green
Torrian De-wayne Hampton
Austin Ramone Hardin
Mardre'Kis Lee Hayslett
Sean Ryan Hilliard
Fabian Sealtiel
Garcia Hernandez
Amber Nicole Hitchcock
Kristian Yvette Holder
Emma Rae Howrd
Taniya Aolani Howard
Ke'Von Kentrell Hoyle
Tyshaun Darrell Hunt

Seth James Hunter
Lawrence
Lee Inks III
Jasmine Elise Isom
Cheyvarion
Brashaun Jenkins
Vada Jane Marie Johnson
Jeremiah De-wayne Jones
Kaleigh Olivia
Emma Kabler
Rakarius Fitzgerald Lacy
Brittyn Nichole LaPointe
Donovan
Bryce Latch
Hayden Conner Latch
Makayla Sky Lemons
Christian Kiab
Toom Lo
Dylan Myles Lovejoy
Madison Renee Lyle
Kimberly Martinez
Wesley Zander
Phillips Matlock
Emily Brooke Mayfield
Kaitlynn Marie Mayfield
Harlei Lynn McClintock
Dylon Drake
McConaughy
Ali Kate McDonald
Breanna Graced
McDonald
Yisenia Noemi
Mendez Lopez
Krsd'Najha Elmarie Mitchell
Olivia Grace Murray

Jacob Eli Nash
Andrew Logan New
Rory Marcell
Newbold Jr.
Cardin Anh Nguyen
Meloney Klair
Niswonger
Hunter Lee Nixon
J'Lynn Aaliyah
ZDonielle Paige
Dayton Ray Parish
Ami Shyan Patel
Sha'Kylah Lanneese Patterson
Samantha
Grace Payne
Abril Paz Mares
William Chase Pendergrass
Cristian Santos Perez
Dakota X-Terrius Perry
Ma'Kiya Renea Polk
Gunner Ryan
Provience
Caliayah Ann Purnell
Khyla Marie Ramsey
Demario Hana-ble Reeves II
Hurricane Nicolas Redondo
Jacob Edward Reid
Nea'eh Jayde Richardson
Sarahi Rivera Reyes
Brayden Anthony Roach
Adam Javier Ross
Irulana Deshonia Rutherford
Manal Abdulsattar Abdulla Selah
Michael Jace

Scoggins
Madie Lee Seratt
Marisela
Servin Molina
JaKobe
O'Bryan Shaw
Tamarra Simone Sinclair
Andrew Blake Smith
Mya Renea Smith
Nissi Igdalia Solis Lagunes
Samuel Layman Sparks
Kameron Montez Stewart
Chuck Zarrell Stokes
Avaery Lux Stout
Brittni Michelle Strain
Landon Scott Taylor
Kysean Mykeil Thomas
Clayton Wyatt Thompson
Jayden Alexander Tousant
Osbaldo Trjo
Susana Trejo Morales
Patience Amare Turner
Matthew Noah Tyler
Tionnia Ni-quole Umstead
Brianna Lynn Vickers
Isaiah Terrell Wade

Aidan ZDonovan Walker
Tatyanna Deasia Wallace
Devin Spencer Wells
Brelend Marqual Whiteside
Braldey Steven Wilkerson
Brandon Lee Wilkerson
Atereious Tiye Williams
Cameron Meshach Williams
John-oda Tristan Williams
Labrea Da'Shun Williamson
Thalaya Nutricee
Willingham
Asia Trinity Wilson
Caleb Cole Wilson
Myles Nathan Wilson
Peyton Glenn
Wimberley
Emily Grace Winberry
Zahria Dyani Woods
Luis Ignacio Yanez Clemente
Brenna Vincet Yarbrough

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Congratulations Class of 2024!

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119 Riverside Drive, Jackson
www.keepmyhoodgood.org

Class of 2024

NORTH SIDE HIGH SCHOOL

Wesley Paul Adams
Nakiya Lashey
Addison
Ekundayo Adeyemi
Brandon Agbetoyin
Granerson Davian Akins
Kelan Tyron Albea
Braylon Devon Anderson
Jonathan Lee Ates
Paola Barce-nas-Munoz
Isabella Jo-eli Barksdale
Grant Allen Barron
Shawntae La-mond Bell Jr.
Ma'kayla Desinay
Blackwell
Roberto Bo-lanos Cano
Jonathan Ber-nard Bond Jr.
Jordan Dion Bond
Nevaeh Jahn-ny Bond
Marionna
Sherniece Bonner
Cory Dewayne Bowers Jr.
Jabarre Vashon Bowers
Brianna Nicole Boyd
Aladrien Sy'rell
Marie Brady
Cy'Kiria Be-yonce' Broadway
Bryan Lamont Brooks
Jalayah Sekyah-Shante' Brown
Kamiya Tay-lor Brown
Isaiah Nathan-iel Brymer
Xzavier Buchanan
Ingrid Yurico
Bueno Olvera
Myka Mech-ell Carney
Takiyah Dani-elle Carr
Quin'Nesha La-nae Carson
La'niyah Mi-chell Cawthon
Paris Jada-Bell Champion
Jakerrius Dev-on Chatman
Karrington
Nichole Chatman
Ashuna Aliece Clark
Saniya Car-lysia Clark
Jorrian Jehar-old Smith Clay
Samuel Cleveland Jr.
Anyia Olivia Cole
Jayla Amya Cole
Tiona Khaliyah Cole
Shakida Pa-trice Conner

Autumn Ni-cole Cooper
Isaiah Terrell Currie
Nevaeh Shan-ice Currie
Jalil Antwain Dalton
Michael Terrell-Dupree Davis
Quentin Mar-cel Demoss
Connor Bryce Dennison
Bobby-Joe
Austin Dew
Jonathan Diego
Kylie Diane
Hope Dodd
Jermaine Du-juan Douglas
She'Daleon Ny'Yana
Aqun Douglas
Ra'Shad Ja-marion Dowlen
Kirakis Mon-trell Dunnaway
Emilson Raul Santos Elvir
Dionna Lap-rincia Estes
Alex Fac-undo Barrios
Joshua Alex-ander Ferraro
Eber Yovanny Flores
Alissa Leigh
Ann Fouse
Johanna Abi-gail Galicia
George Garcia
Lauren Ryan Gibbs
Jaylan Cordell Gill
Madison Ol-ivia Gooch
Hunter Lee
Grantham
Tiara Renee Grimes
Keyasia Lynn
Hadley
Asianna Dena Hall
David Lee Eli-jah Dunell Hall
Curtavous
Rashawn Harden
Naciyah Mela-nise Hardin
Jaylan Marcel Hardy
Joshua O'Bryan
Harris
Boston Lee Harton
Braylen Deon
Haynes
Alyssa Faye Hearn
Leo Dakota Helms
Layla Ann Henne
India Markay-lah Herron
Jada Simone Hines
Taylor Tarrell Hines
Kamari Ja'Quan
Hodge
Ja'Niya Lach-elle Hych
Willie Steve Hych III
Keyana Di-



ane Jacobs
JaTerrion Mon-trell Johnson
Tamira Di-onne Johnson
Tondarius Dev-on Johnson
Colby Milton Jones
Ke'Veion
Markez Jones
Aymen Kader
Jayden Alex-ander Kearse
Kylan Eman-uel Kenton
Adrianna Lynn
Lamberth
Amber Rose Lewis
Jeremiah An-twon Link
Bryan DeMar-cus Locust
Amya Char-vae Logan
Christian Ray-mond Logan
Torrianna La-shay Long
Analyz Lopez
David Alejan-dro Lozano
Lucas Isaiah Mabile
Kenni'on DaR-ion Maclin
Christian An-thony Maholmes
Cesar Gantes
Mandujano
Cortez Par-nell Manley

Joseph Casey
Marshall
Mario Mar-tinez Leyva
Kelyn Mas-cada Celaya
Jonathan Ro-meo Mata-Lopez
Emery Lee Mays
De'terrian Quan-dreze McAlister
Roemello Ray
Charles McCants
Ira McCullough III
Jonathan An-drew McLemore
Julianne
Paige Melton
Taylor Ann Melton
Jada Cymone
Merriweather
Tayshara Day-shannia Mills
Tyler Gesiele Minor
Guadalupe Mire-les-Gonzalez
Catherine Yorleni
Mondragon-Turcios
Jailah Kamille
Montgomery
Joshua Raes-hun Morgan
Tristan Alex-ander Moss
Minerva Munoz
Abril Nava
Mikayla Ma-rie Nelson
Isaiah Jer-emiah Nobles

Kilver Yair Nunez
Aguilera II
James Lewis
Overton
Kinnedi K Palmer
Jada Mach-elle Pankey
Christopher
Isaiah Parker
Demontez
Keon Perry
Ja'kayiah Na-shay Perry
Cameron Micah
Anthony Pettigrew
Malik Jaquan Pirtle
Kelyn Mar-tez Pittman
Daniel Andres Ponce
Oscar Portesgil
Joel Avery Powell
Gabriel Alexan-der Presley Jr.
Destiny Son-yea' Pruitt
Christopher Al-lan Quijano
Rayshun
Dant'e Quinn
Gerillyn Yaz-min Ramirez
Verdugo James
Ivory Reed II
Iviana Aracely
Cupples Rivera
Katlyn Beth-any Roach
Kylan Ja'uoine
Roberson
Ethan Mi-chael Roberts
Aidan Gregory
Robertson
Nikhara Jero-nae Robinson
Brendan Du-pre Rodgers
Angel Miranda
Grace Rodriguez
Leonardo Man-uel Rodriguez
Andy Giovan-ni Sanchez
Jacoreyon
Miguel Sanders
Daphne Michelle
Santos Guerrero
Francisco Gar-cia Santos
Karina Santos
Raymundo
Santos III
Cameren Charles
Sattlefield
Cristiana Ma-rie Saucedo
Kali Ryan Schweer
Kadeen Nata-lie Sebastian
Demia Amor Shelton
Cunningham Collin
Justus Simmons II
Damaria Daphne
Lavera Smith

Jakolby Troy Smith
Jeremiah Ma-lik Lamar Smith
Kiersten Bri-ley Smith
Joshua Lewis Starks
Aryel Nicole Stewart
Taashton Rase-an Strickland
Elijah Noel Strom
Maliyah Al-lyse Sumler
Travis Bunkea Suon
Aiden Kam-bell Taylor
Asharia La-shay Taylor
Brooklyn Caro-lyn Taylor
Jordan De-mardre Taylor
Noah Seth Taylor
Zentarrius Ma-lik Tillison
Brayden Jo-seph Tomas
Brenda Torres
Catalina Ma-rie Trejo-Taylor
Ma'Kayla Bri-anna Tucker
Madelyn Grace Tyler
Jessica Ann
Vanderhoof
Terry Powell Venable
Montravious
Demond Wade
Tyteanne Abi-gail Walker
Ava Claire Ward
Dekayla Melody
Washington
Tiarra Denae
Washington
Vernell Wash-ington III
Ja'Liyah Mar-shay Watkins
Nicholas Charles
Watkins II
Imani Mark-endra West
Ronayiah
De'Sha West
Santana Tere-sia' Whisnant
Jakaiyle Le-sha Williams
Bryson Leon
Williamson
Naytashia La-faye Williamson
Darius De-wayne Winters
Evan Isaiah
Lee Woods
Laniya One-sha Worles
Xavier Destin Wyatt
Leonardo Zo-telo-Roque
Oscar Zuniga
Ruben Zuniga

JACKSON-MADISON COUNTY SCHOOLS

CLASS OF 2024

BY THE NUMBERS

NORTH SIDE HIGH SCHOOL

JACKSON CENTRAL-MERRY

SOUTH SIDE HIGH SCHOOL

LIBERTY TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL

JASA JACKSON ACADEMIC STEAM ACADEMY

MADISON ACADEMIC

JCM-EARLY COLLEGE HIGH

804

TOTAL GRADUATES

388

INDUSTRY CERTIFICATES

\$22,558,725

IN SCHOLARSHIPS

33,623

VOLUNTEER HOURS

9,064

COLLEGE CREDIT HOURS

JMCSS

From 1A

In addition, the Jackson-Madison County School System has introduced "Let's Talk."

School district representatives noted, "There is nothing more important to our district than the health, safety, and well-being of our entire school community. Every voice matters, and we want to make it easy for you to communicate with your child's schools."

"We're introducing Let's Talk, an online customer service solution that provides a convenient way for you to ask questions, request information, or share concerns."

Let's Talk is available 24/7 from your phone, computer, or tablet, and includes staff-facing technologies that ensure you receive a timely, accurate response — every time. You can expect a response from us within two business days."

Visit <https://www.jmcss.org/letstalk> for more information.

The school district's Technology Department has provided coverage of the seven high school graduation ceremonies held last week.

Visit the link below to view replays on the system's YouTube channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/@jmc-ss5735/streams>

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Class of 2024

LIBERTY TECH MAGNET HIGH SCHOOL



The photos above are candid images posted to the Jackson-Madison County School System X page as Liberty Tech hosted its graduation ceremonies last week.

Adams, Keeasia
Mariah Denise
Alexander, Michael
Jamel
Askew, Martinez
Deshuan
Bafford, Jakalyn
Bedwell, Nevaeh
Rene
Bledsoe, Shatoria
Renee
Bond, Elijah
Brazzell, Sarah
Beth
Brown, Brooklyn
Nicole
Brown, Sonovian
Jamarion
Calixto Vargan,
Melisa
Calixto
Campbell, Denaysiah
Deangela
Chatman,
Jabari
Devon
Chatman, Laquaveen
Brayshun
Cheshier, Janiya
Michelle
Clark, Dominique
Jolan
Clark, Kiona
Renee
Clay, Naudia
Simone
Cole, Brooklyn
Renee
Cole, Jayla
Cole, Sydnee
Nicole
Coleman, Der-

rick Lamont
Cook, DeMarco
Christopher
Cooper, Taliyah
Cooper, Wyatt
Cole
Crump, Maleek
Charles
Davis, Chri-shay
Karen
Davis, Sequaden
Lamarcus
Davis, Shania
A
Devore, Christian
Gerald
Dixon, Kameron
Lee
Dubon, Jennifer
Rosario
Edwards, Rhema
Graceson
Epperson,
Sedaja
Dashay
Fason, Evelyn
Danielle
Feild, Olivia
Jalayla
Gamble, Aliciana
Marie
Gant, Frank
Cornelius
Gentry, Kaden
Layne
Graves, Jaiden
Aniya
Green-Cheshier,
Dravis
Karon
Greer, Jeremiah
Hall, Amiya
Nikole

Hamilton, Terrecus
Phildale
Hardin, Latavia
Jasmine
Harris, Lewis
Javonte
Hasher, Natalie
Elizabeth
Herron, Kristian
Charles
Hopkins, Anteria
Lashay
Humphrey, Niyah
Camone
Jelks, Damya
Joylynn
Eunai
Jelks, Kalisha
Johnson, Alexis
Ann
Johnson, Brenden
Kyreon
Johnson, Da'monta
Marquise
Jones, Brianna
Jones, Ja'Marion
Jermaine
Jones, Lawna
Deshawn
Jones, Leah
Armanti
Jones, Marlon
Ali
Jones, Shalique
Corey
Joyce, Angelina
Rhea
Kaelin, Corey
Rowan

