

Shelby Chapter DAR heads to nationals with quilt

“Acts of Rebellion Stitched with Threads of Home” is theme

By Dawn Hankins
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Shelby Chapter DAR has entered a quilt in the Tennessee DAR American Heritage contest and the entry recently won first place in the state.

The quilt now qualifies for the national competition. It will be displayed at the TSDAR State Conference in Franklin April 10-12. From there, it is entered in the national level of the contest and the winners will be announced at Continental Congress in Washington, D.C. in June.

Shelby Chapter is very proud of the state result and hopes to do well at the national level.

The theme for the 2025 American Heritage Contest for DAR was Road to Independence-Acts of Rebellion and



Treason.

Shelby Chapter learned of the contest in August and the project had to be completed and turned in by December 31.

“We brainstormed ideas for the design on the ride back from a workshop and chapter member Aurelia Swann began sketching in the car,” Shelby

Chapter DAR member Maureen Garrett told the T-G.

Aurelia has been quilting for 15 years. DAR members said she never slowed down on her work on the design and was able to submit it by the contest deadline.

Aurelia had some help with the design ideas, but the layout and the quilting were all her work.

The name of the Shelby Chapter quilt entry is, “Acts of Rebellion Stitched with Threads of Hope: A Nation’s Journey.”

An important required component of the project was the narrative, which explained how each feature of the quilt represented the theme. The narrative was the work of First Vice Regent, Melissa Edwards. (See page 12.)



It’s been a week of education-related retirements *Bedford and MTSU losing well-known leadership*

By Dawn Hankins

One local educator and two well-known at MTSU in Murfreesboro announced last week that they will be passing the torch to others this year.

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Locally, Community High School educator and principal Robert Ralston announced his retirement from Bedford County School System, effective at the end of the school year. He has served as an educator for over three decades—27 of those years as principal of Community High.

Ralston grew up in the Unionville area, attending and graduating from Community School. He told the T-G that his upcoming retirement is bittersweet.

“It is bittersweet. I love this school and all of the things it includes. My time has come to step away and let new energy take over. I plan to continue to support and let it be known my [blood] runs purple and gold. I look forward to what new things lie ahead for both the school and me.”

Ralston said in a school system press release this week that a highlight of his career at Community High was being involved in the school’s building program which includes the first new school, the second and the latest educational wing.

Bedford County Schools Superintendent Tammy Garrett said in a release this week, “Dr. Ralston has left a legacy



From left, Community Principal Robert Ralston, MTSU President Sydney McPhee and Coach Rick Insell.

of positive impact on Community High School and this district. His commitment to students, staff and the community has been unwavering. We are grateful for the leadership, stability and care he has provided for nearly three decades. As principal, he will be greatly missed and we wish him all the best in a well-earned retirement.”

Ralston said he’s been blessed throughout his career by the loving support of his wife, Carla, and sons, Stone and Gage.

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Over at MTSU, President Sidney McPhee announced his forthcoming retirement.

McPhee has served as president of MTSU for over 25 years. He plans to take a sabbatical to “retool” and said he’s preparing to return to the faculty in the College of Education.

McPhee’s wife, Elizabeth, passed away earlier this year.

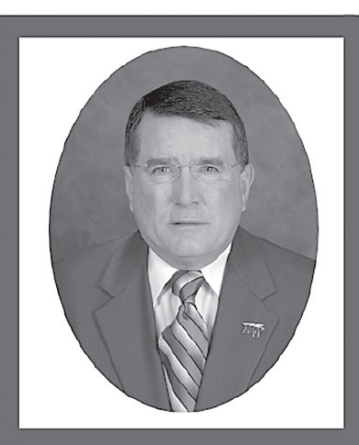
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Last, but not least, MTSU’s Rick Insell announced that he’s stepping away as long-time women’s basketball coach. His son, Matt Insell, will be stepping up into the head coaching position, as announced by MTSU this week.

Rick’s career to date marks nearly 50 years of educational service in Tennessee. For many, he’s been not just a coach but a friend and mentor.

“Coach Insell’s extraordinary success on the court is matched only by the relationships he has built and the lives he has influenced along the way,” said President McPhee in an MTSU press statement. “On a personal level, I am grateful to call Rick a long-time friend and, on behalf of the university, I thank him for his remarkable contributions and enduring legacy.”

In 21 seasons at his alma mater, Insell has led MTSU to 505 victories, making him the most winningest coach in program history.



Before his time at MTSU, Insell compiled a 775-148 record over 28 seasons as coach at Shelbyville Central High School, winning 10 TSSAA Class AAA state championships—including consecutive titles multiple times—and earning four national coach of the year honors. “I am honored to have led the Middle Tennessee women’s basketball program for over two decades,” Coach Insell said this week. “From our first season together to our 20th consecutive postseason appearance, it has been an incredible journey.”

Within the many stories that filled the internet and air waves about the Hall of Fame coach, Insell has never failed to thank this wife, Deb. She told the T-G this week that she has no plans to retire and will continue to run her State Farm Insurance agency in Shelbyville.

As for her husband’s legacy
See RETIREMENTS, 2A

Multi-county law enforcement agencies join car chase Monday *Bedford County got its man, and woman, drug charges*

Multiple law enforcement agencies joined together to stop a driver evading law enforcement on Monday afternoon.

BCSO reports state that on Monday afternoon, 3/23, a BCSO deputy was traveling South Cannon Boulevard when he observed a silver Nissan Altima leaving the Magnolia Motel. As he passed the vehicle, he noticed the female passenger leaned back in her seat and the driver hid his face.

The driver went inbound to Shelbyville from South Cannon Boulevard to West Holland Street. The officer continued to follow and activated a stop. The vehicle continued to drive slowly around the square onto South Main Street toward South Brittain Street.

The officer reports that it was clear the driver was attempting to evade law enforcement. As the vehicle turned onto Highway 82 South, the officer reports that he was able to get the license plate number. The driver continued a speed of 55 mph at this point.

The BCSO officer terminated his pursuit at Lake Elaine Road but notified dispatch to alert Moore County Sheriff’s Office. MCSO pursued into Coffee County, which is when multiple units joined the chase.

