



# The Lake County Banner

TENNESSEE PRESS ASSOCIATION \$1

Serving Lake County and the Reelfoot Lake Area Since 1923

Wednesday, November 20, 2024

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Vol. 101 / No. 47

## Community Events

**Children's Hour** - Mondays in November at 4-5 p.m. at Ridgely Library. An hour of quiet time for children to read, work on reading logs for prizes, or do school homework.

**Adult Computer Basics** - Every Thursday & Friday in November. The course will be held at the Ridgely Public Library from 3-4PM. Courses are free and first come, first serve.

**Nov 20- Ridgely Senior Center** will have a Field Trip Day to Hickman.

**Nov 21-23 Decades of Laughter Honoring Larry Bennett.** 7 p.m. at Bogota Community Center. Hosted by The Never Ready for Prime Time Players. \$10 per person, \$5 for ages 12 and under. All proceeds go to the Bogota Community Center and East Tennessee Storm Victims.

**December 12- Winter Wonderland** Tiptonville Parade on the 12th. Lineup on Algee Street at 5PM, parade begins at 7PM.

**December 13- Ridgely parade** will be on December 13. Lineup on Dillard Street at 5:30PM, parade starts at 7PM. All entries are welcome!



**PARK OPEN** — The new BlueCross Health Place and Quake Lake Park in Tiptonville is now open to the public.

## BlueCross Healthy Place at Quake Lake Park now open

**PENNEY ESTES**  
Staff Reporter

Tiptonville has officially opened the BlueCross Healthy Place at Quake Lake Park. This development marks a contribution to public well-being, funded by a \$1.5 million investment from the BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee Foundation.

The initiative for the BlueCross Healthy Place sprang to life in August 2023 when the town of Tiptonville applied for funding.

The BlueCross Healthy Places program is committed to creating areas that promote healthy living and community connection across Tennessee.

"Today marks a special occasion for Tiptonville and its residents," stated manager Keith King at the grand opening. It's a new place for residents of Tiptonville and surrounding areas to come together and enjoy healthy activity; we're proud to have been a part of this next chapter for the community."

The new space features ramp-accessible play areas for ages 2-5 and 5-12, a splash pad, fitness areas, pavilions, and benches. The play area features accessible poured-in-place surfacing, ensuring children and guests with different abilities can play safely and inclusively.

The BlueCross Healthy Place at Quake Lake Park represents a landmark achievement for Tiptonville, promising to enhance the community's well-being and social fabric for years to come.

**HAVING FUN** — The Ridgely Senior Center attended the ribbon cutting and had fun swinging on the swing set.



## Heightened Security at Lake County Courthouse for Inmate Arraignments

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The Lake County Courthouse had increased security on Monday as 30 maximum-security inmates were brought in for arraignment. The Lake County Sheriff's Department, Tiptonville Police Department, Tennessee State Troopers,

and Tennessee Department of Correction (TDOC) officers worked together during the operation.

The TDOC transported the inmates in a bus and several vans. The courthouse closed at noon, and elected officials

left for the day before the arraignments started.

Inmates were taken into the courthouse in groups of seven for their hearings. Afterward, they were placed back into vehicles and returned to the Lake County Prison.

Sheriff Brian Avery thanked the officers for their efforts in ensuring the process went smoothly.

"This was a smooth transition thanks to everyone's hard work," Avery said.





# LOCAL NEWS

## 2024-25 GUN HUNTING SEASON FOR DEER OPENS NOVEMBER 23

NASHVILLE --- Tennessee's 2024-25 statewide gun hunting season for deer opens Saturday, Nov. 23. The season traditionally opens each year on the Saturday prior to Thanksgiving. During gun season, sportsmen may also use muzzleloaders or archery equipment.

The statewide bag limit for antlered bucks is two. No more than

one antlered deer may be taken per day, not to exceed two for the season. In Units 1, 2, and 3 there is an antlerless bag limit of three per day, and a limit of two antlerless for this season in Units 4, 5, and 6. The bag limit may only be exceeded as part of the Earn-A-Buck program or as replacement buck in a CWD positive county.

During season setting, new hunt-

ing units were implemented for this season. Hunters should refer to the 2024-25 Tennessee Fishing, Hunting and Trapping Guide for specific information about their hunting unit and complete license requirements.

Anyone born on or after January 1, 1969, is required to carry proof of satisfactory completion of a hunter education class or be in pos-

session of the Apprentice Hunter Education Permit (along with other required licenses) while hunting any species in Tennessee. Hunter education can be completed online for free along with in person options offered by TWRA.

The statewide deer hunting season will continue through Jan. 5, 2025. The second Young Sportsman Hunt is Jan. 11-12.



**SPREADING KINDNESS** — The Ridgely Senior Center celebrated World Kindness Day with a luncheon with Mr. Bill and Ms. Linda Voelker.



**BAGGETTS EXCHANGE VOWS:** Crystal and Stephen Baggett were married November 7, 2024 at the City Park in Tiptonville. The Bride is the daughter of David and Mary Sutton of Tiptonville, and Tina and Melvin Readenour of Ridgely. The Groom is the son of Chris and Beth Baggett of Dyersburg.

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## Department of safety and homeland security gives notice of new requirement for residents transferring a license from nine states

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Beginning Jan. 10, 2025, new or returning Tennessee residents who currently have a driver license from California, Connecticut, Illinois, Kentucky, Maine, Nevada, Oklahoma, Vermont or West Virginia must present a Motor Vehicle Record (MVR) from their former state when applying for a Tennessee license.

All other states, including Tennessee, participate in the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators' State-to-State (S2S) Verification Service. This service allows participating states to electronically access the complete Driver History Record of anyone applying for a driver license.

As a result, individuals moving from one of the 41 participating states do not have to obtain an MVR to qualify for a Tennessee driver license. Through the S2S system, states can share real-time information about individual drivers, including convictions and license withdrawals. By providing a driver's complete history, states can reduce the risk of fraud and improve safety by keeping dangerous drivers off the roads. Additionally, S2S enhances accuracy and reduces the processing time for a obtaining a new credential in Tennessee.

After the implementation date, individuals from the nine non-participating states must obtain an MVR from their former state before applying for a Tennessee license or ID. The MVR must have been issued within 30 days before its presentation at a Driver Services Center. This MVR is required alongside other necessary documents to apply for a Tennessee credential.

For more information about the documents required to obtain a license in Tennessee, visit [tn.gov/safety/driver-services.html](http://tn.gov/safety/driver-services.html).