Kincaid, Nykere
Rashad
King, Taurean
J
Kinnes, Denim
Cabrese
Kinnie, Ke'Untae
Isaiah
Kirk, Jadyn
Ellijah
Leonard, Nikkindra
Lasha
Long, Breasia
Jamia
Lovett, Dalton
Mack, Marquarion
S
Mann, Remington
Austin
Manning, Kenyon
Pharrell
Martinez, Zuleymi
Maxwell, Derrickis
McGee, Sydney
McNeal, Seanterrious
Darrel
Morris, Gregory
Montrell
Murray, Mark
William
Neal, Maya
Angela
Newby, Anaiya
Jeanise
Office, Ky-mon
Artavious
Onaro, Nelson
Edward
Patmon, Dynasti
Payne, Quardarius
Antonio

Peterson, Shanaria
Amiria
Phelps, Emyia
Dashell
Ramirez Alvarado,
Briana
Rhodes, Janiah
Robinson, Keenen
Preston
Hosea
Ruiz
Esparza,
Oscar
Hugo
Sabater, Jeremiah
David
Sails, Kimorah
Simone
Sanders, Jose
Tequan
Santiago, Amy
Alejandra
Sinclair, Devon
Terrell
Singh, Asia
Smart, Justin
O'neal
Smith, Nataveia
Aleasia
Starks, Brandy
Bernecia
Swain, DeAsia
Nichole
Tacker, Savannah
Nocole
Tate, Tiffany
Antionette
Taylor, Alberto
Baratte
Taylor, Chey-

enne Grace
Taylor, Shanya
Renee
Taylor, Zykerianna
Latrice
Thomas, Kamarion
O'brian
Thompson, Josia
Marie
Thompson, Kylie
Rejoyce
Turnbow,
Mariques
Eugene
Tyus, Keasia
Lenea
Vaulx, Austin
Ryan
Verser, Brashae
Faith
Maree
Wade, Dmetrius
Walker, Kadin
Amar
Watkins,
K'Mya
Leigh
Weddle, Tyah
Chante
White, Kyle
Dawson
Wilbourn, Keysia
Lotoria
Williams, Ileea
Williamson, Harmony
Ethellynn
Wilson, Kevin
Woodruff,
Alexis
Nicole
Young, Mykela
Rena

JACKSON CENTRAL-MERRY HS

Aubrey Camille
Allen
Tatum Noel
Alcorn
Gabriel
Ver-shaun
Anderson
Trinity
Samari
Anderson
Ke'Asia
Ne'Chelle
Barnes
Chesaisty
Marie
Bates
Shamaria
Symone
De'Shun
Bennett
Thomas
Lataj
Betts
Amira
Michelle
Bond
Braxton
Lee
Bond-Comer
Syndesky
Ter-rance
Bowers
Jr.
Jamyia
Niashia
Brown
Dontrel
Gabriel
Burton
Jr
Da'Siyah
Carpenter
Ma'Kaylnn
Alexi-yah
Carpenter
Hych
DaYona
TyShun
Mo-nae
Carpenter-Jones
Sandi
Grasiela
Castaneda
Omarion
Andrew
Chapman
Keyshun
Antonio
Clark
Z'Kiya
Elysse
Coplen
Zylah
A'Narrie
Croom
Detarius
Ja'Quavion
Douglas
Demetri
Alan-dus
Edwards
Shalay
Mo-nae
Eubanks
Cedric
Lamont
Evans
Jr.
Nevaeh
Lynne
Evans
Chikhyia
Au-



The photos above are candid images posted to the Jackson-Madison County School System X page as Jackson Central Merry High School hosted its graduation ceremonies last week.

veea Fuller
Ja'Breia
La'Shaye
Fuller
Jalen
Jer-maine
Gibbs
Skylar
Isaiah
Car-ganilla
Gorospe
David
Ja-rome
Grimes
Ai'yana
Daivion
Hall
Kai'ya
Dubois
Hall
Mia
Nata-sia
Hartshaw
Alyeria
Shama-ya
Haynes

Cordalyn
JaTez
Herron
Adam
Ivan
Hilde
Stephanie
Tania
Holliday
Jeffrey
Wy-att
Holtman
Carlos
Ro-shaun
Hunt
Jr.
Nehemiah
Sh-nai
Jeffries
Janae
Nikole
Johnson
Nyan
Ezekiel
Johnson-Haley

Alyvia
Elaine
Jones
Gavin
Ray
Kinney
Gabrielle
Mor-gan
Lacey
Saul
Lara
Jr.
- Deceased
Alissa
Paige
Long
Cheyenne
Di-onne
Love
Destiny
Lamia
Lowe
Danaviea
Leela-Cymone
McDonald
Tashana
Meadows
Trianna
Tran-ice
Miliken

Ta'Khiah
Mo-nae
Minter
Jaione
Monet
Owens
Joseph
Lon-don
Owens
Shalania
Nich-ole
Parker
Priyal
Patel
Patience
Shanelle
Patrick
William
Lamar
Eugene
Poe
Demparion
Corday
Price
Candice
Alex-

is Avery
Valery
Yahnessa
Vaarela-Ramos
Destiny
Lashay
Reid
Lakeisha
Dani-elle
Robertson
Raziel
Issa-ias
Rodriguez
Zania
Jame-ria
Rutherford
Ivory
Nyasia
Sain
Jazmin
Mo-lina
Santillan
A'Keela
Nicole
Scott
Charale
Lasho-na
Shields
Fre'Tavion
Tyrell
Shields
Rainy
Ma-dai
Standifer
Kieandre
De-shawn
Stevenson
Jayla
Renee
Sykes
Riley
Jevon
Thaxter
Joshua
De-wayne
Thomas
J'Asia
Lashon
Tyson
Jayana
Lee
Valera
Ja'Riyah
Ali
Vinson
Jewelz
Jamesa-Santana
Walker
Chande
La-shay
Wedlow
Tarcus
Lyn-tray
Wilkes
Jr.
Diontae
Rashaud
Williams
Patrick
Terrel
Andrew
Williams
Makiah
De-metria
Willis
Terrance
Woods
Makaio
Javier
Christlin
Wright
Lazarius
Trenton
Lil'Milton
Young

Class of 2024

MADISON ACADEMIC HIGH SCHOOL

Belal Abujaber
Ximena Acosta
Alexi Arriaga
Shelby Di-
ane Ballard
Scott Ed-
ward Bledsoe
Dylan Blondet
Julia Tay-
lor Bowman
Jamariious
Garion Brown
Charles Jack-
son Bryant
Maleah Nicole Burke
Camron Cor-
tel You Butler
Leonardo Alex-
ander Calderon
Layne Pat-
rick Cannon
Johnny Cas-
tano Martinez
Grace Eliza-
beth Chattin
Grace Ma-
rie Chouinard
Alysia Monae Clark
Stephen Alex-
ander Coleman
Andrew Da-
vid Collier
McLane Thom-
as Daugherty
Joshua Mi-
chael Dennis
Calleigh Dan-
nen Earl
Andrew Dalton Ellis
Jessica Leigh
Fincher
Alana Isa-
bella Flowers
Xavier Ra-



The photos above are candid images posted to the Jackson-Madison County School System X page as Madison Academic High School hosted its graduation ceremonies last week.

shad Freeman
Joshua Ca-
ruso Fugate
Amy Gabri-
ela Galicia
Rylee Lyn Galyean
Brandon James
Granillo
Noah Alexan-
der Greene
Coda Jackson Greer
Abby Mae Groom
Zabdi Tabita
Gutierrez
Kelli Alana Guy
Josie Elaine Halford
Tamera Sym-
mone Harden
Zachary Mi-
chael Harvey
Keylee Brooke
Harvill
Caroline Cor-

nelia Hayes
 Emily Grace Hayes
 Courtney
 Lynn Henley
 Kristin Grace
 Henning
 Claudia Eliza-
 beth Hernandez
 Carsen Elaine
 Hickerson
 Anna Marie Hill
 Jaylen Mekhi Hill
 Edie Marie Howell
 Olivia Annal-
 ise Hughes
 Jayden Sin-
 cerity Hunt
 My Ngoc Tra Huynh
 Deshaundon Av-
 ery Jeanes, Jr.
 Linda Jiang
 Elijah For-
 sythe Koffman

Elena Elizabeth Korth
Grecia Zoe Labra Rojo
Bradyn Neely Larkins
Katharine Claire Larkins
Zyshon Leaveil Lewis
Zackary Stephen Littrell
Caroline Elise Luther
Kenley Raines MacDonald
Samya Laquicea Maclin
Rachel Morgan Mingleдорфф
Marshall Foster Mize
Hannah-Grace Lijun Morris

Mekhi Bren-
den Morris
Kaden Thom-
as Moseley
Elizabeth
Wren Myers
Ammar Mohamed
Fahmy Nasr
Atoosa Neshagaran
Champ De Nguyen
Julia Lanel Nichols
Carter An-
drew Noble
Sara Amr Osman
Vraj Rajubhai Patel
Florence Eloho Pela
Sophia Kath-
ryn Phillips
Elizabeth
Ann Pilcher
Noah Maver-
ick Ratel-Blaz
Krisaley Ann Reece

Jenna Joann
Richardson
Lynlee Nich-
ole Riggins
Samuel Mi-
chael Roberts
Karoline Ro-
driguez-Nunez
Lana Kate Roe
Razan Tajeldin Salih
Amy Salinas
Jeremiah
James Sanders
Joshua Pulla-
zhiiyl Santhosh
Zoe Ann Sievers
Lee Eliza-
beth Simpson
Sebastian Ro-
lando Soriano
David Nash Steen
Stephanie Mi-
chelle Torres
Caleigh Aid-
en Uselton
Stella Del-
aney Uselton
Chase Jasper Vowell
Drake Mat-
thew Wallace
Tucker Asa Wallace
Allaysia Sher-
ee Watkins
Avery Isa-
bella Webster
Karen Amelia West
Hailey Ni-
cole Winters
Emily Yang
Jack Preston Young



Seniors in the Jackson-Madison County School System have amassed 8,606 tuition-free college credit hours through partnerships with local colleges and universities. More than 800 of those hours were completed by Madison Academic students at the University of Memphis Lambuth. (Photos courtesy of JMCSS Communications)

NORTH AMERICA'S

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AVAILABLE
WITH APPROVED
CREDIT

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JA STEAM ACADEMY



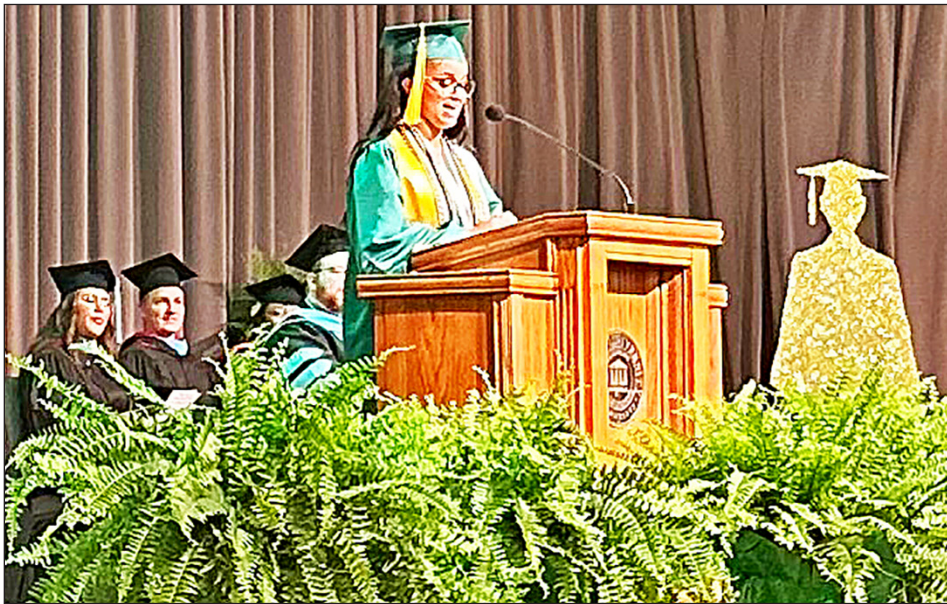
Jackson Academic STEAM Academy Salutatorian Jordan Melugin addresses JASA ceremony attendees on Monday, May 13. Jordan is a distinguished graduate and academic scholar who earned college credit from Union University while in high school. (Photo courtesy of JMCSS Communications)

Madison Pewitte, Valedictorian
Jordan Melugin, Salutatorian
Lein Alamawi
Abdullah Aljafari
Sophie Beavers
Hailey Bishop
Addison Blankenship
A'Isatu Camara
Josiah Clanton
Kentavious Currie
Ava Estrada
Yovana Gomez
Brian Grant
Robert Gray
Aiden Hollingsworth
Noah Holt

Jamarius Jefferson
Armauni Morrow
Caden Norton
Dylan Payne
Emily Pusser
John Rodgers
Devon Scales
Sydney Shaw
Loreley Sotelo-Santos
Catherine Szymanski
Ruby Tackett
Mariah Thomas
Madyson Vann
Shakiah Wade
McKenzie Young

Class of 2024

JCM EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL



The photos above are candid images posted to the Jackson-Madison County School System X page as Jackson Central Merry High School Early College High School hosted its graduation ceremonies last week.