The pursuit finally went back into Bedford County and into the Wartrace City limits. Coffee County Sheriff Chad Partin conducted a PIT maneuver which the reports states successfully ended the pursuit.

Coffee and Moore deputies took the driver and passenger into custody. The BC officer identified. The driver was Steven Stith, who was charged with traffic control device violation (running red light), speeding and evading arrest

See CHASE, 2A

Chad Spencer accepts Eaglette coaching position at Shelbyville Central

By Noah Maddox

On Friday afternoon, Shelbyville Central announced the hiring of Chad Spencer as the new head coach of the Golden Eaglettes after the program finished the 2025-26 season with a disappointing 8-22 record.

Spencer, an alumnus who started off as an assistant under Rick Insell at Shelbyville Central, was most recently the head coach for the Raiderettes at Moore County. His no-nonsense approach and

drive led the program to a 95-37 record over a five-season stretch that included two trips to the Class A State Tournament. The Eaglettes’ last trip to Murphy Center was in 2008, but Spencer is set on turning the program into a true contender once again.

“We’re going to give it all we’ve got to get back to where [the Eaglettes] are competing for championships,” Spencer said, “That’s my goal...and we’ll work on a daily basis to get there.”

continued on page 8A...



Chad Spencer was announced last Friday as the new head coach of the Shelbyville Eaglettes, following a 5-year stint at Moore County. Spencer led the MC Raiderettes to back-to-back Class A State Tournament berths in 2023-24 and 2024-25, compiling an overall record of 95-37 (73.4%).

‘We’ll set our goals high, and we’ll work on a daily basis to get there’

—New Shelbyville Central
Eaglettes’ coach Chad Spencer

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BC Historical Society

Heidi Cataldo-Warren presented her documentary “Wartrace: A Living Soul” at the Bedford County Historical Society meeting.

See Page 3A



TN State Board of Education

Lt. Gov. Randy McNally appointed former Shelbyville native Kelly G Rollins to serve on the board recently.

See Page 10A



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Bedford Briefs

GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

Shelbyville City Council will have its study session, Tuesday, March 31, at 6 p.m., at the Codes building on Cannon Boulevard.

SPAGHETTI

SUPPER FUNDRAISER IN FLAT CREEK

Flat Creek Community Center, 115 New Herman Rd off Highway 82, will be have its annual Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser on Saturday, April 4, from 4 to 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 a plate and are sold at the door. The meal includes spaghetti, salad, bread, drink, and a homemade dessert. Sit down or take-out meals.

FRIENDS OF THE FLY

–UPCOMING PLAY

Tickets are now available for “Silent Sky,” playing April 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, and 12 at The Fly Community Theatre. (NOTE: there is no performance on Easter Sunday, April 5.)

“Silent Sky” tells the inspiring true story of Henrietta Leavitt, an early 20th-century astronomer, whose discoveries changed how we understand the universe – even as she struggled to have her voice heard.

Follow this link to get your tickets: <https://flyartscenter.ludus.com/200523857>.

5K COLOR RUN AT WEBB SCHOOL

The Webb School's student-run Webb-a-Thon Club is hosting a 5K Color Run (or walk) on Saturday, May 2, beginning at 9 a.m. This is an effort to raise funds for the Vanderbilt Children's Hospital. The race is open to all age groups, with registration pricd at \$30 per runner/walker. Registration closes on April 2. bit.ly/run-4-kids-26 or see The Webb School in Bell Buckle Facebook page for more information.



SCHOOL BOARD RECEIVES TOP TSBA HONOR

Bedford County Schools Communications Photo

During the recent Bedford County Board of Education meeting, Pat Welsh, South Central district director with Tennessee School Board Association (TSBA), presented Bedford County with the “TSBA Board of Distinction” plaque. This award, which Welsh said wasn’t given to every board, is presented to the boards who participate in strategic planning, policy development, public education promotion and continuous board development.



RETIREMENTS

From page 1A

of a career, she advises, “First and foremost his career satisfaction lies not in the wins or losses or the Hall of Fames that include him but rather the successes of the young women who have benefited from his coaching. Many times, he has said, ‘If all I teach them is X’s and O’s (how to play basketball), then I have failed.’”

Deb notes how the university will keep Rick busy on a part-time basis with donor relations, fundraising, and the renovation of Murphy Center.

“In his spare time, he will be pursuing his second passion, golf! Possibly a third lifelong passion will reemerge as he has also mentioned getting back in the saddle and horse show ring with a promising 2-year-old owned by one of the boys.”

Travel, she said, is also a big possibility in their future.

“By birth and tragedy, we have 13 grandchildren ranging in ages from 22 to 4. Our first wedding is coming up in May.”

They’re all involved in sports, school activities, and horse shows and Deb notes they’re anx-

iously awaiting Rick’s presence in the bleachers and chairs.

When asked what she would like to say to all those fans who’ve followed Rick, family and players all over the country, Deb said, “Only to verbalize what they already know...they are family. We are blessed indeed to have been supported and encouraged by each and every one throughout this journey.”

CHASE

From page 1A

by a motor vehicle, possession of schedule I (simple) and possession of drug paraphernalia. The golden ticket to the arrest was that the driver had an active arrest warrant for violation of probation in Rutherford County. The passenger was identified as Melissa Odea, who was charged with simple possession. She refused any medical attention. The driver had complained and was transferred to Vanderbilt Bedford Hospital. After medical attention, he was taken and booked into Bedford County Jail.