*The Department of Safety and Homeland Security's mission is to serve, secure, and protect the people of Tennessee.*

### NEW PROGRAMS!

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## \$7,000 REWARD

TENNESSEE FARM BUREAU is offering a \$2,500 reward. Moody Properties Inc. and James E Moody are offering an additional \$4,500 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons who stole the wire from an irrigation system on or about Wednesday, October 22, this wire was stolen from an irrigation system belonging to Moody Properties, Inc. located on the east side of Hwy 181, The Great River Road, south of Hwy 104 and north of Bradley Road in western Dyer County, Tennessee. Anyone with information about this theft should contact the Dyer County Sheriff's Department at 731-285-2802. Those wishing to remain anonymous may contact Dyer County Crime Stoppers at 731-285-TIPS (8477).



# THANKSGIVING TIDBITS & LOCAL LISTINGS

## Grandma's Green Bean Casserole

### Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1 cup sour cream
- ¼ cup diced onion
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon white sugar
- 3 (14.5 ounce) cans French-style green beans, drained
- 2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese
- ½ cup crumbled buttery round crackers
- 1 tablespoon butter, melted

### Directions

1. Preheat the oven: Set to 350°F (175°C).
2. Prepare the green beans:
  - In a large skillet, melt butter over medium heat.
  - Stir in flour until smooth and cook for 1 minute.
  - Add sour cream, diced onion, salt, and sugar. Mix well.
  - Stir in green beans until fully coated, then transfer to a 2 ½-quart casserole dish.
3. Add the topping:
  - Sprinkle shredded Cheddar cheese evenly over the green bean mixture.
  - In a small bowl, toss together cracker crumbs and melted butter, then sprinkle over the cheese layer.
  - 4. Bake: Place the casserole dish in the oven and bake for about 30 minutes, or until the topping is golden brown and the cheese is bubbly.

• Sprinkle shredded Cheddar cheese evenly over the green bean mixture.

• In a small bowl, toss together cracker crumbs and melted butter, then sprinkle over the cheese layer.

4. Bake: Place the casserole dish in the oven and bake for about 30 minutes, or until the topping is golden brown and the cheese is bubbly.

*Enjoy your creamy, cheesy, and comforting green bean casserole! Perfect for family dinners or holiday gatherings!*

## Chicken and Dressing

- 1 can cream celery
- 1 can cream chicken
- 1 onion
- 3 eggs boiled
- 1 skillet cornbread
- Boiled Chicken

Boil about 4 or 5 boneless chicken breasts until the meat is tender.

Cook a skillet of cornbread. When the cornbread cools, chop up and put in a 9x13 casserole dish. Cut the onion up and add it to the cornbread mixture. Take the cream of celery and cream of chicken and add this to the cornbread mixture. Take the boiled eggs and cut them up and put in the mixture. Take the chicken broth from the boiled chicken and pour this over the cornbread mixture. Do not use all the broth because the dressing will be too juicy. Just pour enough where the dressing is not thick and not really juicy. Add salt and pepper, then add sage to the mixture. You will have to be the judge on how much sage you like in the dressing.

Cook on 400 for about 45 min to 1 hr.

## Crack Green Beans

- 5 cans green beans, drained
  - 2/3 cup brown sugar
  - 1 bag real bacon bits or 12 slices bacon cooked to crisp and chopped
  - ¼ cup butter melted
  - 7 tsp. soy sauce
  - 1 ½ tsp. garlic powder
- Take and drain the green beans and put in a 9x12 casserole dish.

Mix the brown sugar, butter, soy sauce and garlic until the butter is melted. Pour this over your green beans. Add your bacon pieces on top of the green beans and mix all together.

Cook in the oven for 40 minutes at 350.

These beans are wonderful!!

## Sugar-free Apple or Peach Pie

By Diane Hill

6 medium or 4 large granny smith, mcintosh or Jonathan apples

2 pie shells

42 packages of equal sweetener

2 heaping tablespoons cornstarch

1/4 teaspoon cinnamon

Preheat oven to 365 degrees

Peel, core, and slice apples into one of the pie shells. Mix together the sweetener, cornstarch,

and cinnamon and sprinkle over the apple slices. Cover with the other pie shell and crimp the edges. Bake at 365 degrees for 45-50 minutes. Remove from oven and let stand at least 15 minutes before serving.

For Peach pie use the same ingredients except 1 lb frozen or fresh peaches instead of apples.

Do not use sweet and low, as it will cause a bitter taste. Splenda is also a good substitute.

## Tini's Macaroni and Cheese

### Ingredients:

- 1 pound cavatappi, cooked
- 16 ounces mozzarella cheese, grated
- 16 ounces Colby Jack cheese, grated
- 8 ounces Cheddar cheese, grated
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon smoked paprika
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 1 (12-ounce) can evaporated milk
- 2 cups heavy cream
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard

### Directions:

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease a 9x13-inch baking dish.
2. Cook cavatappi according to package instructions. Drain and set aside.
3. Combine all three shredded cheeses in a bowl and divide half into another bowl. Set aside.
4. Combine garlic powder,

- smoked paprika, salt, and pepper in a small bowl. Divide in half and set aside.
5. Melt butter in a large skillet over medium heat. Once melted, add half the seasoning mixture and flour. Stir until the mixture becomes paste-like, about 3 to 5 minutes. Add evaporated milk and whisk until thick. Add heavy cream and the rest of the seasonings and mix until combined. Whisk in Dijon mustard until thick. Slowly add in half the cheese, allowing it to melt before adding more.
  6. Stir in macaroni until coated with cheese sauce.
  7. Add a layer of macaroni and then a layer of shredded cheese to the prepared baking dish. Repeat layers.
  8. Bake in the preheated oven until cheese is melted and bubbly, about 25 to 30 minutes.
  9. Finish by broiling until top is golden brown, about 2 minutes.

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**DANIEL RICHARDSON**  
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# ACTIVITY

## Crossword

### CLUES ACROSS

- 1) Brewery equipment
- 5) Current craze
- 9) Home run in Idaho?
- 14) Genesis twin
- 15) Oath of old
- 16) Peaceful branch?
- 17) Little brook
- 18) Scrabble piece
- 19) Festive celebrations
- 20) Three different seats
- 23) Fixes, as a carnival game
- 24) Butterfly snare
- 25) "Friends" female
- 29) Alone (with "by")
- 33) Bushed
- 34) Czech-German river
- 36) Nero's zero
- 37) Three different seats
- 41) "Caught in the act!"
- 42) Be upwardly mobile?
- 43) Cold-water shorebirds
- 44) Scammed
- 47) Toastmaster's preparation
- 48) Fond du \_\_\_\_, Wisc.
- 49) Hope-Crosby's "Road to \_\_\_\_"
- 51) Three different seats
- 59) Spinach like plant

- 60) Claim to be true
- 61) Doing nothing
- 62) "Slowly" in music
- 63) Snub-nosed dog, briefly
- 64) Coke, for one
- 65) Fertile loam
- 66) Winter vehicle
- 67) Venetian-blind component