- Alee'Cia Anderson
Briana Banes
Xyla Barbour
Kaden Bills
Jalen Brooks
Zoe Calhoun
Alexandria Carney
Cadence Clark
Nevaeh Coleman
Shakiya Conner

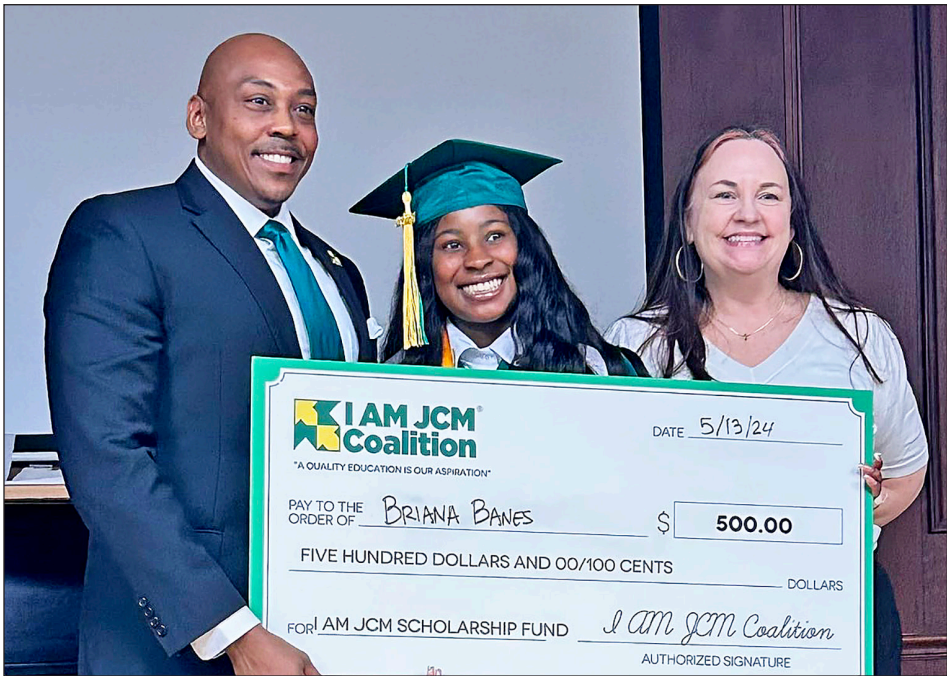
Destiny Croom
Arianna Cunningham
Alen Davis
Oryenne Dople
Kaydence Eckford
Galilea Franco
Ronald Futrell
Alexandra Glover
Emiliano Gonzalez-

Hernandez
Kailah Hamilton
Jabrelle Harris
Alexis Holman
Sandra Hurt
Jaida Ingram
Gracie James
Jesse Johnson
Nadia King
Anayah Lattimore

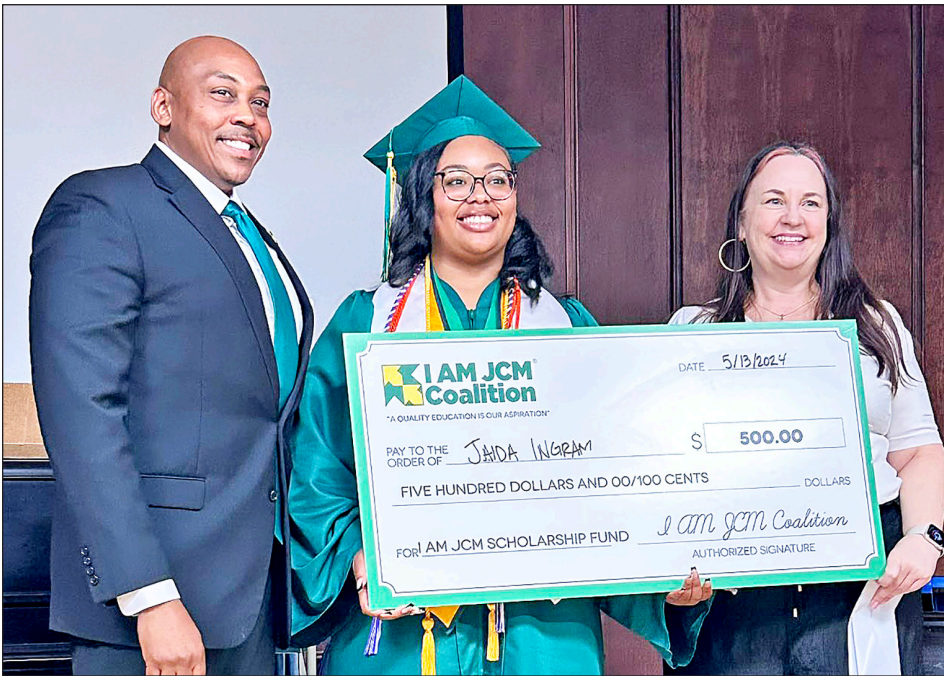
Azarea Lester
Cecil Lewis III
Ja'Micheal Lockridge
Jaquelin Mireles
Ja'Myala Moore
Amber Murphy
Serenity Murrell
Kameron Myles
Nyla Myles

Maislynn Payne
Kennade Pearson
Malcolm Peggs
Micah Psungo
Jordan Rhodes
Lakya Rice
Asia Sanders
Marquiesha Scott
Allison Smith
Keveontae Smith

Kira Swanson
Ahmari Taylor
Tahkale Tomlinson
Gabriela Trejo
Alexandra Valadez
Arianna Ware
Cayla Williams
Ivy Williamson
Keniya Wynne



Briana Banes was a recipient of the I AM JCM Scholarship from Jackson Central-Merry Early College High. This scholarship was sponsored by the I AM JCM Coalition. (Photo from JMCSS X social media page)



Jaida Ingram was a recipient of the I AM JCM Scholarship from Jackson Central-Merry Early College High. This scholarship was sponsored by the I AM JCM Coalition. (Photo from JMCSS X social media page)



JCM Early College High principal Dr. Nathan Lewis awards Asia Sanders her high school diploma. Sanders, ECH 2024 Valedictorian, earned the President's Award while attending Jackson State Community College and earning an associate degree. Sanders plans to attend Clark Atlanta University and major in Mass Communications. (Photo courtesy of JMCSS Communications)



The photo above is a candid image posted to the Jackson-Madison County School System X page as Jackson Central Merry High School Early College High School hosted its graduation ceremonies last week.

AUGUSTINE HIGH SCHOOL



AUGUSTINE SCHOOL CLASS OF 2024 - Pictured is this year's graduating class from Augustine School. Making up the Class of 2024 are (from left) Jordan Bundy, Blake Williams, Mariam Putt, Nicco Stacey, Beth Lentz, Benjamin O'Kelley, Zoey Prunty, William Brady, and Kate Prunty. (Courtesy of Augustine School)

Class of 2024

UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF
JACKSON

Lacie Atkinson
Ava Barham
Ava Beller
Marshall Box
Abby Brown
Ben Buchanan
Xavier Bunney
Peyton Campbell
Hays Carney
Madeline Craig
Stella Crenshaw
Eady Davenport
Brilee Davis
Kamryn DePriest
Ella Catherine Donnell
Garrett Eldridge
Emma Kate Elrod
Chester Evans
Mario Figueroa
Anderson Fortune
Amelia Freeman
Alec Garabedian
Ela Golden
Clenon Hardin
Cate Hays
Kenley Hines
Nathan Hite
Tripp Hooper
James Howell
Ryan Hutchison
Annika Jerge
Adan Jett
Bradi Jett
Cade Jett
Justin Johnson
Will Jordan
Lexi Krenis
John Thomas Langley
Andrew Lawrence
Jacie Lin

Nolan Lowery
Keith Marbury
Abby Marcus
Marissa Martin
Sam McMillin
Christian Melton
Bailey Miller
Preston Miller
Amelia Moore
Kendall Morris
Justin Parker
Solomon Pela
Paige Persons
Riley Persons
Josie Porter
Mia Powers
Anderson Preston
Mary Payton Redden
Emma Robinson
Caitlin Roemen
Ava Rose
Julia Roy
Thandie Sampson
Tristan Scallion
Wyatt Scott
Aubrey Sellers
Taylor Shands
Audra Sheffield
Brady Smith
Corinne Sullivan
Titus Taylor, Jr.
Toni Tremblay
Aaren Tunstill
Merritt Underwood
Leven VanWinkle
Eleanor Weaver
Claire Whybrew
Jackson Wilkerson
John-Gregory Wilson

Jackson native
graduates from
UT Martin,
plans to pursue
master’s online

David Snow
University Relations

Patrick Davis graduated from the University of Tennessee at Martin with a degree in criminal justice, receiving his diploma during commencement exercises on May 4. He will pursue a master's degree at UTM through its highly-ranked online courses.

Online Masters Colleges, a resource that ranks online higher education degree programs, ranked UT Martin's online programs fifth among Tennessee's colleges and universities last November.

Davis came to UT Martin from Jackson after graduating from Jackson-Central-Merry Early College High School.

"My experience at UT Martin has been great," he said. "This school has given me a lot of opportunities, such as being an intern for the state in Nashville."

Davis worked an internship in the Tennessee General Assembly with state Sen. Steve Southerland of District 9 (Cocke, Greene, Hamblen, Sevier and Union counties) during the spring 2023 semester and was able to see history unfold while working there.

On April 6, 2023, the Tennessee House of Representatives voted to expel three state representatives – Gloria Johnson, Justin Jones and Justin J. Pearson, known as "The Nashville Three" – for violating the chamber's decorum rules by leading protests for gun reform on the House

floor.

"It was a good experience, but there was a lot going on at the moment, with gun (legislation debates) and the three senators and what happened to them," he said. "Being there while all that was going on, that was truly an experience. If you have a passion for politics, that's something that you definitely should do."

"Just being there and making connections with senators and representatives – trying to put your foot in the door – it was an amazing experience."

Part of the criminal justice studies that Davis enjoyed was learning the criminological theories and putting them into practice working crime scenes. He praised professors like Dr. Danny Pirtle and Dr. Brian Donovan for helping him to see that criminal justice was a field that suited him well.

"Having mentors like that in a program can help students see if this is what they really want to do and go further into the program," he said. "I really appreciate the professors in criminal justice for that."

Davis completed his bachelor's degree after three years of going to UT Martin.

"Everything went by so quickly (because of that)," he said. "Joining my fraternity has been a great experience – being able to give back not only to my campus but also the community of Mar-

See DAVIS,
Page 8A


SACRED HEART OF
JESUS HIGH SCHOOL



Emma Bastable



Andre Bell



Paulo Santisteban Bernard



Kasandra Blankenship



Justin Davidson



Grant Dillon



Jacob Dutton



Maria Gutierrez



Chloe Higdon



Makayla Jarvis



Elliott Johnson



Claire Kail



Emerson Leonard



Owen McCulley



Brennan McKinnie



Alexander Morman



Madelyn Plunk



Caroline Prewitt



Samuel Saia



Nikolaus Sherrod



Dylan Summar



Daven Tefft



Jamison Warlick



Ashlyn Willis



Jayda Yarbrough

sacred Heart
of Jesus
High School

2023 - 2024

Bastable, Emma
Bell, Andre
Blankenship, Kasandra
Davidson, Justin
Dillon, Grant
Dutton, Jacob
Garcia Gutierrez, Irving
Gutierrez Alcantar, Maria
Higdon, Chloe

Jarvis, Makayla
Johnson, Elliott
Kail, Claire
Leonard, Emerson
Lumas-Harmon. Londyn
McCulley, Owen
McKinnie, Brennan
Morman, A J
Plunk, Maddie

Prewitt, Caroline
Saia, Sam
Santisteban Bernard, Paulo
Sherrod, Nik
Summar, Dylan
Tefft, Daven
Warlick, Jamison
Willis, Ashlyn
Yarbrough, Jayda

UTM CHANCELLOR’S HONOR ROLL

Submitted by UTM University Relations

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Spring 2024 Chancellor's Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

To be eligible for the Chancellor's Honor Roll recognition at UT Martin, a student must take at least 12 hours of credit (pass-fail courses are not included) and achieve a 3.2 (B) grade point average based on a 4.0 scale. Students can make the Chancellor's Honor Roll with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

Students from Madison County named to the Honor Roll are:

Beech Bluff – Grayson M. Vest, Highest Honors.

Jackson – Clara G. Adams, Honors; Clayton M. Adkins, High Honors; Jasmine M. Anderson, High Honors; Ashley R. Baker, Honors; Jonathan C. Barber, Highest Honors; Ellyn H. Beebe, Highest Honors; Haley N. Brown, Highest Honors; Austin L. Chaney, High Honors; Laney R. Cole, Highest Honors; Logan S. Coleman, Highest Honors; Benjamin J. Conley, High Honors; Nicholas H. Corley, High Honors; Tamarra M. Day, High Honors; Deondria R. DeBerry, Honors; Jeffrey T. Drake, High Honors; Milly I. Escobar, Highest Honors; Abbygrayce M. Fraley, High Honors; Dillon M. Freeman, High Honors; Colton A. Fuller, High Honors; Ellis O. Gasmen, Highest Honors; Hannah Gatti, Honors; Haley J. Goff, Honors; Emily C. Hailey, Highest Honors; Tommy L. Harden, Highest Honors; Taylor J. Harris, High Honors; Selina P. Hayslett, Highest Honors; Paris S. Hodge, Highest Honors; Callie L. Hollowell, Honors; Cade A. Hornsby, Honors; Ethan M. Johnson, Honors; Ava M. Jones, Highest Honors; Corey A. Land, Honors; Chyler Lee, High Honors; Marques J. Marshall, Honors; Jeremy Martinez, High Honors; Elizabeth S. Miller, Highest Honors; Emma K. Moody, Highest Honors; Marina C. Morgan, Highest Honors; Cooper L. Moss, High Honors; Gabriella R. Muncy, Honors; Matthew A. Mutter, Highest Hon-

ors; Hannah K. Newman, Highest Honors; Ashi Patel, Highest Honors; Kimberly A. Payne, High Honors; Miranda B. Peary, Highest Honors; Shakira A. Perry, High Honors; Madisyn D. Phillips, Honors; Ashley Portesgil, Honors; Campbell R. Puckett, High Honors; Cayden H. Puckett, Highest Honors; Larissa N. Renshaw, Highest Honors; Aaron P. Smith, High Honors; Amanda M. Smith, Highest Honors; Lorna R. Stemen, Highest Honors; Neely G. Stewart, High Honors; Logan L. Sullivan, Honors; Kennedy A. Swaim, Highest Honors; Krystal S. Taylor, High Honors; Emmalee E. Telfer, High Honors; Laura E. Telfer, Highest Honors; Amber D. Thompson, High Honors; Brett R. Tims, Honors; Felicia R. Transou, High Honors; Hayleigh A. Walker, Honors; Anna G. Ward, Highest Honors; Madison R. Webb, Highest Honors; Brandon C. Weidner, Highest Honors; Ally M. Weir, High Honors; Ella C. West, Honors; Artez-Dante L. Williams, Highest Honors.

Medon – GERALYNN A. Moon, High Honors; Karah A. Shannon, Honors; Tanner J. Tucker, Honors.

Mercer – Taylor A. Springfield, Honors.

Oakfield – Miranda G. Conrad, Honors.

Pinson – Charles H. Finn, High Honors; Jenna-beth T. Hicks, Highest Honors; Gracen I. McClain, High Honors; Jacob R. Schiels, Highest Honors; Tucker A. Webb, Honors.

Three Way – Amanda K. Williamson, Highest Honors.

In addition, Chancellor's Honor Roll honorees with ties to Madison County include:

Bells – Amber S. Owens, Highest Honors.
Martin – Tyrelle D. Turner, High Honors.
Ripley – Camryn R. Gray, Highest Honors.
Savannah – James T. Hart, Honors.

UT Martin is a comprehensive regional institution in the University of Tennessee System offering 18 bachelor's degree programs and nine master's degree programs. The main campus in northwest Tennessee is one of five primary UT campuses. For more information, visit utm.edu.

Education



Scholarship recipients Tamyra Jordan Patterson, Jackson Eli Glover and Kristin Henning take a photo with Jackson TN Pride Board members Ryan Myracle, Danielle Jones, Darren Lykes and Heath Williams. (BRANDON SHIELDS/The Jackson Post)

Jackson TN Pride awards 3 scholarships

Brandon Shields
Managing Editor

Jackson TN Pride awarded scholarships to three graduating students on Wednesday, May 22, including one from Madison County.

This is the second year for the group to present such scholarships.

“Jackson TN Pride is a group that wants to help others in various ways, and awarding scholarships is one of those ways,” said Heath Williams, a founding board member for the organization. “We exist as a place for the LGBTQIA community of Jackson and West Tennessee to gather, and we’re

here to answer questions for anyone that may have questions that want answers to about the community.”

The group awarded two scholarships last year. That number grew to three this year.

Jackson Eli Glover (\$2,500), Kristin Henning (\$2,500) and Tamyra Jordan Patterson (\$2,000) were the recipients this year.

Henning is a graduate of Madison Academic headed for UT Martin. She’s planning to major in political science with plans of going to law school and becoming a defense attorney thereafter.

“I’m very appreciative of the scholarship because I can take care of a few expenses with

\$2,500,” Henning said.

Patterson is from Humboldt and is headed to Lane College.

“I’m thinking about going into nursing, but I haven’t officially declared anything yet,” Patterson said.

Glover just graduated from Scotts Hill and is headed to Tennessee Tech with plans to major in nursing.

“I’m looking forward to getting to campus there and getting started,” Glover said.

Jackson TN Pride raises funds for the scholarships through different fundraisers held throughout the year.