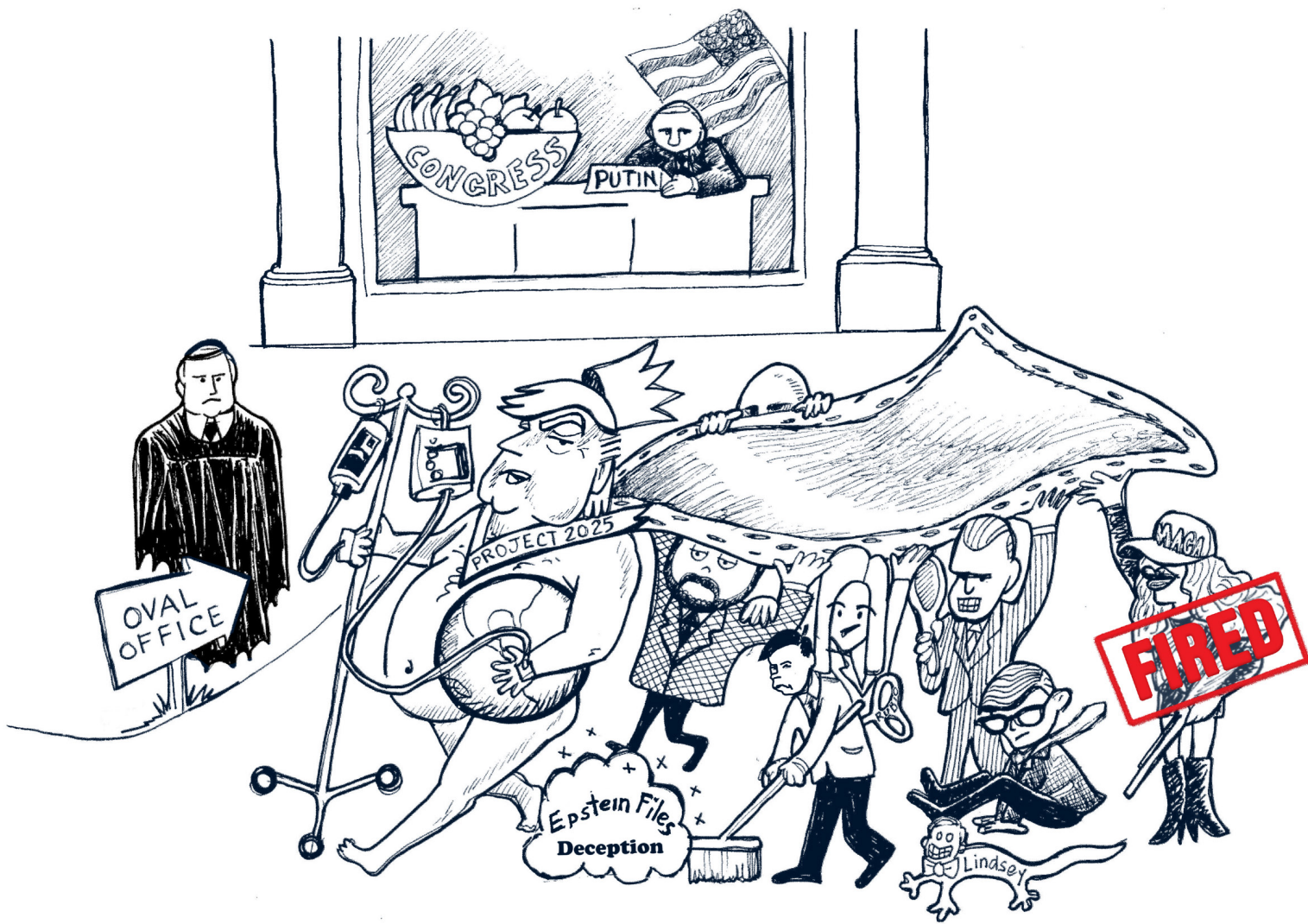
Tennessee Highway Patrol also investigated this incident.

SCOPE DELEGATES LOVE TO DEBATE!

Annually, Tennessee School Board Association (TSBA) hosts the Student Congress on Policies in Education (SCOPE) conference, which brings together 9th-12th grade students from across the state to discuss current topics in education. Participants explore education issues through mock school board meetings, group discussions and debates with their peers. These events are designed to give students an understanding of how school boards operate.

SCOPE DELEGATES from Bedford County for 2026 were: Anna Compton, Isabella Craig, Aubrey Curtis, Timothy Lucich, Maggie Simon and Cami Williams. Certificates were presented at the last Bedford County Board of Education meeting. Leaders were: Barton Williams, Kristie Caldwell and Rebecca Tidwell.

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From the desk of State Rep. Pat Marsh

I was very proud to have Gov. Bill Lee and First Lady Maria visit the district last week. They arrived in Shelbyville at 9 a.m., where we had a large, enthusiastic crowd waiting to welcome them at the Grindstone Cowboy restaurant. The governor did a great job speaking to the crowd about the upcoming 250th anniversary of our nation. He then traveled to Moore County for another large rally at 10:30 a.m. The governor plans to visit every county in Tennessee this year to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the United States.

I also want to highlight a program that is seeing significant growth in our schools this year. JAG-TN (Jobs for America's Graduates-Tennessee) was started in Tennessee under Governor Alexander. These programs have proven highly effective at supporting students who face significant barriers to graduation and workforce success. Since 2018, JAG-TN has grown from a small network of schools into a statewide initiative, transforming student outcomes. The number of students enrolled has increased from 490 to

3,500. Counties served have increased from 13 to 29, and schools served have increased from 18 to 44. We have JAG-TN programs in Bedford County at Cascade High School, Community High School, and Shelbyville Central High School.

We also had a great day on Thursday when I presented a resolution honoring Justified Honors, the Tennessee Walking Horse that has won the World Grand Championship four times at the Celebration. The owners, Dr. Jim and Lisa Baum, along with the trainer and rider, John Allan Callaway and his father, Alan, were present for the presentation. Celebration Board Chairman Jeffrey Howard and CEO Warren Wells were also there. The entire legislature had the opportunity to hear about this fantastic horse. Justified Honors will be coming to the Capitol on Tuesday for our annual Ag Day on the Hill.

I also received an update on the Memphis Safe Task Force and wanted to share some encouraging news. Legislators from Shelby County report that Memphis is becoming safer and open for business

again. The task force has made more than 6,200 arrests since September 2025, including 35 for homicide, 686 for controlled substances, 550 for firearms violations, and 89 for sex offenses. It has also seized 1,023 firearms and located 148 missing children. This is great news for Memphis and great news for Tennessee.

I also wanted to make sure everyone is aware of House Bill 2264, which establishes a Class A misdemeanor offense for deliberately interfering with a lawful religious service. The legislation addresses actions such as trespassing, disruptive demonstrations, or other intentional acts meant to disturb or obstruct the order and solemnity of a religious gathering.