### CLUES DOWN

- 1) Word of action
- 2) Large section of an atlas
- 3) Nursery powder
- 4) Stew in one's own juices
- 5) Kind of outlet
- 6) Curing, in a way
- 7) Fancy parties
- 8) Where Adam lived
- 9) Molasses candy
- 10) Advisories
- 11) A Jackson 5 member
- 12) Entering overtime
- 13) Conclude one's case
- 21) Sportscaster
- 22) Architect's afterthought
- 25) Capital near

### PLAYING USHER

By Mary Jersey

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14				15				16					
17				18				19					
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51	52	53				54				55	56	57	58
59						60				61			
62						63				64			
65						66				67			

Casablanca

- 26) Hawaiian greeting
- 27) Dagger companion
- 28) "To each \_\_\_\_ own"
- 29) Pastoral woodwind
- 30) Follow
- 31) Lavender flower
- 32) Bones' partner
- 34) "\_\_\_\_ Brockovich"
- 35) Abbreviated wts.
- 38) "Fanny" novelist

FreeDailyCrosswords.com

- 39) Jelly used in molds
- 40) '50s campaign button name
- 45) Chooses by voting
- 46) Salsa go-with
- 47) Turned on a pivot
- 49) Feature of a miter joint
- 50) "Is this some kind of \_\_\_\_?"

- 51) Laze around
- 52) Lunchbox treat
- 53) Barn-topping device
- 54) Knocks firmly
- 55) Random muscle movements
- 56) An object of worship
- 57) Paella pot
- 58) Nicely arranged

## Horoscopes

### ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, be careful what you ask for, as things have a funny way of coming true for you this week. Censor your thoughts for now, and perhaps hold your cards closer to the vest.

### TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21

Taurus, you may have a lot of anxious thoughts right now. Friends provide a welcome diversion later in the week, and you also may want to put in more hours at work to stay distracted.

### GEMINI - May 22/June 21

Gemini, plans aren't panning out as you'd hoped, so consider other opportunities. Stop and consider all the possibilities as soon as possible and then make a decision.

### CANCER - June 22/July 22

Thoughts of love and relationships are on your mind, Cancer. However, you will have trouble expressing just how you feel to others. Think through your words before saying them.

### LEO - July 23/Aug 23

Leo, you are a whirlwind of activity, and this causes a bit of disruption to a normally organized week. Others may remark on how you seem to be all over the place, but you know your limits.

### VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22

It's hard to imagine fitting anything else into your packed schedule, Virgo. Somehow you manage to do it. But the effects could prove stressful. Try lightening your load this week.

### LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23

It's time to plan and prepare, Libra. Take out a pen and paper and start making lists or use a digital planner. It's the only way to remain organized with so much going on.

### SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22

Matters at home are a priority this week, Scorpio. Focus your attention on tackling things around the house and you'll have more time to devote to fun down the road.

### SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21

It might be time to pinch some pennies, Sagittarius. This week you could come up a bit short, and it doesn't bode well for the rest of the month. Consider new revenue streams.

### CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, things turn out to be calm this week, and it is surprising how much you can accomplish. This slow pace is just the reprieve you've needed.

### AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18

Aquarius, there's not much you can do about a particular problem, so it may be better to stop thinking about a solution. Put your attention toward something you can control.

### PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, a few minor tweaks to your schedule and you could be able to tackle a number of tasks this week. Enjoy the productivity.

## MILITARY SERVICE WORD SEARCH

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

### WORDS

- ACTIVE
- ARMY
- CHIEF
- COMMANDER
- COUNTRY
- DEPLOYMENT
- DISCHARGE
- DRILL
- DUTY
- GUARD
- INACTIVE
- LIBERTY
- LIEUTENANT
- MARINES
- MILITARY
- NAVY
- OFFENSE
- OFFICER
- OPERATION
- QUARTERS
- RESERVE
- SERVICE
- 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!

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

Level: Beginner

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

Level: Intermediate

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

Level: Advanced

### FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

- NOVEMBER 24
- Katherine Heigl, Actress (46)
- NOVEMBER 25
- Christina Applegate, Actress (53)
- NOVEMBER 26
- Natasha Bedingfield, Singer (43)
- NOVEMBER 27
- Caroline Kennedy, Diplomat (67)
- NOVEMBER 28
- Trey Songz, Singer (40)
- NOVEMBER 29
- Russell Wilson, Athlete (36)
- NOVEMBER 30
- Ben Stiller, Actor (59)

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# OPINION

## Not Today



KEVIN'S CORNER

Kevin Stone

I'm an alcoholic. I'm actively recovering and have been for nearly ten years. I get up every morning and say to myself "today, I won't drink" because that's how I have to deal with it. I talk about it openly to my co-workers, family and strangers. That's my version of therapy, AA, and simply how I cope with the daily thirst to drink. I've been to a lot of AA meetings in my early years of sobriety, and I have immense respect for that organization, because it helped to get me sober. It taught me how to talk about my condition, to understand it, and to realize that many people out there are just like me. I'm comfortable with who, and what, I am. To some people, it may seem that I'm simply too open or given to TMI (too much information) a bit too much. That's okay. I know that it keeps me grounded to talk about it, to spread it out on the table and see it for what it is, and to admit to myself that I need to do just that to stay sober.

I used to be a drunk. The difference between a drunk and an alcoholic is pretty basic. A drunk is still drinking. An alcoholic has made that very basic step in the

direction of sobriety and has admitted to themselves that they have a problem. An alcoholic may be in recovery, or not. I am. I hope to always be, because to be drinking again is to revert to being a drunk again.

I still miss being drunk. I miss drinking. I always will. I envy people who can take a drink or leave it. I know people who can have a social drink and not have another for months. I'm aware that alcohol isn't inherently evil. It's the abuser who makes it so. I've never been able to drink without the literal goal of drinking to get drunk. Why else would anyone drink? My mind can't fathom the control that some folks exercise by not drinking until they're drunk. I'm just not wired that way. That's one reason I don't drink.

There are some other really good reasons I don't drink any more. I've let so many people down in the past when I drank, I don't want to be that guy again. I've been the father who was passed out when he should have been picking up his kids from school. I've been the coworker who was drunk and running machinery, rolling the dice that I wouldn't hurt anyone. I've been the son whose mom took him in when he lost his job. I've been the dad whose kids have paid his bills or helped him home when he was sloshed. And I've been the drunk driver who takes the chance

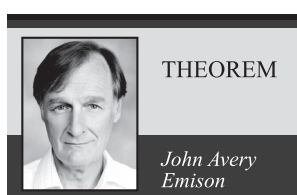
that he won't kill an entire family when he was behind the wheel. I know who I am when I drink, and I don't want to be him again. It's not complicated. My addiction is simple. When I drink, I hurt people. I'm thankful I've never killed anyone because of my drinking. I've been lucky. And blessed.