Brandon Shields, brandon@jacksonpost.news

UTM Advisory Board suggests 3% increase

University Relations

A 3 percent in-state undergraduate tuition increase for UT Martin students was recommended for the 2024-25 academic year by the university’s advisory board Friday, May 17, during the board’s summer meeting in the Boling University Center.

The recommendation now goes to the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees for consideration at the board’s annual meeting June 24-25 in Knoxville.

The UTM Advisory Board also recommended a \$174 million UT Martin operating budget for UT board consideration in June.



Patrick Davis, a spring 2024 graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin, is shown on campus prior to his commencement exercises. Davis, a Jackson native, received his bachelor’s degree in criminal justice and will pursue a master’s degree in the field through UT Martin’s highly-ranked online courses. (Photo submitted by UTM University Relations)

DAVIS From 7A

tin as well, and I’ve met some great people here.”

Davis said he was encouraged to come to UT Martin by his father, a UTM alumnus.

“And, since my high school is an early college program, when I graduated high school, I had an associate’s degree in criminal justice,” he said. “UT Martin was one of the only schools that helped with the transition, so when I got here, the transition was easier and I was already a junior.”

Davis is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., Alpha Phi Sigma criminal justice honor society, the Black Student Association and Men of Excellence. He was also a senator in the Student Government Association for the College of Education, Health and Behavioral Sciences.

“One thing about the fraternities, especially in the National Pan-Hellenic Council, is that it’s a lifelong commitment,” he said. “It keeps going until the day you die. That’s one thing that I like about it, that even after college, I’m still able to serve my community by representing Alpha.”

Davis said his experience at UT Martin has helped him become a more confident and more outgoing person.

“I’m glad that UT Martin has changed me for the better,” he said. “I always tell people that if you go to college and you’re not stepping outside of your comfort zone – if you’re not doing things that make you uncomfortable like speaking to people and doing interviews – then you’re not having the right college experience. My experience is that it has made me a more confident, uplifting person.

“I have really enjoyed my experience here and would definitely recommend UT Martin to upcoming first-year students. It’s No. 1 on my list.”



LOCALS ATTEND LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE – Pictured are UT Martin students who attended the WestStar Leadership Program’s African American Leadership Conference on April 16. Those attending included (from left) JaKiya Bond of Jackson, Chayil Watkins of Rossville, Camille Freeman of Martin, Faith Johnson of Bartlett, Christian Bryson of Jackson and Brandon Jones of Gates. This conference connects African Americans in leadership positions and diverse work environments throughout West Tennessee. These University of Tennessee at Martin students were representing the UT Martin Student Alumni Council. The 25th annual event featured UT Martin Chancellor Yancy Freeman as keynote speaker. For more information on the WestStar Leadership Program, contact Virginia Grimes, assistant director of WestStar, at 731-881-7787.

Local student teams, Union engineering mentors assist community members through annual Make:able challenge

Staff Reports

A gunshot wound left 5-year-old Noah Shaw paralyzed from his chest down. He uses a wheelchair, and he still loves to play.

But sometimes he drops a ball or a toy, or he needs to pick up something else that’s out of his reach. That’s where a team of local middle and high school students and their Union University student mentors stepped in.

As part of the annual Make:able challenge, a team of middle school students designed and produced a set of “grabbers” for Noah, allowing him to operate more independently by picking things up without the help of anyone. The teams presented their projects May 10 during a year-

end celebration in Union’s Harvey Auditorium.

“Noah loves the grabbers,” his grandmother, Michelle Shaw, said. “These are the best things they could have done for him. The grabbers have really enhanced Noah’s capabilities.”

The project for Noah was one of eight completed at Union University this year by 29 middle school and high school students through Make:able, a worldwide 3D printing and assistive technology design challenge. Georg Pinggen, professor of engineering at Union, said PrintLab, a United Kingdom-based company, began the competition four years ago. He brought Union on board three years ago.

“Overall, the project fits in very well with our mission as a department, with Union’s

mission and with the sort of things our students like to do,” Pinggen said. “They like to use engineering in a way that helps other people.”

Union’s engineering department holds a 3D printing workshop every other Friday evening for local middle school and high school students, and Pinggen saw Make:able as an opportunity to challenge the students by providing them with real-world design experiences that could also help members of the community.

Union partners with West Tennessee Healthcare’s Therapy and Learning Center to identify local residents in need of assistive technology to help improve their lives.

“I don’t know if I would have believed what difference a group of middle school kids can make in the life of a

community member,” Pinggen said. “But it’s been really nice to watch them put their skills to use to help someone in our community.”

Pinggen uses Union engineering students as mentors for the teams, giving them opportunities outside the classroom to use and develop their skills.

“It’s been nice to see how those Union students take ownership of those teams,” he said. “They really mentor those projects. Their goal is not to do the projects, but to enable the middle and high school students to make their ideas come alive.”

Stacia Talbott, a Union sophomore mechanical engineering major, helped mentor a team of four girls who worked with a girl who has cerebral palsy. They developed

some items to help her with everyday life – pencil grips, an Uno card holder – in addition to a chair with a tray where she can comfortably sit, play video games and do homework.

“I thought it was such an amazing concept, to be able to help out people in the community who are disabled and be able to engineer them some products that can help them with their daily lives or help them have more fun,” Talbott said.

One team worked with Kristen Daniel, an 18-year-old who was in a car accident and who uses a wheelchair. Because of brain damage she sustained, she doesn’t have good control of her left hand, which is stuck in a fist position.



Commission approves revamping its excess/resale property process

Brandon Shields
Managing Editor

Ever since Madison County Commissioner Mike Taylor became the Commission Chair in October, the county commission meetings have gotten closer and closer to finishing in less than an hour.

The May meeting finally broke that barrier as the Commission got through its agenda in 56 minutes after a presentation by County Extension Agent Kane Reeves about everything his department does for the local community, a discussion about advertising county business better and a quick question at the end about the status of the County's finance director.

As Commissioner Jeff Wall made a recommendation from the excess/resale property committee to use a new digital system to handle county property that's up for sale, Commissioners Claudell Brown and Sheila Godwin had questions.

Godwin's was mainly about how anyone who doesn't use the Internet might want to buy property, which Wall said they can still use the old way of doing things because that system is still in place in which money exchanges hands with County Commission Excess Property Coordinator Sarah McClain.

Brown was more concerned with how much information from the County is getting out to the public for the public to know what's going on.

McClain said excess/resale property notices go into two local newspapers – The Jackson Post and Crimereen Examiner News (CSE). Brown asked if any Commissioner knows where CSE boxes are in their district, to which no one responded. He also mentioned that CSE prints once every two weeks.

Wall said he would entertain any suggestions to solve the issue if Brown had any if he wanted to call him or discuss them during a committee meeting.

At the end of the meeting when Taylor typically asks if there's anything else anyone wants to discuss that wasn't on the agenda, Commissioner Tony Black asked about the status of Finance Director Karen Bell, who's been on leave since April 19.

Taylor told Black that Bell was still on leave, but he expected her to return when that leave was complete. Commissioner Gary Deaton said he expected

See **PROCESS**,
Page 2B

County finance director tells her side after meeting, leave of absence

Brandon Shields
Managing Editor

It was about 9:20 a.m. on Monday, May 20, when Madison County Commissioner Gary Deaton informed the rest of the Commission during their monthly meeting that he expected finance director Karen Bell to be back soon.

Commissioner Tony Black had just asked about her status at the end of the meeting, and Chairman Mike Taylor said she was on leave and he expected her back at some point.

Deaton was more specific, saying Bell, who'd officially been on leave since April 22, had a doctor's appointment that day, and if she were cleared to be back, she'd be back soon after.

Deaton's words proved true. Bell was back in her office at the Madison County Finance Complex before lunchtime on Monday.

Tuesday afternoon, she was ready to tell her side of things and clear up a few questions that have come up among people who keep up with Madison County government and who read a column in The Jackson Post that published on May 18.

The column discussed a financial management committee meeting in which she was reprimanded by a couple of committee members – Mayor A.J. Massey and Jackson-Madison County Schools Superintendent Marlon King.

After the meeting, her office was cleared out, and she sent an e-mail two days later – Sunday, April 21 – to human resources and others who needed to know what she was taking a leave of absence.

"I've had a few people check up on me and see how I was doing, and I appreciate that a lot," Bell



Karen Bell discusses a few things about the Madison County budget with the budget committee at the county's Emergency Management office on April 17 while County Commission Chairman Mike Taylor and budget committee chairman Carl Alexander look on. (BRANDON SHIELDS/The Jackson Post)

said. "And my mother had been in the hospital for a week and got out the day before – April 18 – and had a number of follow up requirements, so I just thought it would be best for me to take some time off, help her and evaluate my situation at work."

Regarding the column, she wanted to clarify on a few points that were actually incorrect about the meeting.

"The main thing is I did not have multiple meetings with multiple mayors and commissioners about my job performance," Bell said. "I had a meeting on Sept. 8, 2021, with Mayor Jimmy Harris, Gary Deaton and Doug Stephenson, who was a Commissioner at the time, and Harris was the only one who really talked in that meeting in which I had a disagreement with our HR director at that time, and there had apparently been other

complaints, and Harris said I needed to change how I interacted with them.

"The next day, I sent an e-mail to all the department heads apologizing if I'd offended them in dealing with them, and with the exception of three, everyone replied asking what I was referring to."

The only other similar meeting Bell has had since then was on Nov. 7, 2023, when Bell met with Massey and current County Commission Chairman Mike Taylor, who's also the financial management committee chair.

"In that meeting, Mayor Massey brought up three points that needed addressing," Bell said. "One was an HR issue in which Commissioners Mike Taylor and [budget committee

See **BELL**,
Page 5B



Mayor Scott Conger and others gather for the ceremonial groundbreaking in April of 2023 for the men's homeless shelter set to begin construction later this year. (JULIA STOOKSBERRY/Jackson Post file photo)

City meets with business leaders about homeless shelter

Brandon Shields
Managing Editor

There wasn't a party at Hub City Brewing on Wednesday morning, May 22, but the front part of the building was close to full at 9 a.m.

Owner Jerry Corley opened his doors for local business leaders and members of the City of Jackson leadership to meet together and have a conversation.

That conversation centered around the homeless situation in Jackson, specifically Downtown.

The City had a ceremonial groundbreaking in April of 2023 for a new men's homeless shelter on McCorry Street, which is near Downtown.

The facility has gone through the design phase three times to try to maximize the use of the facility compared to the price the City will pay for its construction.

The Jackson City Council approved a guaranteed maximum price during its monthly meeting earlier this month of \$3.4 million. The facility will be large enough to house up to 89 people, and the recent price approval plus the capacity number caused some in the area to have questions about the project.

"A lot of us haven't paid the most attention to what's going on, or I know that I don't personally," said Corley, who also

owns Rock N Dough Pizza in Downtown and was approved to assume ownership of a vacant lot at the convergence of Airways Boulevard, Main Street and Lafayette Street to begin developing an eight-story boutique hotel. "So when I heard about this new price approval and this capacity, I had questions.

"Other business owners did too, so I proposed having everyone come here to have that conversation."

City Chief Innovation Officer Lauren Kirk said it was good to have those questions asked and answered by City officials in the room.

"We were glad to field those questions, because it's not good for people to be in the dark and wonder what was going on," Kirk said. "So we answered the questions we were asked today and possibly al-

See **THS**,
Page 2B

Local News

Fallen law enforcement officers honored in memorial

Brandon Shields
Managing Editor

Last week was National Law Enforcement week, and May 15 was Law Enforcement Memorial Day.

The Jackson Police Department and Madison County Sheriff's Department partnered on Friday, May 17, to host a ceremony recognizing the memorial.

"We're glad to have everyone here and appreciate your presence," said JPD Chief Thom Corley. "Unfortunately, we've had to add a few more names to the list this year, and we're here to honor the memory of those public servants and all who have given their lives in the line of duty."

The list Corley referred to was the Roll Call of Heroes, a list of law enforcement officers in Madison County or one of the nearby counties or connected to the area who've died in the line of duty.

One name was added to that list this past year when JPD Sergeant Warren Olden died on Jan. 8, 2024.

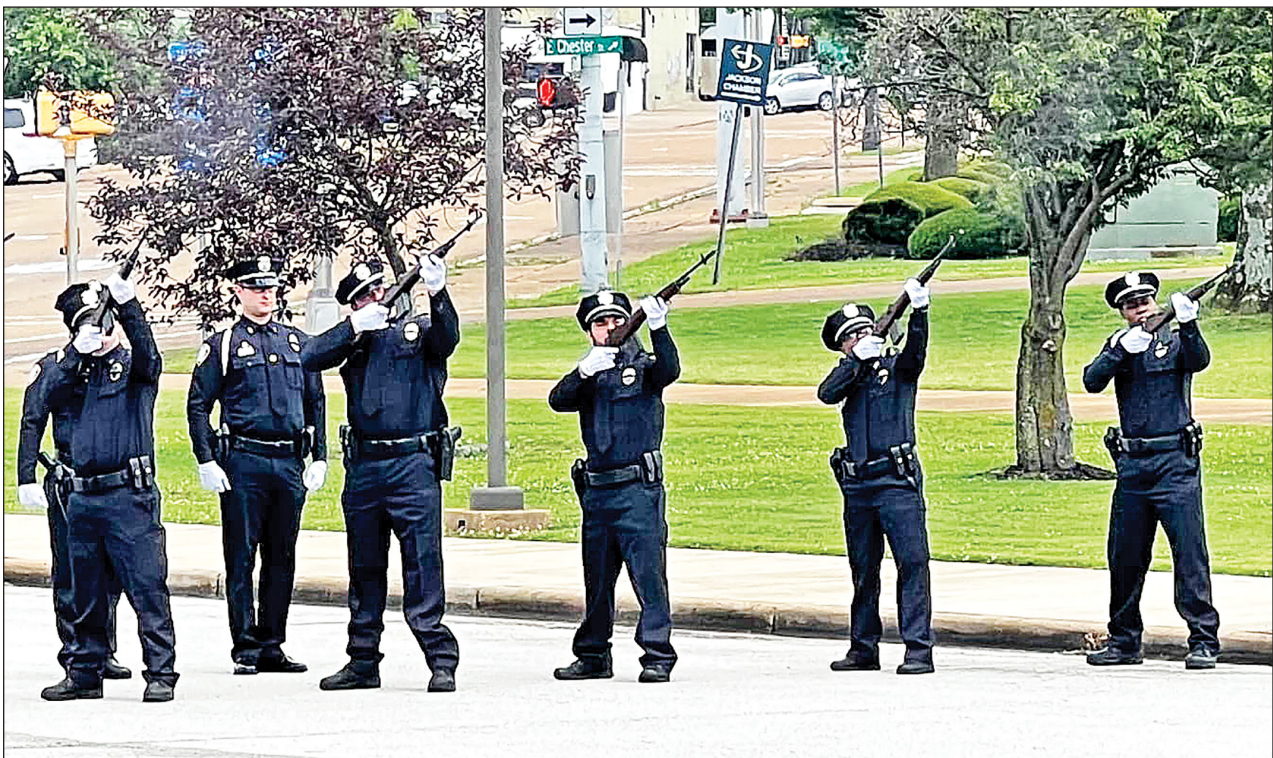
Judge Roy Morgan was the keynote speaker for the event.