In other news, Governor Lee recently announced the approval of The Boring Company's lease and permit for the Music City Loop by the Tennessee Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration. This project will connect downtown Nashville to the Nashville International Airport, with an estimated travel time of approximately eight minutes be-



4x Celebration WGC Justified Honors —Celebration photo

tween downtown and the airport once the system is complete.

It was a pleasure to welcome members of our Moore, Lincoln, and Bedford County Farm Bureaus to the Capitol this week. I always appreciate the opportunity to sit down with the hardworking men and women who keep our agricultural community strong. I'm grateful they took the time to visit; it is always good to see familiar faces!

Yesterday, it was

great to visit with Cheryl Pendergrass and her colleagues from the Tennessee Health Care Association. She represents the Lynchburg Nursing Center, and we were also glad to have folks join us from Shelbyville and Fayetteville.

I also wanted to highlight that Southwest Airlines launched its first direct flight from Nashville to Knoxville, which took place last week. Southwest Airlines has been in Nashville since 1986, when they had 8 flights

per day. Today, they operate up to 203 daily departures to 80 destinations from Nashville, continuing to play a major role in connecting our state and supporting our economy.

I'm honored to serve as your state representative! Please call or email me if I can ever help. 615-741-6824, rep.pat.marsh@capitol.tn.gov. You are also welcome to come to the Capitol and stop by my office at 610 in the Cordell Hull building.

UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL!

By Dawn Hankins

Everyone has probably at some point watched a police pursuit of fleeing vehicle on TV. As a reporter, I generally have to cover such events from police reports. But last Monday afternoon, I can honestly say I watched a police pursuit (lots of police to be exact) live, up close and personal!

As I sat in traffic at officer command, I watched officers throw out the spike strip across the road that stops fleeing vehicles.

As they waited on the perp to make his entrance, it was scary, I admit. But I also witnessed, not just potential passenger vehicle danger, but also what officers are exposed to in such situations. As

the officers soared after the fleeing perp, I found myself honored to have seen such noble action.

Did they get their perp? Yes, they sure did.

The pursuit finally went back into Bedford County and into the Town of Wartrace city limits. Coffee County Sheriff Chad Partin conducted a PIT maneuver to successfully end the pursuit. While law en-

forcement does the PIT as safe as possible, it is used in such circumstances to stop fleeing vehicles which can potentially injure or kill others.

Believe me, you don't want to wind up on the end of PIT maneuver. It's not worth it!

The PIT maneuver (precision immobilization technique), also known as TVI (tactical vehicle intervention or tactical vehicle inter-

ception), is a law enforcement pursuit tactic in which a pursuing vehicle suddenly- laterally- strikes the side-rear of the pursued vehicle, thus causing the pursued vehicle to swing around and come to an unplanned stop. Ideally, forces of motion cause the struck vehicle to "pinwheel" around its own center axis and wind up facing the opposite direction of travel. The technique was

developed in the late 1980s by BSR Inc., a law enforcement training center in West Virginia, and was first used by the Fairfax County Police Department in Virginia, United States, in 1988.

Coffee and Moore deputies took Monday's fleeing driver and passenger into custody. The BC officer identified.

See page 1 today for the full story.

Historical Society sees Wartrace documentary

The Bedford County Historical Society held its spring quarter meeting on Monday evening, March 16, 2026, in the Fellowship Hall of the First United Methodist Church on the Square in Shelbyville. Guests included Chad & Noah Fletcher, Kimberly Clay, and Wartrace Mayor Bryan Ross.

A potluck supper kicked off the meeting at 6:30pm, hosted by Rusty & Christy Anderson, Ray Armstrong, Jackie Houk, John & Carol Jones, Claudia Curl, and Marc Majors. The Fellowship Hall was decorated in an Easter theme, featuring seasonal greenery with bunny rabbits, Easter

eggs, and complimentary serving and dining table accessories. Freda Head provided daffodil arrangements for the serving tables.

Following the potluck meal, the Society held a business meeting. Recording Secretary Christy Anderson gave the secretarial report, followed by Treasurer Hazel Foster's financial report and Corresponding Secretary Carolyn Smotherman's membership status.

President Simmons thanked Carolyn Smotherman, Jimmy Gifford, Tom Crowell, and Daphne Motes for articles in the Spring 2026 issue of the Historical Quarterly.

The Society has received the Mt. Lebanon Church & Cemetery memorial marker which will be dedicated at the cemetery's May 9th Decoration Day service. In other business, he announced that the next meeting of the Society Board of Directors is on Wednesday, April 8 at the Public Library at 1:00pm.

The Poplin Memorial History Award applications are due back from the three county high schools on April 1st. The Board will evaluate them at their April Board meeting. Awards will be made at each school's

Senior Awards Day Program in May.

After the business meeting, Program Chair Don Gallagher introduced the evening's program and speaker. Heidi Cataldo-Warren presented her documentary "Wartrace: A Living Soul." The presentation featured eras from the Native Indian occupation to the formation of the railroad, incidents of the Civil War, expansion during the Industrial Revolution, and the development of the Tennessee Walking Horse industry. It included personal interviews with

local citizens, Mrs. Irma Troxler, Andy Gore, Don Gallagher, and Blossom Merryman, all of whom gave details of their Wartrace heritage.



Society member Rusty Anderson chats with March 16th meeting speaker Heidi Cataldo Warren about her program on the history of Wartrace. Looking on are Betty Sanders, Noah Fletcher, and Hazel Foster.



From left - Hosts Claudia Curl, Ray Armstrong, Christy Anderson, Rusty Anderson, and Marc Majors pause for a moment before serving up the Historical Society's March 16th meeting potluck supper.



Historical Society member Hazel Foster signs up two new Society members, Noah and Chad Fletcher, for the 2026 roster.



Society member John Cortner (left) and Program Chair Don Gallagher chat with March 16th meeting speaker Heidi Cataldo Warren and her husband Michael Warren. Heidi presented her documentary, "Wartrace; A Living Soul."

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FEATURES FROM THE BIBLE

TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE

Success in Gerar
Genesis 26:12ff

Isaac planted crops and reaped great harvests. The Lord was blessing him. His flocks and herds increased and he was envied by the Philistines. They filled the wells Abraham had dug with earth.