If this little column has offended you, tough. I talk about my alcoholism for two reasons: 1) So I won't drink today, and 2) So someone else may just decide that it's time for them to stop drinking today. That's it. If my words aren't for you, then no worries. I've just wasted a few minutes of your day. If what I've said makes you think about whether or not you might just have a problem, then seek help. It's out there. Alcoholics Anonymous has a helpline to find a meeting near you: (844) 811-9606. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) National Helpline is 1-800-662-HELP(4357). You can reach out to anyone you like. Your friends, family and pastor are some good places to start, as well. Asking for help is a brave step towards a new, and better, life. People care about you and are ready to help.

Thanks for reading this and being part of the reason I didn't drink today.

God bless Y'all.

## The Divide Between Rural and Urban America



THEOREM

John Avery Emison

Just a couple of months ago I wrote a column about how much I love rural America and how much I don't care for most big cities. Cities are way too complex, too crowded, too dirty, and too weird for me — and that's not all. Cities have problems that no one can solve because cities tend not to have closely knit communities where societies can thrive in spite of certain differences. Some of you may remember the 1960s stand-up comedian from Jackson, Bro. Dave Gardner. Bro. Dave summarized this problem in a humorous line in one of his albums. He asked, "Everybody wonders 'what's wrong with the county?'" His answer was, "Ain't nothin' wrong with the county except in the cities."

I'm not the only one who has noticed there's a massive socioeconomic, cultural, and political divide between rural and urban America. The Washington, DC magazine "Politico" used the word "stunning" to describe the difference between rural and urban America. Look at the presidential election earlier this month. We will start in Michigan, which we all know was one of the "swing States." Trump carried Michigan by just a little more than 80,000 out of more than 5.5 million votes cast, but he won 74 of Michigan's mostly rural coun-

ties to 9 for Kamala Harris. The contrast in Texas is even more one-sided between rural and urban. Texas has 254 of the 3,143 counties in the nation. Harris carried only 11 Texas counties (mostly urban) and Trump carried the other 243. Here in Tennessee Trump carried 92 of the 95 counties. Granted, Trump is popular in both Tennessee and Texas but the point I am making is how rural counties all across the country voted mostly one way, and urban counties voted mostly the other way. In Minnesota, a state Harris won and home to her running mate, Harris carried 9 mostly urban counties and Trump carried 78 mostly rural counties. One final example: Harris easily carried the State of Illinois with a half-million vote margin. It wasn't even close in Illinois, but she carried only 14 of 102 counties. Dozens of rural counties in Illinois voted as one sided for Trump as most of the counties in West Tennessee.

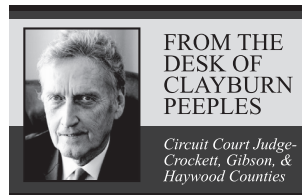
Interestingly, the voters in Illinois are taking note of this contrast and they are also taking action. "The Wall Street Journal" has noted that there's a "burgeoning breakup movement" in several States, all Northern. Voters in 33 counties in Illinois have already passed nonbinding resolutions to secede from Chicago. The "New Illinois" movement was on the ballot this month in six counties and it passed in all of them (overwhelmingly in some of them). The slogan for this group is "Leave Illinois Without Moving." The "Journal" reported that one Illinois voter complained that, "There's a

lot of people in Chicago, and I think that they make a lot of decisions that affect people downstate." This is an understandable sentiment when you consider the financial trouble the State of Illinois is in.

Organized groups in California and other states want to separate from and no longer be dominated by a few big cities. In California Paul Preston, the founder of the movement calling itself the New California State is ecstatic at the prospects of breaking away from the big cities of Los Angeles and San Francisco. Harkening back to Southern secession, Preston says the current California government is "a one-party communist state, and technically, they have seceded from the Union already."

Oregon is another state with a very serious separation movement. A group called "Greater Idaho" wants to redraw state lines so the conservative rural counties east of the Cascade mountain range can join Idaho. In essence they want to move the present border of Oregon and Idaho to the west by a couple of hundred miles so their counties will be in a politically more friendly state. In fact, their slogan is "Move Oregon's Border," and the Idaho legislature in Boise has endorsed the idea. At present just three Oregon counties in the Portland area vote almost half of the entire statewide count and they overwhelm the rest of the State. Voters in Portland are as different from rural eastern Oregonians as Nashville voters are from voters in Frog Jump. I'll see you on down the trail.

## The Longest Voting Day Ever



FROM THE DESK OF CLAYBURN PEEPLES

Circuit Court Judge-Crockett, Gibson, & Haywood Counties

Like many political junkies, I've been following this year's election returns for the last several days. I say, "several days," because some states are still, two weeks later, tabulating votes. Under our federal system each state gets to set its own rules about how to conduct elections so long as the process they use does not violate the federal constitution, and the variance of procedures among states is stunning.

Individual states have different rules about how people vote. Some require in person voting. Others use various mail voting strategies, and some do not begin counting until polls close on election day.

In some states, mail in ballots must be received no later than election day, but in others, ballots must be counted if they are postmarked by election day.

It's a mess, but it usually doesn't matter that much, because most elections aren't that close, like this year's presidential race, for example. Due to the margins between the two main candidates, we were able to know who won shortly after midnight.

As to several down ballot contests, however, we had to wait days, in some cases several days to know for certain who the winners were, and as I write this (Sunday afternoon, nearly two weeks after the election), there are still a couple of races for congressional seats in which votes haven't been counted. In some of the western states, California in particular, it takes forever (nearly a month actually), to count all votes.

And while it is true that California is our most populous state and has more votes to count than any other state, Florida, our third most populous state, always counts

nearly all its votes on election night, and its election protocol is now considered the gold standard of vote counting in America.

That wasn't always the case, however. Once the state was the laughingstock of political America because of one infamous election.

It was 24 years ago. Remember it? Who could forget the month-long drama over who won in the State of Florida, and thus, as it turned out, the presidency of the United States, in the 2000 election.

In the lead up to the contest, nearly every pundit predicted a close race, and most predicted that swing states would determine who won, the most critical of them being Pennsylvania, Michigan, and Florida.

Shortly after the polls closed on election day, the television networks, as they did back then, began announcing projected results. Gore had won in the north-eastern states and Pennsylvania easily, while Bush was racking up victories in the southern states.

Then, just before 8:00 P.M., the Associated Press and several news networks announced that Gore had won the state of Florida, and two hours later they projected Gore to have won the presidency, with Dan Rather assuring voters that "if we call the state, you can take it to the bank."