His decades of service as a lawyer, district attorney and judge has allowed him to watch the entire careers of many of the law enforcement officers who were in attendance at the Carl Perkins Civic Center.

"Our law enforcement officers are truly the backbone of this country," Morgan said.

"My dad was a Jackson Police officer for 19 years, and I was raised to respect law enforcement and the law.

"Without respect for law enforcement and the law they enforce, it's difficult to have law and order in our country. I appreciate the work you do every day to continue that every time you go to



Jackson Police officers aim into the sky for the 21-gun salute to fallen law enforcement officers during the Law Enforcement Memorial ceremony on May 17, 2024. (BRANDON SHIELDS/The Jackson Post)



Jackson Police Chief Thom Corley and Madison County Sheriff Julian Wiser deliver opening remarks during the early moments of the Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony at Carl Perkins Civic Center on May 17, 2024. (BRANDON SHIELDS/The Jackson Post)



Judge Roy Morgan was the keynote speaker during the Law Enforcement Memorial ceremony at the Carl Perkins Civic Center on May 17, 2024. (BRANDON SHIELDS/The Jackson Post)

work."

After Morgan's speech, JPD named off all 32 names on the Honor Roll of Heroes, starting with JPD officer Newton C. Perkins, who died in 1876, all the way to Oden, who passed this year.

Family members who were present of those deceased placed a red rose in a memorial flower arrangement to honor their memory. Those who didn't have family present were honored with a rose placed by a member of a present law enforcement officer.

Brandon Shields, brandon@jacksonpost.news

THS
From 1B

leviated some concerns."

The men's homeless shelter that was approved on May 7 could potentially house 89 people, but Kirk confirmed that won't be the case.

"Once the facility is built, Tennessee Homeless Solutions will assume the duty of running the day-to-day operations, and their staffing only allows for a number that's closer to 25 residents," Kirk said. "Do we have room for 89? Yes, but the only time I foresee the building being used in that way is when we have severe weather and people need somewhere to go for a warming center."

Mayor Scott Conger, who was at the meeting, has said in numerous public meetings and gatherings the shelter is set to begin construction later this year with completion set for next year.

Brandon Shields, brandon@jacksonpost.news

UNION
From 8A

The student team used a 3D scanner to make a clay model of her hand in an open position. They turned that scan into a 3D model they used to create a device that helps Daniel's therapist work with her in a way that is less painful and that allows her to practice weight-bearing activities.

"It took a lot of trial and error," said Greyson Heit, a senior at Faith Tutorial and a dual enrollment student at Union. "That was probably the hardest part of the project, just coming up with that initial idea."

Bobby Perry, a Union sophomore mechanical engineering major, participated in Make:able as a high school student at Jackson Christian School and served as a mentor this year.

"I really like being able to mentor younger people and help them see their skills that they didn't know they had, or help them build on the ones they already knew," he said. "I think it's fun to see the things you can do with the skills you have to actually help people."

Video summaries of all the projects are available at www.teachme3dp.com/makeable24.

Public Works Call Center up and going

Brandon Shields
Managing Editor

As the City of Jackson's leadership works to streamline the process of doing the work of the City and make all of its services more user-friendly for the citizens, Mayor Scott Conger and Public Works Director Austin Clark are celebrating the innovation of the completion of the newest way to contact the City.

The 3-1-1 Call Center is now fully operational, and all calls made to the City for public works issues will go to the three-person call center in the City's public works building on the eastern side of town on Conalco Drive.

"This is something we've been working for a while on, almost since we first took office in



People in Jackson can dial 311 inside the city limits and get the City's Public Works Call Center to have services like pothole repair looked at by the department. (Photo courtesy of City of Jackson)

2019," Conger said.

"But we had to get other things done and had to deal with other issues while we waited for cer-

tain parts of this process to be completed."

The City still has the 311 App available on desktop and mobile de-

in the call center to have something like a pothole filled or solid waste picked up.

"One of the big things we needed to do is to get the technology in place so that any phone within the city limits that calls 3-1-1 will go to the Call Center," Conger said.

"We've got that working now.

"And anyone who calls the old 425- numbers that would've gone to public works can still call those numbers, but they'll forward to the Call Center."

The Call Center is staffed during business hours throughout the week.

Brandon Shields, brandon@jacksonpost.news

vices, but citizens are encouraged to call 3-1-1 to get a hold of someone

PROCESS
From 1B

her back soon.

Other business items:

Budget Chairman Carl Alexander said the budget for next fiscal year is complete and will be brought before the Commission at their June meeting.

The Commission unanimously ap-

proved the TIF district for Columns III on Vann Drive.

Attendance report: Joey Hale was the only Commissioner not at Monday's meeting.

Brandon Shields, brandon@jacksonpost.news

Obedience Lessons for Puppies & Dogs

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MEETING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a called meeting of the Board of Directors of Tennergy Corporation, An Energy Acquisition Corporation, will be held on Wednesday, May 29, 2024 at 3:30p.m. in the 3 rd floor conference room of the Tennergy Building located at 250 N. Highland Avenue, Jackson, TN.

The Board will consider at such meeting (i) authorization of the issuance of Tennergy's revenue bonds in connection with its 2019 natural gas prepay transaction, (ii) approval of all documents in connection with such bonds and prepay transaction and (iii) any and all other business that may properly come before the Board during such meeting.

This notice is published in accordance with Section 8-44-101, et seq., of the Tennessee Code Annotated.

Stacy Scoggins
Corporate Secretary

Opinion/Faith

Op Ed

Why all the hostile response to Harrison Butker’s commencement address?

Todd E. Brady
Guest Columnist

Harrison Butker has shown that truth is controversial and that truth stated publicly is not only politically incorrect, but infuriating to many. His recent 2024 Commencement Address at Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas has ruffled feathers and elicited an avalanche of vitriolic comments in the media. Butker is the placekicker for the Super Bowl Champions Kansas City Chiefs. While he is a Catholic and I am an Evangelical, I appreciate his speech, his convictional approach, and the integrity he shows in seeking to live in accordance with his Catholic beliefs.

As of Sunday night (May 19), almost 218,000 people had signed a petition on Change.org demanding that the Kansas City Chiefs dismiss their star kicker for his “harmful,” “discriminatory,” and “unacceptable” remarks that “create a toxic environment that hinders our collective efforts toward equality, diversity, and inclusion in society.” Their desire for his removal from the football team has nothing to do with his athleticism or performance, but with his beliefs and the fact that he stated those beliefs.

Why have some responded so negatively to Harrison Butker’s Commencement Address? I suggest three reasons:

1. They want complete self-autonomy. When someone wants to be the captain of his own ship, he doesn’t have much time for anything that hinders him from feeling, thinking, and doing what he wants. “Authority” is bad word. For these, the idea of submitting themselves to someone or something else is abhorrent.

In his speech, Butker said an “ordered, Christ-centered existence is the recipe for happiness.” For Someone Else to be the center of your life requires allowing that Someone Else to have the authority in your life. Butker called graduates to forgo self-autonomy and live for something outside themselves. Our confused society hates anything less than complete self-autonomy.

2. They disdain those with whom they disagree. The Chief’s owner, Clark Hunt’s wife, Tavia correctly stated in response to Butker’s speech, “Affirming motherhood and praising your wife, as well as highlighting the sacrifice and devotion it takes to be a mother, is not bigoted...Someone disagreeing with you doesn’t make them hateful; it simply means they have a different opinion.”

Some merely can’t disagree with a person without stating unkind things about them. Much of what is described as Hate Speech are merely statements with which another disagrees. Often, the response to those statements with which they disagree are hateful ad hominem attacks.

3. They resist created order. God created all things. There is an order, and humanity functions well when life is lived according to that order. Butker stated that he believes the problems in society “all stem from the pervasiveness of disorder.”

Proverbs 14:12 says “There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death.”

We should not be surprised that many in society have responded so negatively to Butker’s speech. The apostle Paul said long ago that even in the church “the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate from themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.” (2 Timothy 4:3-4) If this is true in the church, we should expect no less in the culture.

Such is the time in which we live.

The thoughts and opinions expressed in our contributed content are solely those of the author and not that of this newspaper or RICHARDSON MEDIA GROUP. Our readers are welcome to submit Letters to the Editor by emailing managing editor Brandon Shields at brandon@jacksonpost.news.



Brady

Beware the Wolves

Discerning false prophets in a time of racial turmoil

Sabrina Parker
Special to The Post

As tension and turmoil roil the streets of cities across America, the Christian church faces a crucial juncture. Will faith leaders rise as courageous voices for reconciliation, or remain silent bystanders? In this pivotal moment, Jesus’ admonition in Matthew 7:15 rings solemnly - “Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.”

The word Jesus uses, “ravening”, conveys a sense of fierce, unrestrained hunger. It describes behavior that voraciously seeks to consume resources without consideration for others. In times of scarcity or division, such predatory individuals are most likely to emerge. As communities grapple with injustice and suffering, believers must carefully discern who these inward “wolves” may be among our spiritual guides.

Some signs of false prophets Jesus warns about include an emphasis on personal gain over gospel priorities, wealth and popularity above humility, unique insights claimed but without godly fruit evident, and disregard for core teachings. Rather than strengthen faith through truthful application of



Parker

scripture, false prophets exploit tensions and promote self-interest under a guise of spiritual leadership.

Regrettably, not all pastors have lived up to their role as prophetic voices during this lengthy season of racial turmoil. Among the silence, a few even resemble ravening wolves Jesus cautioned against. While churches now pray and work for non-violent reform, the realities on the ground demand a candid look within as well.

For too long, many white pastors have stayed reticent in directly addressing discrimination and the broader societal sins that enabled unchecked injustices. By reluctant omission, their neutrality effectively blesses an unjust status quo. When politicians co-opt scripture to advance racist ideologies, or leaders fall mute after hurtful actions,

true shepherds should unequivocally condemn such actions.

Yet silence from too many pulpits only fans the flames of prejudice and division. “Oppression cannot leave a scent on you,” preached Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. All believers have a duty under Amos 5:24 to actively “let justice roll down like waters.” Failing to courageously apply prophetic, biblical standards against intolerable iniquity makes pastors complicit.

At the same time, not every shepherd leading large Black congregations necessarily cares for the flock as Christ did either. While some work tirelessly, others seem more focused on self-promotion through photo-ops with politicians than transformative works. Driven by hunger for status over service, a few resemble predatory wolves exploiting God’s people as prey.

As communities reel under compounding traumas, these shepherds offer hollow comfort while amassing wealth from struggling congregations. Their imitation of titles and privileges, without substance or results, shows no care for the vulnerable. “Righteous acts performed only to be seen by others” drew Jesus’ sternest rebukes in Matthew 23:14.

True prophets exemplify speaking hard

truths, defending the marginalized, and applying teachings courageously - not seeking popularity or treasures that fade. Just as Jesus risked rejection, they address societal flaws through scripture’s lens of restoring dignity to all. Such works require forsaking selfish motives in favor of Christ-centered unity across divisions.

Believers must heed Jesus’ call to closely examine leaders’ character beyond superficial acts. Are ministries strengthened through transparent integrity, humility and Christ-like concern shown consistently in actions? Or do messages appeal to baser instincts while carelessly neglecting the cause of righteousness? Do titles obscure uncontrolled appetite and consumption masquerading as service?

Sadly, examples of indifference to ongoing injustices abound. From issues of representation within church leadership to the prophetic role in legislative fights, too many pulpits shy from prophetic works. When people are dismissed as statistics or allies cozy with leaders enabling harm, the Bible’s solidarity with the oppressed goes neglected.

Communities across the country still wrestle

See **PROPHETS**, Page 5B

Dooley Noted

Lessons from life’s waiting rooms

Adam Dooley
Special to The Post

“Waiting is the worst part.”

The raw emotion of the moment gave way to his honest admission. This friend was waiting on an official diagnosis from his physician. The difference between a fight with cancer and minor physical therapy all hinged a single test result. By the fourth day, the speculation was almost unbearable.

Across town, the very same week, another church member was bursting with a mixture of excitement and a bit of dread. Five days after what he perceived to be a stellar job interview, his upbeat attitude was waning and his pessimistic side was taking over. The unknown hung over him like tumultuous storm cloud ready to pour out the worst possible news.

Both scenarios demonstrate that waiting is not for the faint of heart. We hate long lines; we despise traffic jams; we pace the floor until the phone rings. We pray for patience, expecting God to answer right now. We resist delays like a child who wants to open her gifts weeks before Christmas. But why is waiting so hard?

Being in limbo tests our sanity and prolonged delays can even cause us to doubt God. No explanation is exhaustive because our motivations are often complicated.



Dooley

I do believe, however, that three realizations are often at the root of our impatience when life doesn’t go as planned.

Waiting shatters the myth that we are in control. Juggling schedules, meeting deadlines, and monitoring results gives us the impression that we are at the helm of our universe. Do you have a goal? Just work harder. Do you have a problem? Do something about it. Choose your destiny. Seize the day. Claim your reality. Mantras like these resonate with us precisely because we yearn to be in charge and are willing to play along. But deep down, we know it is all a lie. Nothing interrupts our fantasy like a prolonged sense of helplessness.

Waiting often unleashes our deepest fears. Where are You, God? What are You doing, God? Why won’t You answer me, God? Questions like these seldom accost us when everything unfolds accord-

ing to our schedule. At the first sign that God is not at our beck and call, though, we are quick to question His wisdom and doubt His concern. Periods of vulnerability leave us unwanted time to think, and the silence uncomfortably shouts over the peace God bestows. Anxieties that are normally held in check sometimes wreak havoc on us while we wait.

Waiting reveals our true priorities. Most people would be insulted if you accused them of being slaves to their work. Neither are we anxious to admit that we are puppets guided by the hand of public perception and opinion. Nor do we fancy ourselves as materialistic or self-centered. Unfortunately, seasons of waiting often tell a different story.

Though interruptions force us to peel away all that is unnecessary in our lives, our hesitation to do so may reveal that we value the wrong priorities.

When the world goes on while our hands are tied, we realize just how much we idolize the accolades and possessions we pretend not to seek. Despite our affirmations that God is trustworthy and that sanctification is a priority, childish outbursts and temper tantrums uncover our true agenda.

Thankfully, neither I, nor you, are alone in our struggle to wait on the Lord. During a painful time of testing, King David once called out to the

Lord with desperation in Psalm 4:

*Answer me when I call, O God! (v1)
Be gracious to me! (v1)
Hear my prayer! (v1)*

Then, with supernatural clarity, David realized that his wait would be worth it.

*Tremble and do not sin. (v4)
Meditate in your heart . . . and be still. (v4)
Offer the sacrifices of righteousness. (v4)*

Trust in the Lord. (v4)
Slowly, I am learning that the benefits of waiting on the Lord far exceed the inconveniences. With a loss of control comes the peace of resting in our Savior (Psalm 26:3-4).

The discomfort of facing our fears and enduring difficulties unleashes the strength of God in our lives (2 Cor. 12:9). Exposing misplaced priorities opens the door for renewed commitment to the Lord (Psalm 32:5).

I hate waiting like everyone else, but God continues to use the crucible of uncertainty in my life. I am confident He will do the same for you.

He is eager to renew our strength, if only we are willing to wait upon Him (Isaiah 40:31). So, hurry up and wait! You’ll be glad you did.

Dr. Adam B. Dooley is pastor of Englewood Baptist Church in Jackson, TN, and author of Hope When Life Unravels. Contact him at adooley@ebcjackson.org. Follow him on Twitter @AdamBDooley.