Abimelech asked Isaac to move to the Valley of Gerar. There he reopened the wells dug by his father, Abraham.

The herdsmen of Gerar quarreled with Isaac's herdsmen over the water. Isaac and his people moved from there and dug another well and no one quarreled over it. He called the place Rehoboth, saying, "The Lord has given room and we will flourish in the land."

From there Isaac moved to Beersheba where the Lord appeared to him and again stated the covenant He had made with Abraham and affirmed to Isaac, "that He would bless him and make him a great nation."

Isaac built an altar there and worshipped the Lord and he settled there.



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- SCOTT UNITED METHODIST
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- ST. JOHNS AME
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Annual “Piping on the Green” Celtic Festival & Highland Games returns to Tullahoma April 11

Highland Rim Scottish Society proudly announces the return of its annual Celtic Festival and Highland Games, “Piping on the Green,” on Saturday, April 11, 2026, at the South Jackson Performing Arts Center in Tullahoma.

Now celebrating its twelfth year, this free, family-friendly event brings the sights, sounds, and spirit of Scotland and the Celtic nations to middle Tennessee.

Gates open at 8:00 a.m., with opening Ceremonies beginning at 9:00 a.m. The festival runs through 6:00 p.m. and offers a full day of immersive cultural experiences, historic demonstrations, athletic competitions, and world-class entertainment.

A Celebration of Celtic Culture

Piping on the Green features two stages of live Celtic music showcasing regional and national bands, traditional music sessions, Highland dancers, and the stirring sounds of massed bagpipes. The Nashville Pipe and Drum Band will perform, along with a kilted color guard to open the festivities in grand fashion.

Festivalgoers can explore:

- Centuries-old Scottish Highland Games competitions
- Full-contact armored knight cage fighters
- Axe throwing, Viking dodgeball with foam axes and shields, the fight pit with foam weapons, or the log wrestling challenge.
- Clan Row featuring dozens of Scottish clan associations
- Over 30 Celtic craft vendors
- Live weaving, wood-working, and metal smithing demonstrations
- Celtic workshops including ornament making, Irish drum instruction, and Scottish dance
- A traditional music session for musicians and enthusiasts

Highland Games Competition

A highlight of the day is the Scottish Highland Games, where more than 40 athletes from across the region will compete in both men’s and women’s categories. These historic strength and skill events trace their origins back centuries in the Scottish Highlands.

Spectators will witness crowd favorites such as the caber toss, where competitors flip a massive tapered log end-over-end for distance



and accuracy, and the sheaf toss, in which athletes use a pitchfork to hurl a burlap sack filled with straw over a high bar. Additional heavy events like Stone throws, hammer throws, weights for distance, weights for height showcase raw power, technique, and tradition, delivering one of the most thrilling spectacles of the festival.

In addition to the cultural programming, guests can enjoy Celtic food trucks, craft beer, and whisky tastings featuring Impex Beverages single malts.

And for a truly memorable experience, attendees can even meet and pet a Highland cow.

Free and Open to the Public

As a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating and sharing Scottish culture, the Highland Rim Scottish Society is committed to making this event accessible to all. Admission

and parking are free, thanks to the support of volunteers, community partners, and sponsors like The Celtic Cup Coffee House in Tullahoma, the original location and partner of Piping on the Green.

“Piping on the Green has grown into one of the region’s premier Celtic

celebrations,” said festival organizers. “Whether you have Scottish heritage or simply love the music, history, and traditions of the Celtic nations, there is something here for everyone.”

Families, history enthusiasts, music lovers, and the curious alike are invited to don their kilts,

bring lawn chairs, and spend the day immersed in Celtic heritage.

For more information or sponsorship inquiries, please visit HRSSTN.ORG or follow the Highland Rim Scottish Society on Facebook or Instagram

Event Details:

Piping on the Green Celtic Festival & Games

Saturday, April 11, 2026

8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

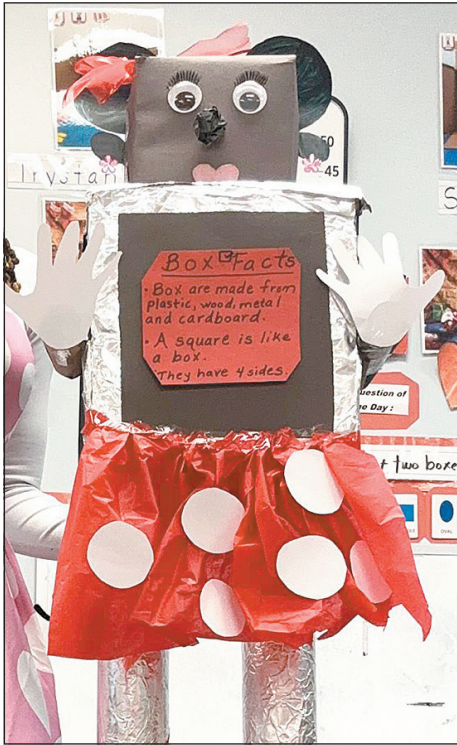
Opening Ceremonies at 9:00 a.m.

South Jackson Performing Arts Center

Tullahoma, Tennessee

Free Admission

Come for the pipes. Stay for the culture. Leave with the spirit of the Highlands.



ROBOTS AND ‘BEAUTIFUL MASTERPIECES’

Submitted Photos

Erica Christon, a teacher at Northside HeadStart in Shelbyville and teacher assistant Maria Godinez wanted to share with the community their amazing robots they created out of boxes. “The box study helped encourage the kids to use their imagination and creativity. It also improves fine motor skills, spatial relationships by stacking, balance and cutting skills. Erica and Maria call the robots “beautiful masterpieces.”



Obituaries

Gloria McLean Redden

Gloria McLean Redden, 84, passed away on March 19, 2026, in Knoxville, Tennessee.

Born in Nashville, Tennessee, Gloria spent most of her adult life in Versailles, Kentucky, where she built a life centered on family, faith, and service to others. She shared 64+ years of marriage with her beloved husband, James Philip Redden, until his passing in September 2025.