Not so, even though ABC, NBC, CNN, Fox News, and AP also projected Gore the winner of the presidency. He had won the popular vote by roughly a half million votes and was now ahead, with the addition of the Sunshine State's 25 votes, by enough in the electoral count, to claim the presidency.

But almost immediately, the Florida vote totals began to change, and by 2:00 A.M. the next morning those same networks were declaring Bush to be the winner in Florida, and thus of the presidency.

Gore, believing the networks knew what they were

doing this time, called Bush and conceded, but several minutes later he was told by staffers that the vote was shifting again and that the State of Florida was again too close to call, so at 3:30 in the morning he called Bush back and un-conceded. A half hour later, at 4:00 A.M., the networks again reversed themselves and declared the state too close to call.

By the time the sun rose Bush was ahead by 1,784 votes, but an official recount was required. After a machine recount Bush's lead was reduced to 229 votes, and Democrats began filing lawsuits demanding that hand recounts be conducted, and dozens of lawyers for both sides began to arrive in the state, and thus began what was to become a five-week war over the Florida voting system, and thus, the presidency of the United States.

The Florida ballots were confusing. The punch cards used were imperfectly perforated, and state judges ordered that they be individually examined to ascertain voters' intents. Bush's lead began to shrink.

But after five weeks of recounting and legal squabbling the US Supreme Court intervened to stop further recounting, holding that its subjectivity violated the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution. They further ruled that under existing law there wasn't time to do a new recount and that the vote, as it then stood, would be official. George Bush had won Florida by 537 votes.

The next day, Gore conceded but the nation's trust in the integrity of elections has yet to recover.

The state of Florida, to its credit, revamped its voting system completely, so that such a circus can never happen again, and is now known for its voting system integrity.

Most states had already done that. The fact that some still haven't is a national disgrace.

## Congress Must Block Hamas Terrorists From Entering Our Country

After four years of Biden-Harris failures, our country is set to make an incredible comeback with Republican control of the Senate, the House of Representatives, and the White House starting in the new year. And at the top of our agenda will be securing our border, deporting illegal aliens, and restoring the rule of law.

Until then, though, the Biden-Harris open border remains a national security threat, and Congress should waste no time in taking action to protect our country.

Since taking office, the Biden-Harris administration has apprehended nearly 400 suspected terrorists at the southern border—representing a 3,000 percent increase compared with all four years of the first Trump administration—and released nearly 100 aliens on the terrorist watch list into our country.

Unfortunately, these are just the terror suspects we know about: Under this administration, there have been more than two million known "gotaways," illegal aliens who have evaded apprehension by law enforcement. We do not know who these people are, where they have come from, or what they are doing in our country.

At the same time, border agents have apprehended more than 1.7 million "special interest aliens" who come from countries that pose a national security threat to our nation, including Iran.

Of course, this is the same regime that orchestrated the horrific October 7 terrorist attack on Israel that claimed the lives of more than 1,200 people, including 46 Americans. Iran-backed Hamas terrorists also took more than 250 people hostage, including 12 Americans—four of whom remain in captivity.

No one connected to these barbaric attacks should be allowed in our country. Yet under President Biden and Vice President Harris, that risk remains high.

Earlier this year, Canada began issuing visas to Gazans with little to no vetting—meaning aliens with potential ties to Hamas could enter our country not only from the southern border but also from our northern border. Instead of addressing this threat, however, earlier this year President Biden issued an executive order that prevents many illegal aliens from Hamas-controlled Gaza from being deported.



SEN. MARSHA BLACKBURN

Make no mistake: Our country cannot afford two more months of this administration's broken immigration policy. In the wake of President Trump's election, human traffickers in Mexico are reportedly urging migrants to rush the border before President Biden leaves office.

To ensure that no migrant tied to Hamas and the horrific

terrorist attack on October 7 is allowed to enter our country, Senator Rosen and I introduced the bipartisan No Immigration Benefits for Hamas Terrorists Act. Specifically, the bill would prohibit any migrant who carried out, participated in, planned, financed, afforded material support to, or otherwise facilitated in any way the attacks perpetrated by Hamas against Israel on October 7, 2023, from being admitted to the United States.

The legislation would also prohibit any such individual from being eligible for any immigration benefits.

Earlier this year, this commonsense legislation passed through the House of Representatives with an overwhelming, bipartisan majority: 422-2. With the growing threat of an illegal immigration surge ahead of Inauguration Day, the Senate should pass the bill immediately and send it to President Biden's desk.

**PLAYING USHER** By Mary Jersey

1	V	A	T	S	6	R	A	G	E	7	G	E	8	T	A	T	E	9	10	T	A	T	E	11	12
13	E	S	A	U	14	G	A	D	15	O	L	I	V	E	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	R	I	L	L	27	T	I	L	E	28	F	E	T	E	S	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	
38	B	A	C	K	39	B	A	N	A	40	F	R	O	N	T	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	
50	R	A	C	H	51	E	L	B	E	52	N	I	L	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	
64	A	H	A	65	R	I	S	E	66	S	K	I	S	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	
78	T	A	K	E	79	N	I	N	80	S	P	E	E	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	
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110	L	O	E	S	111	S	L	E	112	S	L	A	T	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	

**PUZZLE SOLUTION**

1	P	G	Y	R	T	N	U	O	C	D	I	E	M	B	Y	U	P	I	N	D	L	E	C	T	L	R	P	Y	Q	C	I	D	H	T	N	A	F	E	G	A	T	V	E	O	S	T	M	P	D	S	H	P	S	R	T	Y	P	A	S	T	O	U	R	C	V	M	F	P	G	I	U	C	L	U	D	T	B	V	D	O	C	H	F	I	I	P	F	E	T	G	U	H	G	G	E	Y	R	A	T	O	Q	P	P	T	E	E	F	I	Q	F	T	A	V	G	M	N	R	M	S	F	G	F	C	T	U	C	L	C	S	G	R	Y	R	L	A	F	H	B	O	A	G	I	A	T	M	L	I	R	E	M	G	Q	V	R	Y	A	L	G	I	T	L	N	T	I	B	E	V	H	R	E	M	I	A	N	G	R	M	S	L	T	M	J	R	P	T	L	R	C	L	N	U	D	N	S	I	Q	E	N	P	B	D	F	R	H	D	N	E	E	U	E	F	Y	P	V	E	A	E	V	R	A	I	D	E	F	F	S	S	R	O	P	R	S	A	M	R	E	N	U	Q	G	N	A	R	E	T	E	V	C	O	C	Y	T	V	C	M	O	G	T	N	A	N	E	T	U	E	I	L	T	O	R	M	H	E	Y	O	F	F	E	N	S	E	V	I	P	M	T	L	V	E	A	N	A	V	G	U	A	R	D	L	P	M	P	T	V	P	Y	S	I	H	A	Y	Q	O	P	E	R	A	T	I	O	N	N	E	E	T	E	Y	L	D	A	Q	N	S	P	U	F	P	Y	M	O	A	D	B	R	R	B	V	V	V	A	H	R	E	T	T	H	M	O	G	S	U	A	L	A	B	U	N	L	Q	B	S	H	Y	R	A	T	I	L	I	H	P	Y	U	I	B	T	S	H	D
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ANSWER: Level: Beginner

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 welcomed to submit Letters to the Editor by emailing us at contact@crockettcountytimes.com or via mail at PO Box 66, Alamo, TN 38001.