Puzzles

Crossword

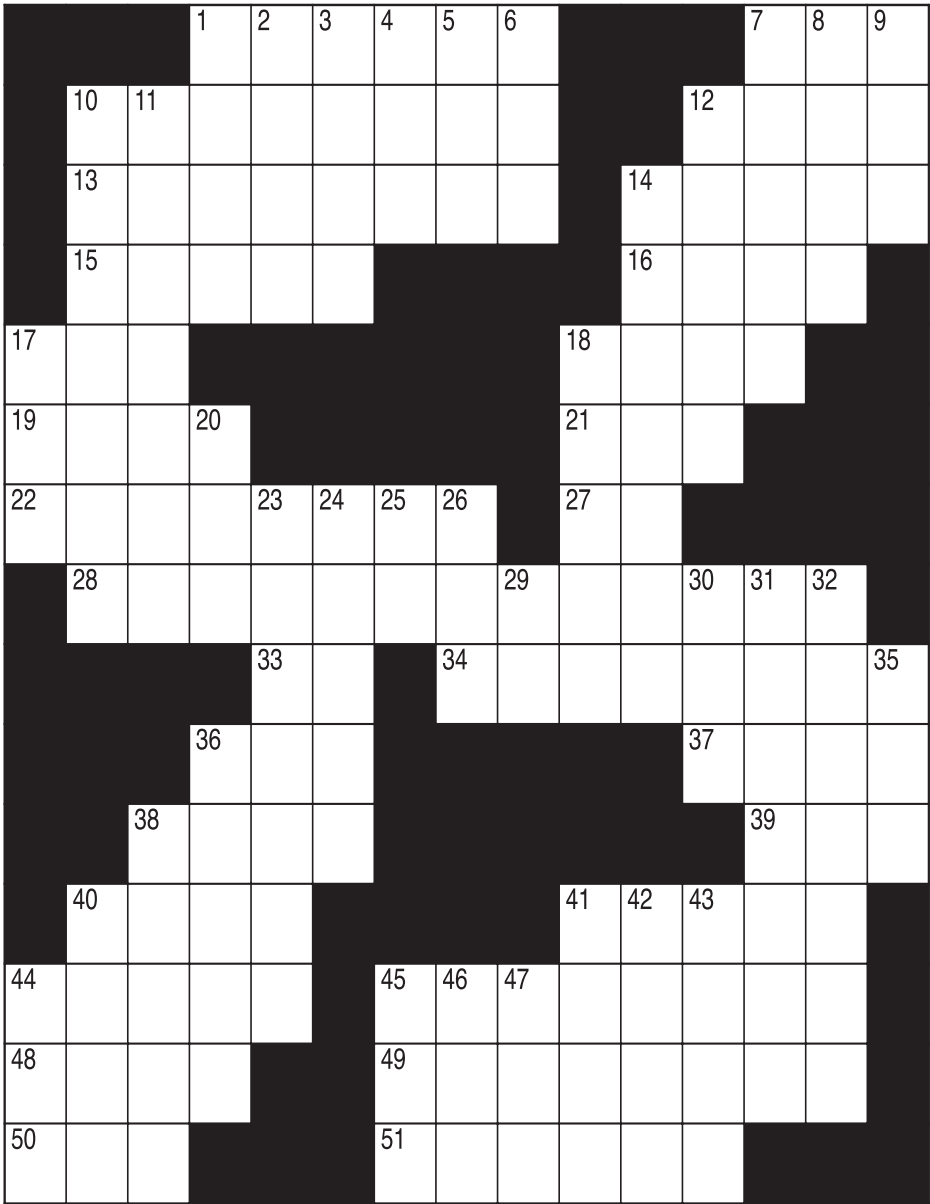
CLUES ACROSS

1. Lunatic
7. Doctor of Education
10. Able to make amends
12. Tight-knit group
13. Gland
14. Intestinal pouches
15. Fungal spores
16. Erstwhile
17. Engine additive
18. Nasal mucus
19. Fit a horse with footwear
21. Consumed
22. Settle
27. Larry and Curly's pal
28. Basketball's GOAT
33. Exclamation of surprise
34. Made tight
36. Before
37. Actor Nicolas
38. Not hot
39. Talk
40. Pledge
41. Abandon a mission
44. Trims by cutting
45. Aspects of oneOs character
48. Boxing GOAT's former surname
49. Holy places
50. Body art (slang)

51. Attributes

CLUES DOWN

1. How one feels
2. American Nat'l Standards Institute
3. Information
4. Licensed for Wall Street
5. Keyboard key
6. Born of
7. Choose to represent
8. Small European freshwater fish
9. Everyone has their own
10. Line from the center of a polygon
11. Lebanese city
12. Type of watercraft
14. A way to twist
17. Soviet Socialist Republic
18. Greek island
20. Medical practitioner
23. ___ DeGaulle, French President
24. Partner to 'oohed'
25. Atomic #52
26. Santa's helper
29. Rapper ___ Rule
30. Month
31. Word formed by rear-



ranging letters

32. Nullifies

35. Young woman ready to enter society

36. Unemployment

38. Weight unit

40. Formal party

41. Computer language

42. Residue formula in math

43. Duty or responsibility

44. Part of (abbr.)

45. Time zone

46. Body part

47. Nucleic acid

Horoscopes

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, you may meet an influential ally this week. Chat them up because this is a person you want to have in your network. You never know when you'll need some assistance.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, you have real talent, so you should be proud and show off your efforts. Whether it is artistic in nature or you are a whiz with numbers, share your gift with others.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21

Explore creative possibilities, Gemini. You can use a new hobby right now that keeps you occupied. Look at trends that are popular right now and try one of those.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, trust your intuition when you meet someone new this week. You often can get a good read on someone right away. That's an important skill to develop, especially in the workplace.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

There is a lot of potential for socializing right now, Leo. Your calendar will fill up quite quickly with invitations from people in your life. Enjoy the attention. VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

Virgo, take inventory of the things in your life and be real about what you need and what you can get rid of right now. You may be carrying around a lot of baggage you simply don't need.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

You may be feeling extra flirty these next few days, Libra. This will help add a spark to your current relationship or help you find someone new if that is the desire.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Relationship issues at home may be on your mind, Scorpio. Create pockets in your days for deep introspection to process all of the emotions you are feeling.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

Sagittarius, if you can't get an answer to something yourself, then you may want to pick the brains of friends or other people in your circle. They may offer unique perspectives.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, you have a lot of self-worth, so stop looking at yourself through a pessimistic lens. Be convinced of your value and ability to assist others around you.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Start feeling good about what the future may hold, Aquarius. There are a lot of possibilities out there, and you're starting to see them peeking out over the horizon.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

You may not be feeling overly social right now, Pisces. Take a few days to spend time alone and sort through your feelings. Over time you may be ready to re-engage.

HONOR AND PRIDE WORD SEARCH

C I H V E H S I Y T R R B F Y U I B R M
Y A S S E L R A E F U S I A T U S N K L
P E P D E T L I D C O U M V U A F F L O
U B G R G C P O O E T H N K D U P B A S
R U D E B E E D G M K M C R F E L H R V
M S V B B P V D G E L G C B C N R S K B
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P T B I R R G C Y S E V U U O M V T U N
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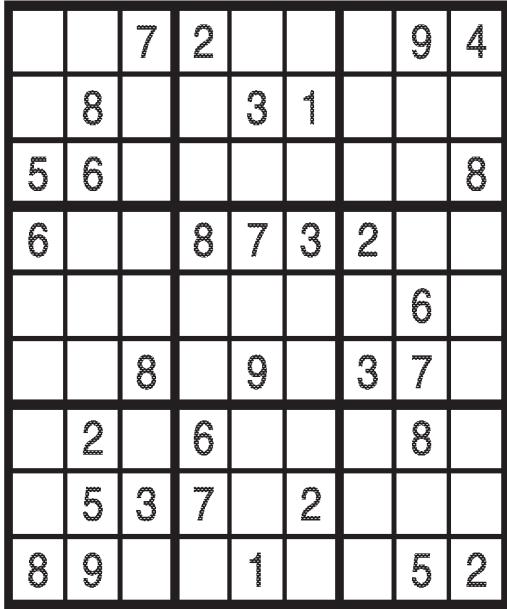
Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

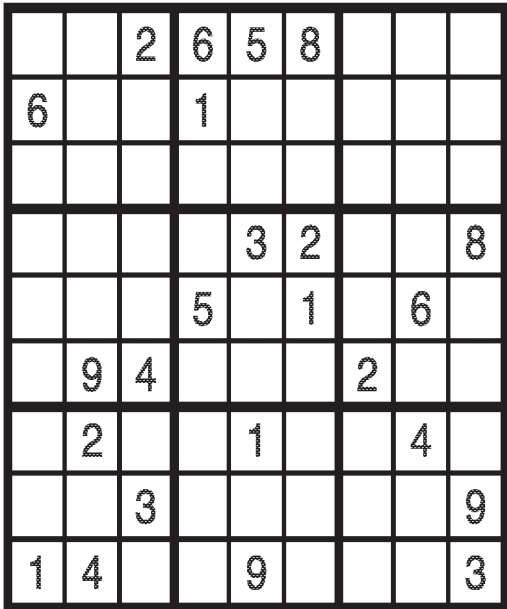
- BRANCH
CEMETERY
DRAFT
DUTY
ENLIST
FALLEN
FEARLESS
FLAG
HEROES
HONOR
MEMORIAL
MEMORY
MILITARY
OBSERVED
PLATOON
REMEMBER
RESPECT
SACRIFICE
SERVICE
SOLDIER
SOMBER
THANKS
TOUR
VETERAN

SUDOKU

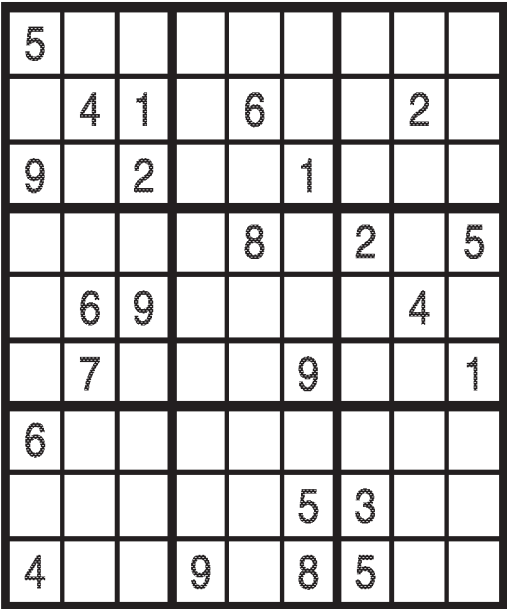
Here is how it works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!



Level: Beginner



Level: Intermediate



Level: Advanced

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

MAY 19

Kevin Garnett, Retired Athlete (48)

MAY 20

Cher, Singer/Actress (78)

MAY 21

Mr. T, Actor (72)

MAY 22

Naomi Campbell, Model (54)

MAY 23

Drew Carey, TV Personality (66)

MAY 24

Priscilla Presley, Actress (79)

MAY 25

Cillian Murphy, Actor (48)

Local News

BELL

From 1B

chairman] Carl Alexander told me not to sign a contract for insurance because it would be an automatic 3% increase, and the Mayor was very adamant that I sign it.

“I went ahead and signed it when neither Taylor nor Alexander, who were copied on the e-mail conversation, replied. The second issue was a conversation with the new parks and recreation director [Matthew Martin], and I never told him not to apply for a grant he wanted to apply. I just said the Commission might not be able to go for the amount he was asking for - \$500,000 or \$600,000 in matching funds. They might go for something smaller like \$20,000 or \$40,000. The third issue involved the fact that we were transitioning our bill-paying methods with Jackson Energy Authority to a digital system called ACH instead of driving down there and giving them a paper check on the day it was due, and we integrated the school system with 200 bills they have. The County has 60 more bills, and I sent an e-mail out where we would integrate the rest of the County on Nov. 15 because I thought that would be a natural progression, but I hadn’t said anything about it to our County Trustee Billy Burkhead and the Mayor thought I was out of line with that too.”

There have been no similar meetings since then. The financial management committee hadn’t even met since August of last year. Then the week before, Taylor contacted Bell about scheduling a meeting. She was the one doing that while County Commission Executive Administrator Sarah McClain was out of the office.

“I asked Commissioner Taylor if I needed to bring anything to this meeting, and he said Dr. King wanted to discuss some issues regarding purchasing, so I had my purchasing director attend the meeting,” Bell said. “Other than that, I knew of nothing else that was set to happen.”

After a few minutes of typical meeting happenings like approving previous meeting minutes, King voiced concerns regarding the finance department and how Bell has reported

the last two years of the JMCSS budget coming in under budget, underestimating the number as each of the past two years she had the district at a little more than \$2 million under when the actual number was actually \$4.6 million each year. Bell’s assistant, Melissa Gilbert, explained that the reported figures were the initial numbers reported in August. The larger numbers came months later after state audits had happened. King still questioned why the audited numbers weren’t reported.

King also questioned why Bell would go straight to the state Comptroller’s office instead of his people when she had questions about some of their spending. Bell explained on Tuesday the specific incident he brought up was about purchasing items for projects still under construction based on how neighboring counties had been dealt with by the Comptroller in similar situations.

“I was just checking with them based on what had happened in Henderson County before I brought it up to anyone here at JMCSS,” Bell said. “But I understand his concern there.

“Dr. King was actually decent and professional when he expressed his concerns in that meeting. We’ve had multiple conversations where we’ve disagreed and we dealt with it afterward. I just took that conversation as another one of those times.”

Bell has been the County’s finance director for five years. Before that, she worked in the City of Jackson’s finance department for 28 years. She also served for eight years on the JMCSS Board, so she feels like she has somewhat of an understanding of King’s goals for the District.

When it comes to Massey’s concerns, Bell said she’s somewhat puzzled because he didn’t bring up much in that meeting that hadn’t been dealt with already in the meeting the previous November.

“He mentioned the Matthew Martin thing ... we’d already dealt with that and took corrective action,” Bell said.

During the meeting, Massey said Bell continued to do things and get

involved in issues that wasn’t “in her lane” and said there’d been no change since the previous meeting.

“I was never given a specific circumstance of when I’d done anything wrong since November,” Bell said. “I’d told them during the financial management meeting in August that one of my three goals for County government was for us to finish a year and an audit with no red flags from the auditors.

“And Mayor Massey told me in that April 19 meeting that a few flags aren’t that big of a deal and to let the department heads deal with those if the County were to be flagged, but I think that tune would change drastically if the County were hit with 15 flags. It’s my job as the County finance director to watch over the taxpayers’ money and make sure it’s used properly. No one else in my five years here has told me anything otherwise.”

Bell said she’s gotten a good amount of support locally and statewide as the details of the meeting have gotten out.

“I’ve heard from people all over the county and from other parts of the state who’ve apparently heard about the meeting that they felt he was over the line at one point,” Bell said, referencing to the point when Massey compared the situation with a situation with his own children and releasing Bell of any pressure to protect other department heads.

The finance manager’s direct supervisor is the financial management committee. While Deaton – who was Commission Chair at the time and a member of the committee then – wanted a vote of the full commission upon her approval in 2019 (which was unanimous), all that’s required for her hiring is approval by the financial management committee. If the finance manager were to be fired by the committee as well, but that wouldn’t happen without approval of the County Commission.