Gloria was a devoted mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother whose love for her family was evident in all she did. She is survived by her two sons, Jim Redden (Julie) and Joe Redden (Nina); her 5 grandchildren, Ben Redden (Mollie), Zach Redden (Michaela),



Morgan Redden, Max Redden, and Adam Redden; and her 2 great-grandchildren, Osborne Redden and Reid Redden. She is also survived by a sister, Carol Crouse.

She was deeply dedicated not only to her family, but also to her community. Gloria was actively involved with Gardenside Christian Church, local schools,

helping underprivileged children (esp. at Christmas), and many community service efforts. She gave generously of her time and energy, and she touched many lives through her kindness, faith, and steady presence.

Gloria also found great joy in life’s simple pleasures and friendships. She loved bowling, tennis, and playing bridge, and she brought warmth, grace, and a sense of fun wherever she went.

She will be remembered for her loving heart, her devotion to others, and the lasting impact she made on her family and community. She will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

Hillcrest Funeral Home is assisting the family.

Death Notices

Myrtle Clyde Hartley

Myrtle Clyde Hartley, age 26, of Baytown, Texas, passed away on Sunday, March 15, 2026, in Texas.

Myrtle is survived by her husband, Kevin Hartley, of Mims, Fla.

Lawrence Funeral

Home in Chapel Hill is in charge of arrangements.

David Earl Riggs Jr.

David Earl Riggs, Jr., age 56, of Bell Buckle, died Saturday, March 21, 2026. Born in Bedford County, David was son of the late David Earl Riggs,

Sr., and Patricia Robinson who survives. Other survivors include sisters, Lindsey (Travis) Layne and Amanda Riggs; brothers Daniel (Lisa) Riggs and Russ (Lesley) Robinson.

Lawrence Funeral Home in Chapel Hill is in charge of arrangements.

FOUR-LEGGED RACE													By Jerry Berns												
1	C	O	I	F	S		6	B	E	G	A	N		11	C	A	R		16	R	U	E			
14	O	N	T	A	P		15	I	G	L	O	O		18					19	O	D	D			
17	B	O	O	T	L	E	G	G	E	R	S		21	A	T	E		22	S	I	R				
				20	H	O	P																		
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29	C	U	R			30	C	L	A	M		32	S	O	U	L									
33	R	E	B		34	H	O	B	O	S		36	B	R	E	E	D								
39	I	R	A	N		41	G	O	T	H	S		43	O	G	R	E								
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61	N	N	E			62	I	N	E	L	E	G	A	N	T	L		65							
68	E	I	N			69	N	E	V	E	R		70	L	E	A	S								
71	T	E	D			72	G	R	E	T	A		73	S	A	N	D	S							



CRIMINAL JUSTICE STUDENTS AT LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY

Submitted Photo

Criminal Justice-II students at Community High School recently visited the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy in Nashville. Students witnessed pursuit driving, defensive tactics, and courtroom procedures.

Crossword

CLUES ACROSS

- 1) Hairdos
6) Led off
11) Gridlock component
14) Alternative to bottled
15) Arctic dwelling
16) Feel regret over
17) Sellers of illegal alcohol
19) Hard to explain
20) Emulate a bunny
21) Snacked
22) "Dear" mister
23) Living in water
27) Grandeur
29) It's certainly not a show dog
30) "Happy" mollusk
32) Kind of food or mate
33) Vicksburg combatant, briefly
34) Old rail riders, stereotypically
36) Animal variety
39) It was Persia
41) Black-clad teens, often
43) Folklore monstrosity
44) 100,000 make a newton
46) Back-up sounds
48) Shoot the breeze
49) "Able to ___ tall buildings ..."

- 51) Edible tuber of Polynesia
52) Superlative suffix
53) Christmas tree sheddings
56) False fronts
58) Special-interest grp.
59) Crater creator, perhaps
60) Barely defeat
61) Compass reading, sometimes
62) In a disgraceful way?
68) A, in Berlin
69) Not just "no!"
70) Auto contract, sometimes
71) Knight or Nugent
72) Garbo of "Ninotchka"
73) "___ of Iwo Jima"