# PUBLIC NOTICES & RECORDS

## Lake County General Sessions Court

### 11-07-24 Arraignment

Aaron Bartlett – possession of weapon – convicted felon – public defender appointed, administrative attorney fee \$50.00, bond \$5,000, keep in contact with lawyer, bond condition can't have firearm  
 Steve Bell – public intoxication – trial 12-09-24, public defender appointed, administrative attorney fee \$100.00  
 Marshal Benthall – theft of merchandise up to \$1,000 – public defender appointed on this case as well, bond \$7,500 – app 11-14-24  
 Vickie Clark – domestic assault – physical contact – Johnny Warren appointed, administrative attorney fee \$50.00, app 12-09-24  
 Devin Davis – failure to appear – dismissed  
 Daniel Flowers – criminal trespass, vandalism up to \$1,000, burglary – other than habitation – public defender appointed, administrative attorney fee \$50.00, bond

\$7,500, keep in contact with lawyer, poss unlaw drug paraphernalia uses & activities, meth – mfg, del, sell, poss with intent – app 11-14-24  
 Tara Lyons – aggravated assault – public defender appointed, administrative attorney fee \$50.00, bond \$3,500, reset 11-14-24, no contact with victim, keep in contact with lawyer  
 Jeremiah Marquis Williams – speeding 55/73, financial responsibility law, driving unregistered vehicle on hwy – reset 12-05-24

### Appearance

Lucas Baltezor – dui first offense – bond \$1,500, reset 12-05-24  
 Shaun Chamberlain – vandalism up to \$1,000 – bond \$1,000, nolle pros  
 Jerry Wayne Cole – driving while license suspended – 12-09-24, theft up to \$1,000 – bond \$2,000 – public defender appointed, administrative attorney fee \$50.00, appearance 12-09-24

Devin Davis – driving while license suspended – dismiss  
 Jeffery Doyle – public intoxication – reset 12-05-24  
 Daniel Flowers – criminal trespass – 11-14-24  
 Shane Keenum – driving without license – reset 12-05-24  
 Kabrian Kimble – poss unlaw drug paraphernalia uses & activities – prelim 11-18-24  
 Pamela Rooks – domestic assault – guilty plea, 11/29 to time served, no contact with victim, no contest, waive all cost  
 Joneisha Lasha Warren – speeding 55/72

### Payment Status

Jerry Wayne Cole – domestic assault, contempt of court, probation violation – 12-09-24  
 Jeffrey Doyle – public intoxication – reset 12-05-24  
 Daniel Flowers – theft of merchandise – shoplifting, contempt of court, worthless checks – 11-14-24

Tracie Forrest – fraud use credit/debit card – illeg poss, theft up to \$1,000 – bond \$2,000, reset 12-09-24  
 Clifford Gooch – driving while license revoked, poss unlaw drug paraphernalia uses & activities, meth: possess or casual exchange – reset 12-05-24, public defender appointed, administrative attorney fee \$50.00  
 Monica Hernandez – poss unlaw drug paraphernalia uses & activities – reset 11-14-24  
 Gregory Xavion Gross – cruelty to animals – reset 12-09-24  
 Cletus Ward – dui first offense, implied consent- enhancement only, open container

### Traffic Hearing

Jerry Wayne Cole – speeding 55/75 – 12-09-24

### Hearing

Robert Woods – dui first offense – guilty plea 11-29 to 48 hrs, \$350.00 fine/cost, surrender drivers license, app 12-09-24

## Lake County General Sessions Court

### 11-14-24 Arraignment

Charlotte Allen – theft up to \$1,000 – 12-02-24  
 Kenneth Boyd – child abuse/neglect/endangerment 8 years or less, public intoxication – retain counsel, bond \$10,000 – appearance 01-13-25  
 Amarion Giles – soliciting sexual exploitation of

a minor, residential and work restrictions – public defender appointed, administrative attorney fee \$50.00, bond \$100,000, appearance 11-21-24  
 Christopher Lawrence – domestic assault - \$1,000 bond, continue 6 months / no violent contact/cost 05-15-25 dismissed  
 Gary Peete – assault – physical contact – 12-02-

24  
 John Paul Russell – driving while license revoked – 12-12-24  
 Larry J. Smith – driving while license revoked – bond \$1,000, 12-16-24

### Appearance

Marshall Benthall – theft of merchandise up to \$1,000, burglary - other than habitat or non public building, criminal trespass, public intoxication - \$7,500 bond, criminal trespass – bond \$5,000 – preliminary 11-21-24  
 Cindy Kay Dillard – fraud use credit/debit card – illeg poss – bond \$1,500 – appearance 12-15-24  
 Daniel Flowers – criminal trespass, vandalism up to \$1,000, burglary other than habitation, poss unlaw drug paraphernalia uses & activities, meth: mfg, del, sell, poss with intent – Johnny Warren appointed, administrative attorney fee \$50.00, app 11-18-24  
 Cassheus Unyeya Giles – failure to appear – 11/29 to time served  
 Scotty Joe Hale – registration expired, driving while license suspended, failure to appear – 12-19-24 – driving while license revoked, dui first offense, implied consent – enhancement only – trial 12-19-24  
 Tomara Dai Hockett – driving while license suspended – 11-18-24  
 Bobby Jackson – fraud use of credit/debit card – illeg poss – 11/29 to time served, restitution \$6.87 – 12-12-24  
 Katherine L. Jones – simple possession/casual exchange, contempt of court – 12-12-24  
 Amanda Kirk Capps – theft of merchandise up to

\$1,000 - public defender appointed, administrative attorney fee \$50.00, appearance 12-16-24  
 Micah Lanier – simple poss/casual exchange – 11/29 to 30 days, no fine/cost, poss unlaw drug paraphernalia uses & activities – dismissed, schedule IV drugs: mfg, del, sell, poss – dismissed – bond \$3,500 – domestic assault – bond \$2,000 – dismissed  
 James Lewis – dui first offense, driving while license revoked - prelim 01-09-25  
 Tara Lyons – aggravated assault – 11-18-24  
 Bridgett Michelle Shaffer – driving without license, financial responsibility law, registration expired – show cause 12-02-24  
 Alyssa D. Slaughter – disorderly conduct - \$500.00 – dismissed