Bell said the events after the meeting on that Friday where someone misinterpreted by those who saw a cleared-out office and keys on her desk.

“I never left my keys to the building or my work phone here,” Bell said. “I

took them both home and in fact my work phone was shut down and my access to our system was cut off by HR for a few days until Commissioners Deaton and Taylor made a few calls and got me reconnected so I could help Melissa from home when I was able.

“The keys people found on my desk were to the server and other areas that someone might need while I was gone, however long that was going to be. My husband, who happened to be on vacation that day and was available, came to my office and cleared it out of my personal things because we’ve had this running joke in my family that if I ever get to the point where I think I might be done, he’d come and help make it happen. I never actually resigned that day or any day after, but I did think about it. And that’s why I let him take all my stuff out of this office.”

For now, Bell is back on the job until she’s told not to be. She had almost seemingly unanimous support when the issue was discussed at the Republican caucus on May 13. The Democratic caucus the night after suggested at least half of those in attendance supported her as well.

Carl Alexander, who’s led the budgeting process with the help of Melissa Gilbert for the past month, expressed in multiple public meetings last week how appreciative he personally is of the finance department’s work in the budget process and how valuable Bell is to the County.

Deaton made a similar statement during a phone interview over the weekend.

“You can print this: Karen Bell is as fine a county finance manager as I’ve known in all my years, and you can’t convince me she’s not the best in the state,” Deaton said. “If she has any flaws, it’s that she’s going to do what’s right for the taxpayers and how their money is spent, and I feel like if anyone in our County has a problem with that, then look at it from that standpoint and see if you don’t agree with me then.

“We need her, and I’m looking forward to her coming back.”

Brandon Shields, brandon@jacksonpost.news

PROPHETS

From 3B

with needs for affordable housing, healthcare access, quality education, - basic dignities any pastor would demand for

their own families. Yet some seem removed, focused on superficial partnerships over tackling difficult structural inequities. Jesus came so “that they may have life and have it abundantly” through defending “the least of these.”

There are also failures around addressing Africa’s deep biblical roots that could strengthen the identity of many believers. Overlooked figures like Cush in Genesis 10 and the Ethiopian prophetess serving King Solomon’s court in 1 Kings 10 prove Christianity’s foundations within the continent since ancient times.

Teaching this “good news” could instill a sense of belonging for people of color long told their race is marginal. It counters the idea that Africans or their descendants are not fully part of God’s story unfolding since Genesis. Our pastors are tasked with consistently illuminating these long-neglected narratives and their meaning for communities.

In discerning who is a true prophet versus a false one, we can learn the most from studying Jesus’ own example. He stood up for what’s right and fair, even when it was unpopular, while also sharing God’s deepest love in the toughest of situations. Real leaders taking a stand for change have to be ready to face criticism and spiritual opposition too. They’ve got to lead people toward the high road of bringing us all together instead of pushing us further apart or just talking meaningless talk.

True prophets get their hands dirty with meaningful actions that show, from helping in people’s daily struggles, that the good life God wants for us is one where we all have what we need.

The path ahead calls for prayerful efforts to foster healing through godly works infused with grace, not accusations. Shepherds must courageously lead as moral visions by implementing programs that empower and unify, not divide through partisan

alignment or selective silence. Real change starts from the inside out - in transformed minds and motivations guiding redeemed works.

Pastors will be judged, as all are, for faithfulness to the gospel’s core mandate of compassion for humanity’s least. At this crossroads, believers must discern between leaders consumed by unrestrained cravings, and those prepared to live sacrificially as prophets in the teaches of Jesus. The future of faith communities and society depends on it.

For now, the onus remains on shepherds to promptly demonstrate accountable progress. Sermons addressing broader injustices are just a start - congregations deserve coordinated action through substantive initiatives proving care beyond Sunday words.

Partnerships should tackle concrete problems, from food insecurity to fair sentencing, not selective issues.

This crucial season calls all Christians to urgent action building the Beloved Community. With God’s empowerment, believers can overcome through non-violent works remedying societal flaws.

By cooperating in faith and good conscience, communities may witness healing through prophetic ministry reflecting Christ’s light. The alternative bears thinking on - for “by their fruits you will recognize them,” as Jesus warned.

Sabrina Parker is a guest columnist writing about faith, diversity and equality in Jackson and beyond. Contact her at parkerintennessee@gmail.com.

ANSWERS FROM 5.16.24 EDITION

PUZZLE SOLUTION

E	R	A		S	L	I	M	E		O	C	T	A	D	
D	A	M		E	U	L	E	R		C	R	E	D	O	
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		C	R	T		T	A				S	R	N	A	
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A	B	A	M	P		O	R	L	O	N			E	B	S
M	E	T	I	S		E	G	Y	P	T			D	Y	E

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

ANSWER: Level: Beginner

9	4	7	5
2	2	3	4
6	8	9	1
8	1	8	9
6	9	5	6
8	1	8	9
2	2	3	4
4	1	1	4
7	2	7	3
1	4	4	1
7	2	7	3
1	4	4	1
3	3	4	5

ANSWER: Level: Intermediate

2	5	1	6
9	8	8	1
6	9	7	4
6	9	7	4
8	1	8	9
6	9	7	4
8	1	8	9
2	5	1	6
9	8	8	1
6	9	7	4
6	9	7	4
8	1	8	9
2	5	1	6

ANSWER: Level: Advanced

1	6	4	7
9	8	8	1
6	9	7	4
6	9	7	4
8	1	8	9
6	9	7	4
8	1	8	9
2	5	1	6
9	8	8	1
6	9	7	4
6	9	7	4
8	1	8	9
2	5	1	6

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Obituaries

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Debra Joye Swift

1954 — 2024

Debra Joye (Perkins) Swift passed away peacefully on May 17, 2024.

Debbie is survived by her loving family – husband, Bart; daughter, Suzanne Morrison (Chris); her “pride and joy” grandchildren, James and Mary Lee Morrison; and her brother, Stan Perkins (Connie).

Debbie was born in Jackson on November 9, 1954. Her parents were music legend Carl Perkins and wife Val Perkins.

She had two other brothers, Steve Perkins and Greg Perkins.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her brothers, Steve and Greg.

Debbie was an accomplished student, graduating from Jackson Central-Merry High School (JCM) in Jackson. She attended both Union University, Jackson, and Lambuth University, Jackson.

She was “Fairiest of the Fair,” a gifted songwriter and author. She wrote her father’s first biography, Disciple in Blue Suede Shoes, published by Zondervan, the world’s largest Christian publishing house.

She was a member of First United Methodist Church in Jackson and so loved the contemporary service until her illness prevented her attendance.

There will be a private memorial service at a later date.



Albert Leon Hill

1955 — 2024

Albert Leon Hill passed away peacefully on May 18, 2024, surrounded by loved ones in his home in Jackson. He was born on August 14, 1934, in Hardeman County. Albert lived a fulfilling life filled with love, service, and passion.

Albert’s service to his country in the Navy during the Korean War was a source of great pride for him. He served as a Quarter Master aboard the USS Helena CA-75 and was part of the ship’s general quarters navigation team. Throughout his military career, Albert received several distinguished awards for his service, including the National Defense Service Medal, United Nations Service Medal, Korean Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, and Korean Presidential Unit Citation.

Albert is survived by his loving wife of 69 years, Melba Faye Murray Hill; daughter, Angela Yema (Rodney); sons Albert Hill Jr (Wendy), James Hill, Charles Hill, Anthony Hill (Lauren); as well as numerous grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his father, William Franklin Hill and mother, Alice Lavonia Cisco Hill.

A graveside service to honor and remember Al’s life will be held 11 a.m. Friday, May 24, 2024, at Highland Memorial Gardens. The service will be a time for family and friends to come together to celebrate the remarkable life of Albert Leon Hill.



Peggy McCulley

1950 — 2024

Peggy McCulley, a dedicated schoolteacher for 39 years, passed away on May 17, 2024, at the age of 73 surrounded by her loving husband and children.

Her journey began in Corinth, Miss., on June 22, 1950, the daughter of the late Vester and Bobbie Nell Nunnally Carter. Peggy’s life was marked by her unwavering commitment to education.

She touched the lives of many students during her teaching career at Dyersburg, Yorkville, Kenton and Spring Hill schools.

Even after retiring from teaching, she found joy in working at Lambuth University and then later at Bethel University.

Apart from her professional accomplishments, Peggy was a talented pianist and organist who shared her gift with various churches over the years. She found solace in cooking for her family and cherishing moments spent caring for them.

An avid reader, Peggy immersed herself in books, finding inspiration and knowledge within their pages. Peggy also loved graphic design at Lambuth and Bethel.

Her beloved cat Willow brought her comfort as a faithful companion.

Peggy’s warm and nurturing spirit will be deeply missed by all those who had the privilege of knowing her. She is survived by her loving husband Dave McCulley of Jackson; devoted son Jeremy McCulley of Nashville; adoring daughter Laura McCulley of Jackson; and caring sister Dianne Williams and her husband Johnny of Bloomington, Wisconsin.

A Memorial Gathering was held on May 22, 2024, followed by a Memorial Service at Arrington Funeral Directors.

In lieu of flowers the family is requesting that memorial contributions be directed to RIFA at <https://www.rifajackson.org/donate/give-money/> or by mail to 133 Airways Blvd., Jackson, TN 38301, the Jackson Animal Care Center https://www.jacksontn.gov/government/departments/animalservices/animal_care_center/donations/ or by mail to 23 Pinnacle Drive, Jackson, TN 38305, to the Dream Center at <https://www.dreamcenterjackson.com/> or by mail to P.O. Box 3621, Jackson, TN 38303, or to JACOA at <https://www.jacoa.org/contact-us-1> or by mail to 900 E. Chester Street, Jackson, TN 38301.



Gilbert Ray Maness

1938 — 2024

Gilbert Ray Maness, age 86, passed away Thursday, May 16, 2024, at Tennessee State Veterans Home in Humboldt, Tennessee. He was born February 28, 1938, in Chester County, Tennessee, to William Emerson Maness and Virgie Elizabeth Holloway Maness.

His family relocated to Madison County when he was a young boy.

When Gil was seven years old, his father was killed during an explosion at the Milan Army Ammunition Plant where he worked during World War II.

Gil married Sadie Lavell Reeves on July 7, 1955, in Alcorn County, Mississippi. After 68 years of marriage, Lavell preceded him in death on February 3, 2024.

They were survived by daughters, Debbie Maness Bennett (Darryl) and Donna Maness Cousins (Mark); grandchildren, Chris Romeo (Bree), Eric Romeo (Randa), Greg Romeo (Tara), Heather Evans, Kori Evans Deller (Scott), Brandon Sterner (Jamie), and Tyler Maness (Libby); and eleven great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his wife; parents; son, Stephen Gilbert Maness; sister, Rachel Maness Haney (Hardy); and brother, Joe Neal Maness (Jewell).

After serving in the US Air Force, Gil continued to work with the military in the aerospace industry, including Link, AAI, Hughes, and Rediffusion.

He was the vice president of marketing for Rediffusion when he retired in 1991 and moved back to Jackson where he opened an Ace Hardware store for seven years before final retirement.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, May 22, 2024, at Lawrence-Sorensen Funeral Home at 403 E Baltimore Street in Jackson with Alan Malone officiating.

A military service and interment followed in the Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery at Parkers Crossroads.



William James Dorroh, Jr.

1940 — 2024

Dr. William James (Jim) Dorroh Jr., age 77, of Jackson, formerly of Birmingham, Ala., passed away on May 19, 2024 in Jackson.

Jim passed away peacefully due to natural causes on Sunday, May 19, 2024, at 5:20 a.m. at Jackson-Madison County General Hospital, Jackson, Tennessee. Jim was our teacher, mentor, friend, a gentleman and a scholar. He was educated at Birmingham-Southern College, University of Texas, Austin, and Vanderbilt University.

He taught at Walker College, Jasper, AL., Birmingham-Southern College, and Samford University. Jim first served as organist at Walker Memorial Methodist Church and later as Choirmaster/Organist at Canterbury United Methodist Church and Saint Luke’s Episcopal Church, both in Birmingham, AL.

Following his retirement, he continued to serve as organist for South Highland Presbyterian Church and Mountain Brook Baptist Church. Following his tenure at Mountain Brook Baptist, he moved to Jackson, Tennessee where he served St. Luke’s Episcopal Church as Music Associate.

Jim was preceded in death by William James Dorroh, Sr (father), Louise Fort Dorroh (mother), Thomas Louis Dorroh (brother), and Linda Dorroh McDonald (sister).

He is survived by Melissa McDonald Stoll of Auburn, Alabama (niece), William Joseph McDonald of Auburn, Alabama (nephew), and Thomas Bryan McDonald of Destin, Florida (nephew).

The Memorial Service in Jackson, TN., will be



Saturday, June 8, 11:00 a.m., at Saint. Luke’s Episcopal Church.

Jim requested that memorials (and in lieu of flowers) be directed to Friends of Music (music discretionary fund) at Saint Luke’s Episcopal Church, Jackson, TN. 309 Easter Baltimore St, Jackson, TN 38301. Online giving link <https://www.shelbygiving.com/App/Form/e94ac21d-cf34-4f72-b5b8-923afd9e1853>.

Jackson’s **GOLDEN PAST**

Two young boys stand by “Johnny’s Popcorn & Peanuts” snack stand on South Royal Street, Jackson, TN, advertising Sno-Balls and Coca-Cola.



Brandon Burnett

1995 — 2024

Brandon Burnett was born on December 25, 1995, in Jackson, Tennessee. He departed this life on May 2, 2024. A Funeral Service was held on Saturday, May 11, 2024, at Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church.

Open Visitation took place on Friday, May 10, 2024, at Bledsoe Funeral Home Chapel.

Interment was held at Rose Hill Cemetery in Humboldt, Tennessee.



Robert Keith Askew

1962 — 2024

Robert Keith Askew was born on April 11, 1962, in Joliet, Illinois. He departed this life on May 12, 2024. A Funeral Service was held on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at Bledsoe Funeral Home Chapel.

Open Visitation was held on Monday, May 20, 2024, at Bledsoe Funeral Home Chapel.

Interment was at Parkway Memorial Gardens.



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THE JACKSON POST SPORTS

The Jackson Post

Thursday, May 23, 2024

SPRING FLING

Athletes competing for state championships at TSSAA Fling

TCA track wins 2 championships, others finish near the top

Staff Reports

Athletes from Madison County schools including Madison, North Side, University School of Jackson, Trinity Christian Academy and Jackson Christian School are competing in Spring Fling this week along with the softball team from USJ and the boys' soccer team from Madison.

USJ's softball team as of late Thursday morning had assured itself of a top-three finish in the state and still had a chance at possibly winning state if the Lady Bruins could beat Lakeview Christian and then beat Silverdale Baptist twice.

Madison's boys' soccer team's bid to win a second straight state championship ended in the semifinals as they fell to an old foe and fellow state power, Gatlinburg-Pittman, 3-1.

Here's a look at how everyone has fared so far or when they're scheduled to compete, whichever applies.