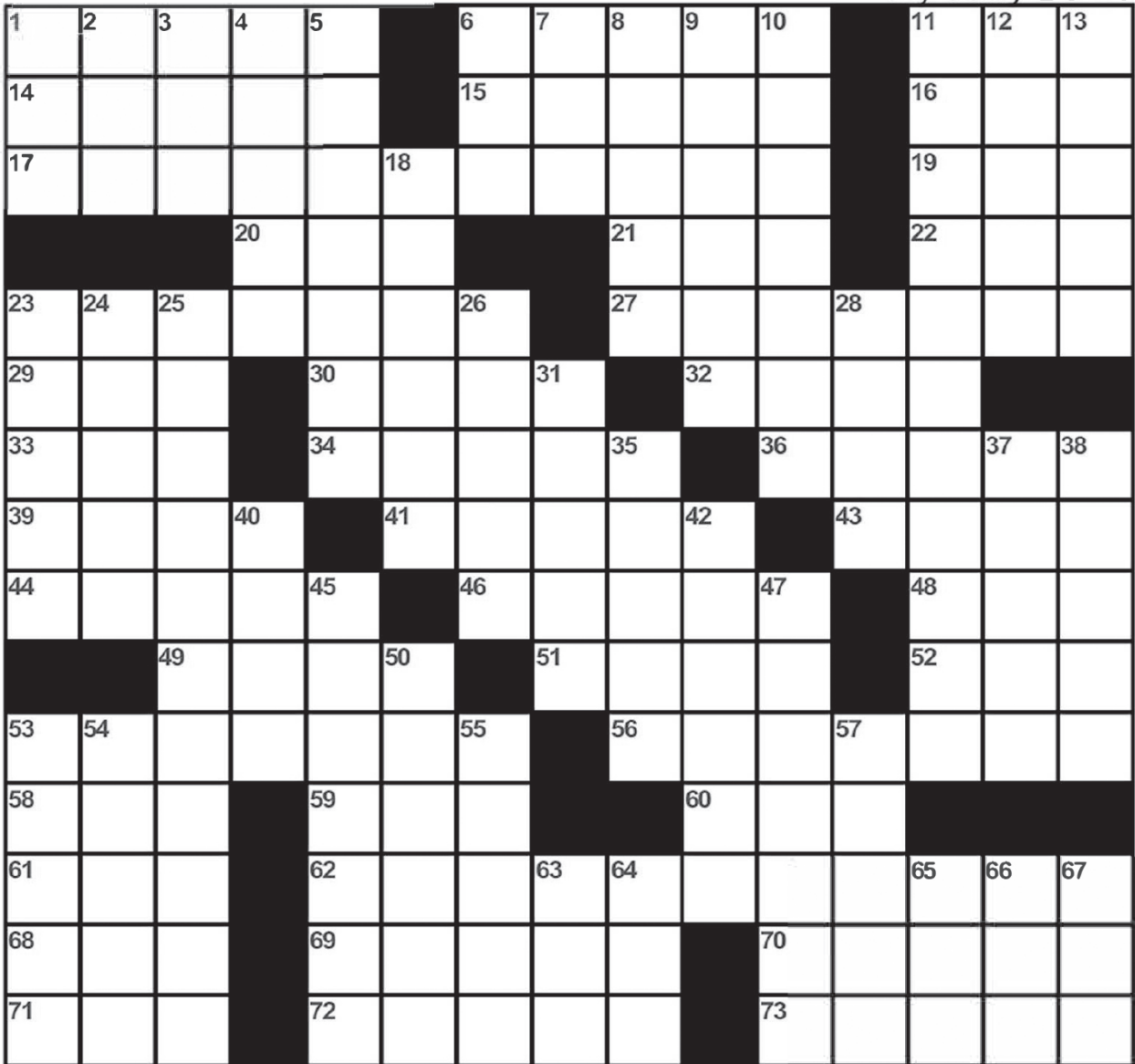
CLUES DOWN

- 1) Picnic discard, sometimes
2) Lady associated with the Beatles
3) "Am ___ believe ... ?"
4) Jazzy Earl Hines' nickname
5) Large irregular spot
6) Above average in size
7) Coop ovoid
8) Faint flicker
9) Main arteries
10) Rhinoplasty

FOUR-LEGGED RACE

FreeDailyCrosswords.com

By Jerry Berns



- 11) How Buddha sits
12) Attend a class for no credits
13) Remove more moisture from
18) Concluding speech (var.)
23) Bitter-tasting
24) Ask

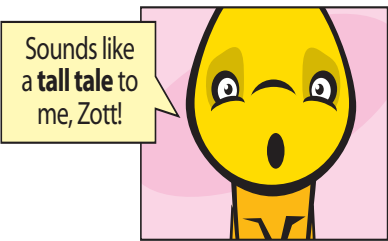
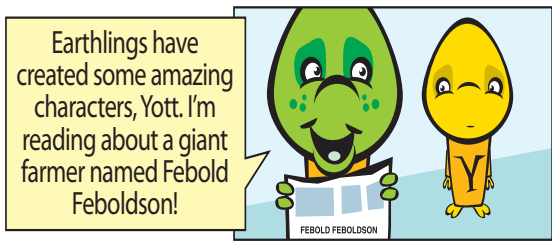
- 25) Bit of modern folklore
26) One spelling for a meal on a skewer
28) 100 cents, somewhere
31) Short choral composition
35) Bundle of grain
37) Delete, as messages

- 38) Mortgages, e.g.
40) "No ___ to apologize"
42) Pounced
45) Preserving, as pork
47) Tea parties, e.g.
50) Author
53) Group of nine
54) A Muppet
55) Martin of comedies

- 57) Breathing problem for heavy sleepers
63) Allow
64) The-lower-the-better pitching stat
65) Thing acquired on a beach
66) "Acid" drug
67) "All right!"



THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE
Get puzzle answers, recipes and more at www.kidscoop.com
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KID SCOOP AMERICAN LEGENDS
FEBOLD FEBOLDSON

About 170 years ago, thousands of pioneers began heading for rich farmland in Oregon and, later, for gold in California. After crossing the Mississippi River, they came to the wide, flat prairie we now call the Great Plains. From these Great Plains have come tales of a giant Swedish farmer called Febold Feboldson.

Febold Brings Rain to the Plains

Read the story, then number the pictures in order.

The first year Febold Feboldson settled on the Great Plains, it was hot. And it got hotter every day: hotter and drier, drier and hotter. It was so hot that iron pots melted!

When the streams dried up and Febold Feboldson couldn't go fishing, he said, "Enough!"

Febold sat down and cupped his jaw in his giant hand, and thought and thought—until suddenly he came up with a plan.

First he splashed some water on a hot and tired frog and whispered in its ear, "It's raining!"

The happy frog croaked the news to his frog friends. Soon more frogs joined in the song. They got so loud that it sounded like thunder!

Some clouds heard the noise and hurried to join the storm. Seeing there was no storm when they got to the Great Plains, the clouds went ahead and started their own, giving Febold Feboldson a rainstorm and a chance to get back to fishing.

Standards Link: Literary Analysis: Understand the basic plots of fables.

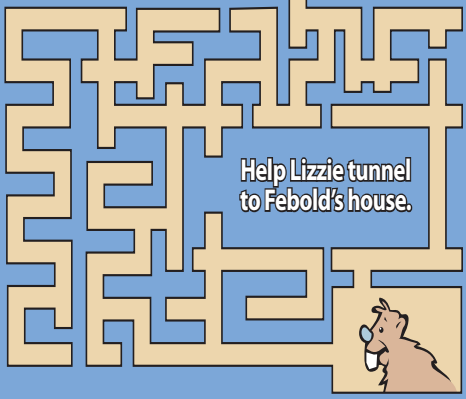
Despite the weather, some pioneers settled in the plains. In the 1920s, a newspaper in Gothenburg, Nebraska, entertained readers with tales of Febold Feboldson, a giant farmer who loved the Great Plains and was determined to control the weather.



Febold Feboldson's Pets

Animals came into Febold's huge house because it offered the only shade around the Great Plains. Soon Febold had a houseful of pets, from rattlesnakes to buffaloes.