### Payment Status

Jamarion Abbott – theft up to \$1,000 -11-21-24  
 Patrick Benoit – failure to appear – mmp.ccr \$45.00, driving while license revoked 2nd or subsequent, evading arrest flight – vehicle – payment status 12-16-24  
 Jacob C. Cambell – simple poss/casual exchange, contempt of court – dismissed, \$1,500 bond, mmp.ccr \$50.00, dui first offense, contempt of court – payment status 12-19-24  
 Daniel Flowers – worthless checks – up to \$1,000, theft of merchandise – shoplifting, contempt of court – 11-18-24  
 Cassheus Unyeya Giles – assault – bodily injury – bond \$1,000 – 12-12-24  
 Monica Hernandez – poss unlaw drug paraphernalia uses & activities – public defender appointed

– VOP # 1 – 12-16-24  
 Charles Higgins – assault – bodily injury, aggravated assault, contempt of court – forfeited cash bond  
 Lavita Johnson – dui first offense, implied consent – enhancement only, drivers to exercise due care – 12-16-24  
 Katherine L. Jones – worthless checks up to \$1,000 – all payments to go to this case – 12-12-24 – meth: mfg, del, sell, poss with intent, poss unlaw drug paraphernalia uses & activities – 12-12-24  
 Jerry Kimmons – poss unlaw drug paraphernalia uses & activities, harassment, assault – bodily injury, meth: mfg, del, sell, poss with intent – payment status 12-16-24  
 William Woodrow Kolwyck – simple poss/casual exchange, contempt of court, simple poss/casual exchange – suspend sentence/ waive cost  
 Christopher Lawrence – simple poss/casual exchange – 01-06-25  
 Jon Bailey Marvin – dui first offense, possession of handgun while under influence, schedule VI drugs: mfg, del, sell, poss – possess firearm intent to go armed – dangerous felony  
 David Mobley – financial responsibility law, driving without license, leave scene of accident – property damage – payment status 12-12-24 – all payments goes to this case, theft up to \$1,000, contempt of court, public intoxication – 12-12-24  
 Thomas Quillions – meth: mfg, del, sell, poss with intent – 12-16-24  
 James Ramsey Jr. – simple poss/casual exchange  
 Jeffery O. Rice – com-

munity supervision violation, contempt of court x 2  
 Roger Staggs – domestic assault, contempt of court, probation violation – 01-13-25  
 Courtney Ayla McNeal Wiggins – simple poss/casual exchange – reset 11-18-24  
 Nicholas Willoughby – schedule II drugs: mfg, del, sell, poss, contempt of court

### Status

Daniel Flowers – criminal trespass – 11-18-24  
 Tymeisha Holcomb McKinnis – assault physical contact – bond \$1,000 – show cause 12-02-24  
 Lori Nugent – assault – physical contact - \$1,000 bond  
 Nicholas Willoughby – evading arrest, simple poss/casual exchange, poss unlaw drug paraphernalia uses & activities

### Show Cause

Sasha Decker – simple poss/casual exchange – show cause 12-02-24  
 Justin Peterson – domestic assault – reset 12-02-24

### Traffic Hearing

Scotty J Hale – financial responsibility law, driving on roadways laned for traffic – 12-19-24  
 James Lewis – light law – motor vehicle – bond \$1,500

### Hearing

Cassheus Unyeya Giles – driving while license suspended – 6 months to time served - \$50.00 fine/cost – 12-02-24  
 Jimmy Lee Hurst – dui first offense, implied consent – enhancement only - \$3,000 bond, mmp.ccr \$50.00 – 12-16-24

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The Tennessee Department of Transportation is about to make final settlement with the contractor for construction of the above numbered project. All persons wishing to file claims pursuant to Section 54-5-122, T.C.A. must file same with the Director of Construction, Tennessee Department of Transportation, Suite 700 James K. Polk Bldg., Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0326, on or before 1/3/2025.

**Public Notices Meeting Notice**

The monthly meeting of the Board of Directors for the Reelfoot Lake Regional Utility and Planning District will be held on **Tuesday, November 26, 2024 at 4:30 P.M.** at the District's office located at 5465 W Hwy 22, Hornbeak, TN 38232.

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~Romans 15:4

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~Isaiah 41:10

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## FEATURES FROM THE BIBLE


### TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE

**Sarai and Hagar**  
Genesis 16

Sarai and Abram had no children. How could they inhabit the Land God had given Abram and his offspring. Sarai took things into her own hand. Sarai urged Abram to sleep with her servant girl, Hagar. Sarai contended that any children from this relationship, she would claim.

Abram agreed and slept with Hagar. Hagar conceived. She became very proud and arrogant toward Sarai. Sarai blamed Abram for her trouble. With Abram's permission, Sarai beat Hagar and Hagar ran away.

An angel of the Lord spoke to Hagar and told her to return to Sarai. She obeyed and bore a son, Ishmael.



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Psalm 23:1-3 (NIV)

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."  
Matthew 11:28 (NIV)

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~Philippians 4:6

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Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.  
~Proverbs 3:5-6



# SPORTS & EDUCATION

## Growing Together: Lake County FFA Reflects on Nationals in Indianapolis

Nevaeh Grandi  
LCCHS FFA President

On October 22-26, Lake County FFA had the honor of attending the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. We would like to tell ya'll a little about our thrilling experience. When we arrived, you could already feel the welcoming presence of the 70,000 FFA members from all 50 states! We

were introduced to so many people, new things, and exciting experiences. We got to learn more about our AG community and the people within it. We all came together as one big farming family and learned more than we could've imagined.

We learned lessons and made changes, but overall Nationals was one of the best ways to bring us as FFA members together. I just want to say how thankful we are to have been

able to go and would like to share one of our member's words of their time there.

Symphanie- "I had a fantastic experience! It was very inspiring for me and I can't wait to be able to connect to more people! The scavenger hunts were amazing and it helped me connect to people. This experience gave me more useful ideas and hopefully we'll be able to experience this again."



People attending our November FFA Meeting

## State FFA Leaders Engage with LCCHS Agriculture Classes and Chapter

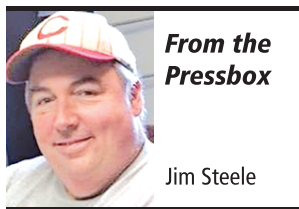
Gentri Beal  
LCCHS Reporter

On Friday, November 8, our Lake County High School Agriculture classes enjoyed a visit from two FFA State Officers. The State Officers also attended the November Chapter FFA meeting. They left the students with immeasurable motivation and inspiration. A huge thank you to Shelbi Wallace and Sarah Ault for their lasting impact on our students!