TUESDAY RESULTS

Boys' soccer

Madison 2, Westview 1

Softball

USJ 9, Knoxville Grace 7

Track and field

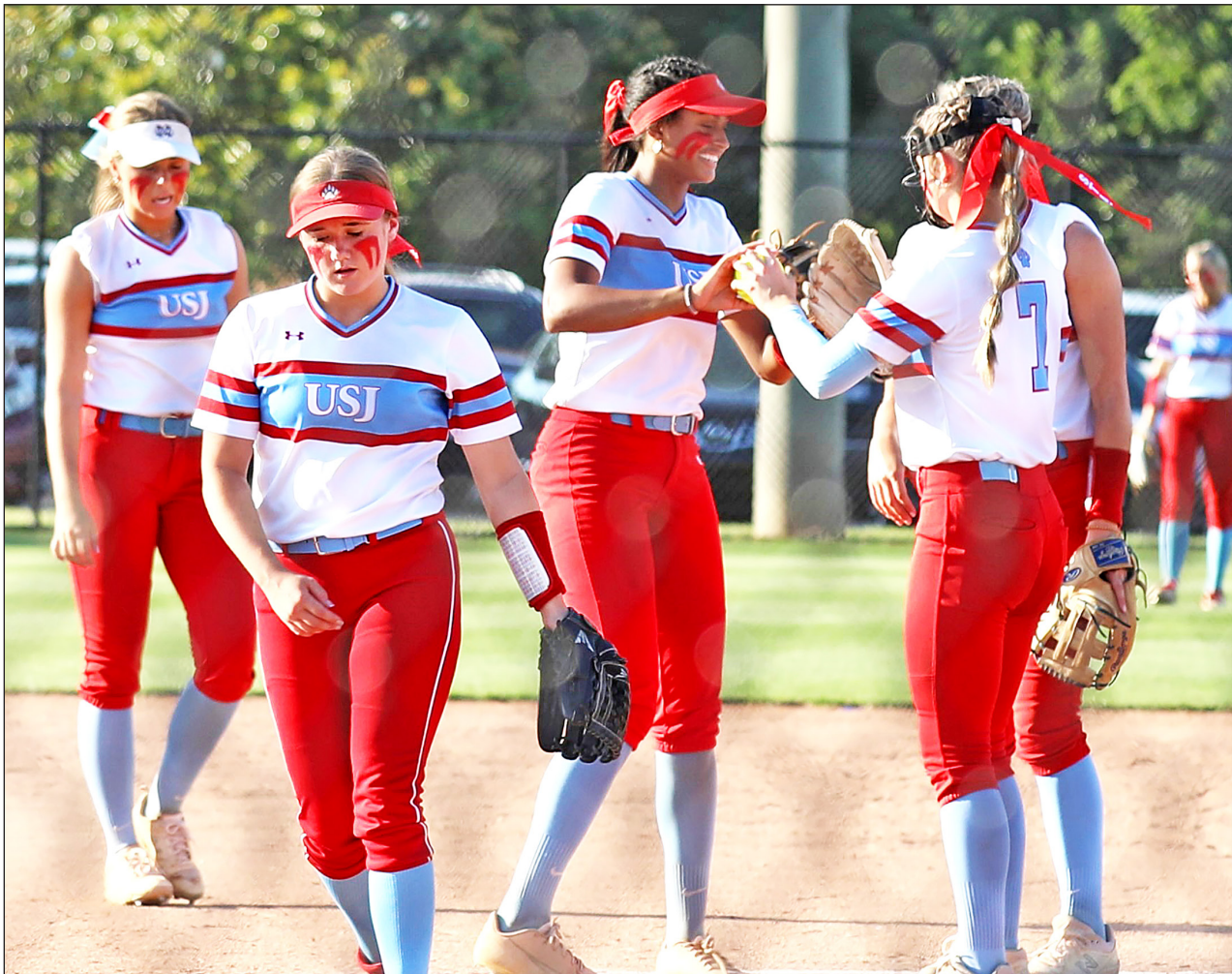
Boys

Division I, Class A

Damon Hernandez, Madison, finished 4th in boys' pole vault at 11 feet.

Madison's 4X800 relay team finished sixth with a time of 8:49.856.

Madison's Chase Vow-



The softball team from University School of Jackson prepare to play defense in the field against Knoxville Grace in their opener in the state tournament at Spring Fling on Tuesday, May 21, 2024. (GAIL BAILEY/The Jackson Post)

ell finished seventh in the boys' decathlon with 4,507 points.

Division I, Class AA Bryan Brooks from North Side did not complete the 300-meter hurdles competition.

Girls

Division I, Class A

As a team, Madison finished fourth in the state, 14 points behind the two who tied for a win, East Nashville and Memphis East.

Madison's 4X200 relay team finished second

in 1:45.79.

Madison's Ximena Acosta finished second in the 800-meter run in 2:27.62.

Madison's Lola Greenway finished third in the 400-meter dah in 58.53.

Madison's Kyla Hawkins finished third in pole vault at 9-00.

Madison's 4X400 relay team finished fourth in 4:19.43.

Madison's 4X800 relay team finished fifth in 10:57.04.

Madison's Florence

Pela finished fifth in the 200-meter dash in 26.55.

Madison's EBigail Pela finished fifth in the 100-meter hurdles in 17.09.

Madison's Florence Pela finished sixth in the 100-meter dash in 12.98.

Madison's Ebigail Pela finished sixth in the pentathlon with 2,211 points.

Madison's Mary Kinsley Nye finished seventh in the 200-meter dash in 27.31.

Madison's Leighton Kayal finished eighth in pole vault at 6-00.

Tennis USJ's boys' team defeated Middle Tennessee Christian School 4-1.

USJ's girls' team defeated Christian Academy of Knoxville 4-0.

WEDNESDAY RESULTS

Boys' soccer

Gatlinburg-Pittman 3, Madison 1

Softball

USJ trailed Silverdale Baptist in the winners' bracket final 9-0 in top of the fourth when play was suspended until Thursday due to wet field conditions.

Track and field

Boys

Division II, Class A

TCA's 4X200 relay team won the state championship in 1:28.95.

TCA's Kaleb Wilson won the state championship in the 400-meter dash in 48.912.

TCA's 4X400 relay team finished third in 3:29.40.

USJ's Justin Parker finished third in the long jump with 20-01.25.

USJ's Justin Parker finished third in the triple jump with 41-09.50.

TCA's 4X100 relay team finished fourth in 44.23.

USJ's Justin parker finished fifth in high jump at 5-10.

USJ's Hayes Carney finished fifth in the 400-meter dash at 51.41.

USJ's Miles Johnson finished sixth in the 3,200-meter run in 10:57.09.

Girls

Division II, Class A

USJ finished third as a team with 58 points.

USJ's Olivia Welch finished second in long jump at 16-10.25.

USJ's 4X400 relay team finished second at 4:10.91.

USJ's 4X200 relay team finished second at 1:47.51.

USJ's 4X800 relay

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JMCSS unveils new Rolling Recess Bus

Brandon Shields
Managing Editor

Annette Wilson was tired, but happy on Thursday, May 16, as she looked over the front lawn of Community Montessori School.

"This has been a good day," Wilson said more than once during a 10-minute interview.

It was almost like Jackson-Madison County Schools had given her some new toys to play with in her role as the district's director of coordinated school health.

Because she now has a bus that has new toys for the students of JMCSS to play with on special days.

The bus is called the Rolling Recess Bus, and it's designed to give children different options every so often to get outside or in the gym of their school and try different things during recess or field days or special days where they get extra time out

of class to celebrate some type of accomplishment.

"One of the main things to know about this right now is there's only one bus and a couple dozen schools, so it's important for schools to realize they have to schedule us for us to be on their campus when they'd like for us to be," Wilson said. "It's almost like we've had a soft rollout right here at the end of the school year, but next year, I hope we'll get a lot of engagement and schools wanting us to come by their places."

The bus is equipped with a number of yard games – new and old that parents might be more familiar with. New games include 9-square, gaga ball and parachute. Games that are available that parents and teachers might be more familiar with include corn hole, pick ball, frisbee golf and

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Page 8B

JCT's Kinnes finishes among best in MS track

Staff Reports

Before Spring Fling started on Tuesday, the Tennessee Middle School Athletic Association (TMSAA) held its annual track and field championships at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville.

Jackson-Madison County Schools were represented in one of the award ceremonies as Jackson Careers & Technology's Acelyn Kinnes finished fourth in the girls' Class A 100-meter dash.

The race was Kinnes' second time to compete in the middle school version of Spring Fling for the Bulldogs.



Acelyn Kinnes takes a photo with her coaches after she finished fourth in the state in the girls' 100-meter dash at Austin Peay State in Clarksville. (Photo submitted)

Local News

Chamber's Bunch starts new role with TBR

Brandon Shields
Managing Editor

Vicki Bunch has enjoyed her work with The Greater Jackson Chamber in two stints over the past few years in which she's helped the organization in its work of economic development for the local area.

She recently left The Chamber to join the Tennessee Board of Regents, but she will still be in a capacity to help the economic development for the entire state from a development standpoint.

Bunch started in her new role on May 1 as the Executive Director of the Tennessee Council for Career and Technical Education.

She's essentially a liaison between a number of state departments including education, economic and community development, Board of Regents and workforce development and educational entities at the secondary and postsecondary levels.

"Part of my new job is to see what trainings are being offered at what schools and work toward an alignment with nearby high schools to ensure a greater line of education from high school to postsecondary," Bunch said.

That means ensuring that different programs offered at colleges and high schools line up together, but there is also a geographic element to that as well.

"Different areas of the state have different needs," Bunch said. "Right now in West Tennessee, we have a lot of automotive manufacturers and their suppliers coming, so we need to produce the workforce that can help them out when they get here."

"East Tennessee doesn't have as big of a need of that now as West Tennessee does, so their priorities are different."

Even though she doesn't have to move, Bunch does have an office in Nashville and her role is a statewide role.

"One day last week, I had meetings in six different counties, and one of them was way up in Bristol," Bunch said. "But that's OK because I love the state of Tennessee and driving around it, and I love connecting companies with specific needs to a supply where they can get what or who they need."

Brandon Shields, brandon@Jacksonpost.news



Bunch

NAACP fundraiser is Sunday

Brandon Shields
Managing Editor

The Jackson-Madison County chapter of the NAACP is having its annual fundraiser on Sunday.

The group will gather at the Carl Perkins Civic Center at 5 p.m. for the event, whose theme is "The Power of Unity in the Community."

The keynote speaker for the event will be Glenda Baskin Glover, who's the outgoing president of Tennessee State University.

"I've spent some time recently

on TSU's campus, and that place has certainly grown under Dr. Glover's leadership," said Harrell Carter, the president of the NAACP chapter.

"We look forward to having her here, because I know her message will be one of encouragement and perseverance."

Carter said there are still opportunities for sponsorships and tables. Anyone interested in doing so can contact the NAACP at 731-927-7004 or send an email to jmcnaacp@att.net.

This will be the 61st edition of

the Freedom Fund banquet, which is the main fundraising event of the year for the NAACP.

"The money raised at this event allows us to do the things we do each year," Carter said.

"Hosting events here in our location here in Downtown, voter registration drives and anything else we need to be involved in ... that's funded by the money we raise from this event."

Brandon Shields, brandon@jacksonpost.news

RECESS

From 7B

ladder ball.

"A lot of the kids are being exposed to a lot of these games for the first time, and they're loving it," Wilson said after the bus had made stops at a couple of schools for their field days.

There's a possibility that bicycles will be included on the bus next year too so children will have the option to do that as well.

"My main concern is how many kids that don't have a bike of their own know how to ride one?" Wilson said. "So we may incorporate teaching kids how to ride too."

"But I know that the kids and the PE teachers had a lot of fun today. We had a lot of fun today. It's been a good day."

Brandon Shields, brandon@jacksonpost.news



Students at Community Montessori School wrap up a game of gaga ball on the school's front lawn on Thursday, May 16, 2024. (BRANDON SHIELDS/The Jackson Post)

FLING

From 7B

team finished second at 9:58.43.

USJ's Kenley Hines finished fifth in 100-meter hurdles at 15.55.

USJ's Kenley Hines finished fifth in 300-meter hurdles at 48.48.

USJ's Lilly Teague finished fifth in 800-meter run in 2:28.33.

USJ's Olivia Welch finished fifth in pentathlon with 2,525 points.

USJ's Ellen Driver finished sixth in triple jump at 31-08.75.

USJ's Olivia Welch finished sixth in high jump at 4-10.

USJ's Olivia Welch finished seventh in 100-meter hurdles at 16.28.

USJ's Addyson Kirland finished seventh in 1,600-meter run in 5:47.44.

TCA's 4X200 relay team finished eighth in 1:50.83.

Tennis

USJ's boys fell in the state championship to Lausanne, 4-1.

USJ's girls fell in the state championship to Lausanne, 4-2.

THURSDAY SCHEDULE Softball

USJ fell to Silverdale 10-0 early in the day and was slated to play Lakeway Christian after The Post's press time. The winner would play Silverdale for the championship, and the loser's season would end.

Tennis (Results not complete at The Post's press time) Boys Division II-A

Singles

Jackson Christian's Jack Veazey upset King's Academy's Jonah Weber, 6-4, 6-1.

Veazey played in the semifinals at 2 p.m. on Thursday.

Doubles

USJ's Preston Miller and Jack Wilkerson played Concord Christian's Lincoln Shine and Oliver Houston. Winner played in the semifinals at 2 p.m.

USJ's Tristan Scallion and Andrew Lawrence played Providence Christian's Will Smith and Gavin Wrather in the quarterfinals. Winner played in the semifinals at 2 p.m.

Girls

Division II-A Singles

USJ's Brilee Davis played CAK's Allie Faulkner in the quarterfinals with the winner playing in the semifinals at 3 p.m.

Doubles

USJ's Hayden Craig and Madeline Craig played MTCS' Reese Tidwell and Chloe Converse in the quarterfinals with the winner playing in the semifinals at 3:30 p.m.

FRIDAY SCHEDULE Tennis

Division II-A

Boys' singles championship at 11 a.m.

Boys' doubles championship at 11 a.m.

Girls' singles championship at 9 a.m.

Girls' doubles championship at 9 a.m.

Compiled by Brandon Shields

Your sleep and your mental health: what's the connection?



In honor of May's Better Sleep Month, we dive into why a good night's sleep is important for your mental health. However, in today's world, it's relatively uncommon to get enough sleep.

Why Sleep Is Important for Good Mental Health

As you sleep, your brain goes through sleep stages. During the NREM (non-rapid eye movement) stages of sleep, your brain activity slows except for quick bursts of energy. During REM (rapid eye movement) sleep, your brain becomes much more active.

Each phase is important for your mental health. Getting enough REM sleep, for example, helps your brain process emotions and the information that provokes those emotions.

As you sleep, your brain also processes your memories and thoughts. When you don't get enough sleep, it can cause a disruption in that process that promotes negativity and can diminish your mental health over time.

Not getting enough sleep is tied to your mental health in many different ways, causing everything from brain fog to mood changes and emotional outbursts.

There Are Some General Guidelines When It Comes to Sleep

The National Sleep Foundation recommends that most adults get between seven and nine hours of sleep each night. Adults age 65 and older may need only seven or eight hours to feel at their best.

If you aren't getting enough quality sleep, consider your sleep hygiene. That's the set of habits surrounding your sleep. Try these habits to set yourself up for sleep success:

- Make the bedroom cool and dark.
- Create a bedtime routine.
- Stick to a bedtime and wake time.
- Turn off electronic devices an hour before bedtime.

Looking for a little extra help getting enough sleep? To make an appointment with one of our sleep specialists call (731) 541-6834 or scan the QR code.



West Tennessee HEALTHCARE™ Sleep Disorders