INTRODUCTION: FFA student Hope Bumpus (right) introduced the State Officers to our bunny, Bob.

## Tennessee D takes the night off



From the  
Pressbox

Jim Steele

All day Saturday, people asked me who I thought would win the Tennessee-Georgia game. The line was 9.5 points.

I said I thought Georgia would cover.

It did.

Georgia did more than that. Yes, Georgia covered, but it also demonstrated that Tennessee still isn't ready for prime time. When the lights were brightest and the stakes were the highest, Tennessee folded like laundry. Georgia's quarterback Carson Beck struggled the week before against Ole Miss. Its top running back, Trevor Etienne, was out of the lineup. Georgia's offensive line was so porous against Ole Miss, one could have strained spaghetti noodles with it.

This was a prime opportunity for Tennessee to showcase itself as one of the elite college programs.

Instead, we learned that Tennessee wasn't ready to emerge as a contender.

Yes, the Vols got off to a good start and took a 10-0 lead. Once Georgia bled out its adrenaline, it got in a rhythm and slowly took over the game. The stumbling, bumbling Bulldogs of last week emerged Saturday as an unflappable team that did what it wanted to do against the Vols' allegedly stellar defense.

I think Tennessee coach Josh Heupel has sent out a search party to look for the supposedly dominant Vol defense.

For the eighth straight time, Georgia has bested Tennessee. This is not a rivalry, not when you lose eight straight to an opponent.

This is par for the

course. Tennessee is not a good SEC road team. Go back to Heupel's first year. The Vols had a shot at winning the SEC East but was blown out by South Carolina in Columbia. Last year, Tennessee folded against a weak, struggling Florida team in Gainesville. This year, the Vols suffered a loss at average Arkansas and tonight bowed to an injury-riddled Georgia team with numerous offensive questions.

Georgia found its defense and rallied to take the lead. Carson Beck looked like Tom Brady the way he directed this offense. The Bulldogs didn't turn the ball over, made the big plays and, as Gen. Neyland suggested long ago, when the breaks went against them, they put on more steam.

Tennessee had bad penalties at inopportune times. Vol quarterback Nico Iamaleava is still inconsistent when throwing the deep ball. And when he did make a nice completion, it was called back because of a penalty.

Okay, let's be honest, Tennessee wasn't just horrible. It did a lot of good things...just not enough of them. Tennessee moved effectively on the ground, but when you become a unidimensional team, you rip a lot of pages out of your playbook. The Vols ran well but was very inconsistent through the air.

Meanwhile, Georgia's line, which had more holes in it than an Iraqi tank against Ole Miss, kept Beck upright for the most part. He could have smoked a cigar, done his homework, then thrown the football as much time as he had. The vaunted Tennessee pass rush was AWOL. I might have suggested to Tennessee defensive coordinator Tim Banks that his unit buy tickets, go through the turnstiles and become

spectators. As a result, Beck was able to pick apart the Vol secondary as if UT's defense wasn't there. Yes, the defense made a few big plays...just not enough of them. Beck made a few key plays...quite a few of them.

This Georgia offensive line, which looked deficient against Ole Miss, came to life when Tennessee showed up. It seems the Vols have a knack for that kind of thing. They make the mediocre look like All-Americans.

Sadly, the pundits don't fancy Tennessee. If Tennessee was ranked No. 2 and unbeaten, a loss might have dumped it out of the Top 10. With two losses, the pundits all day Saturday were trumpeting that Ole Miss, Georgia and Alabama still have chances to get to the SEC title game. The Vols, who were ranked higher than those three, were not favored to qualify, according to the panelists and talking heads.

Tennessee needs to be doing it better than the other guy to eliminate the doubters. I figured that Georgia would cover the spread tonight. I was right. But I was just going by history, which has a way of repeating.

Tennessee is making progress, though. A year ago, the Vols would have been four-touchdown dogs and navigating through a 7-5 season. I think the Vols can learn from this setback.

Yes, this loss was revealing, but Tennessee is making progress. Just not as fast as people would like.

Jim Steele is a correspondent for Richardson Media Group and can be reached on X @steele-sports or via email at [pressbox1@gmail.com](mailto:pressbox1@gmail.com).

## tnAchieves Leading the Way to Prepare Students for College and Beyond

tnAchieves is proud to share the fall 2024 report from College Promise titled Preparing Tennessee Students for College, Career, and the Future.

Tennessee has been a longtime leader in higher education policy innovation and implementation, with the most well-known being the Tennessee Promise. The scholarship offers every Tennessee high school senior the opportunity to go to community or technical college tuition and mandatory fee free. As a partnering organization to the Tennessee Promise, tnAchieves serves more than 90 percent of high school seniors in the state.

"A quality education can change the trajectory of a student's life, and Tennessee Promise is focused on ensuring students seeking a post-secondary education earn a meaningful credential," said Governor Bill Lee. "By providing every high school graduate with the opportunity to attend college tuition-free, we are creating greater opportunity and outcomes for Tennessee's most vulnerable students while helping our state meet its workforce goals."

Beyond the Tennessee Promise program, tnAchieves continues to innovate ways to support students. tnAchieves builds and executes student-focused programming that enrolls students in postsecondary education and provides critical support to at-risk students improving their chances at completing a credential or degree before pursuing meaningful careers in Tennessee.

"tnAchieves has considered itself the engine behind the TN Promise for more than a decade," said tnAchieves

President and CEO Krissy DeAlejandro. "We know that it takes more than eliminating the funding barrier to ensure increased college enrollment and completion. tnAchieves is more than college access and success. It is a holistic career pathways model focused on building Tennessee's future workforce."

In this report College Promise explains how tnAchieves is using a statewide model to transform the way Tennesseans think about college and better prepare students for success after high school.

Highlights include:

- An explanation of how tnAchieves crafted and implemented a statewide proactive coaching model alongside emergency aid funding. Results of this program show that participants are 6X more likely to graduate from college than their peers.

- The value of community partnerships, and tnAchieves' model for conceptualizing, piloting, studying, and scaling programs.

- tnAchieves' willingness to share their findings. The landmark TN Promise program has given tnAchieves the opportunity to inspire the development of more than 430 different Promise program programs in all 50 states.

To read the full report, you can find that here. You can also learn more in today's Forbes article here.

tnAchieves is a 501(c)3 nonprofit. Any interview requests or questions can be directed to Rebecca Franklin at [Rebecca@tnAchieves.org](mailto:Rebecca@tnAchieves.org) or (865) 748-7767.

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