Febold had Lizzie the gopher dig tunnels under his house. Febold figured if he could trap the hot air of the summer into the tunnels, he could save it for winter when he would need the warmth.



Help Lizzie tunnel to Febold's house.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

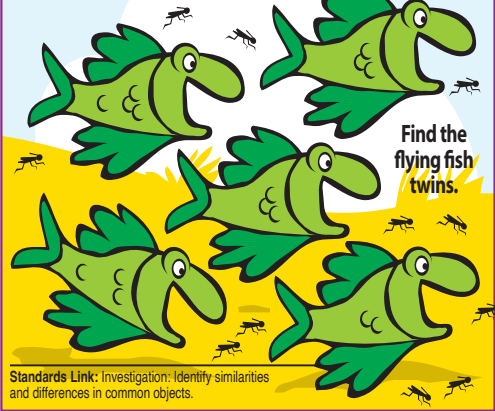
Extra! Extra!
Friend Finder

Tales tell that while Febold loved the Great Plains, he had trouble convincing others to stay. He longed for a friend. Look through the newspaper and find Febold a friend. Write a letter to Febold telling him why this person would be a good friend.

Standards Link: Writing Applications: Write personal letters that establish a purpose and context.

Great Grasshoppers!

Some years the Great Plains swarm with grasshoppers. But this was not a problem for Febold Feboldson! He brought in a prairie schooner full of flying fish. Those flying fish swooped over the plains, eating grasshoppers until there were none left!



Double Double Word Search

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

FEBOLD	S N H S I D E W S F
FEBOLDSON	E O O E N B O C L R
PLAINS	O D N S S I H N R E
GREAT	L N T G D O A E D D
SCHOONER	A O O H O L M L E N
BUFFALOES	F R P N P R O F P U
FROGS	F I E O A B A B R H
SWEDISH	U R T F E G U H E T
FARMER	B S S F T A E R G F
THUNDER	
PETS	
PLAN	
HUGE	
SONG	
POTS	

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

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Febold to the Rescue

Find a newspaper story about a problem people are facing. Write a tall tale telling how Febold Feboldson saves the day. Be sure to include who, what, when, where and why.

Standards Link: Writing Applications: Write narratives that provide a context, characters and include details to develop a plot.

Write On! Exaggerate!

Exaggeration is when you make something sound bigger, smaller, faster, or slower than is possible. Write some exaggerations!

Kid Scoop Together:
Comic Character

Comic characters have different character traits. Some are kind, but some are not. Some are courageous, while others are not. What other traits do comic strip characters exhibit?

Select three characters you like from the comics. Complete the boxes below.

Comic Strip: _____
Character's Name: _____
Character Trait: _____
Action that shows the trait: _____

Comic Strip: _____
Character's Name: _____
Character Trait: _____
Action that shows the trait: _____

Comic Strip: _____
Character's Name: _____
Character Trait: _____
Action that shows the trait: _____

What's a character trait?

Read this list, and then see if you can think of any other traits.

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| responsible | clever |
| persevering | respectful |
| honest | capable |
| compassionate | hopeful |
| generous | disciplined |
| | community minded |

Standards Link: Character Education: Identify positive character traits.

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Bedford County property transfers

The following property sales were recently recorded in the Bedford County Register of Deeds office.
File date: March 17
 Location: 136 Conquest Ct; Seller, Connie L Messer, Michael Messser; Buyer, The 136 Conquest Court Trust; Price, \$276,000 (Deed).
 Location: 802 Landers St; Seller, Michael H Owen; Buyer, HP Realty Co LLC; Price, \$5,000 (Deed).
 Location: SevierSt; Seller, Michael Slatten; Buyer, Old and Stressed LLC; Price, \$10 (Deed).
File date: March 18
 Location: 2711 Highway 64 W; Seller, Southern Hospitality Homes; Buyer, Taylor Arnold; Price, \$210,000 (Deed).
 Location: 212 Sunset St; Seller, Paula LSims; Buyer, David M Sims; Price, \$0 (QD).
 Location: 216 Joe Hart Rd; Seller, Kaylee Brooke Manire; Buyer, David Mullins, Laura Mullins; Price, \$10,000 (QD).
 Location: 460 Hickory Hill Rd; Seller, Kimberly Rhea McAnally; Buyer, Greg Curl, Joey Curl; Price, \$292,500 (Deed).
 Location: Shelbyville Wartrace Dirt; Seller, Robert Allen Gordon, Billy Mark Gordon, Elizabeth G Floyd; Price, \$0 (Deed).
 Location: 200 Cobble Rd; Seller, Robin Zorn Demaio; Buyer, Linda Elin Miller, Paul Dennis Miller, Dolores Benallo; Price, \$900,000 (Deed).
File date: March 20
 Location: Sulphur

tegic Partners LLC, Greg T Curl; Buyer, Shasha Properties LLC; Price, \$108,470 (Deed).
File date: March 19
 Location: Longview Rd; Seller, Barry Richardson, Kelly Richardson; Buyer, Ralph Hennon Pearson Jr, Holli Marie Pearson; Price, \$375,000 (Deed).
 Location: 111 Parker Rd; Seller, Zachary A Combs; Buyer, Matthew Fanning; Price, \$305,000 (Deed).
 Location: 200 Cobble Rd; Seller, Robin Zorn Demaio; Buyer, Linda Elin Miller, Paul Dennis Miller, Dolores Benallo; Price, \$900,000 (Deed).
File date: March 20
 Location: Sulphur

Springs Rd; Seller, Matthew Travis Townes, Gabrielle Loreen Jackson; Buyer, Deanna Lynn Carrozza, Kennth Michael Carrozza; Price, \$439,900 (Deed).
 Location: Oak Circle; Seller, Barbara J Faulk; Buyer, King Land Investments LLC; Price, \$319,000 (Deed).
 Location: US Highway 231; Seller, Grady Cunningham; Buyer, The Cunningham Family Irrevocable Trust, Grady Cunningham; Price, \$10 (QD).
 Location: Highway 82; Seller, Shelly Burton, Gail T Burton Estate, Gail Therese Burton; Buyer, Shelly Burton; Price, \$0 (Deed).
 Location: 141 Renegar Branch Rd; Seller, The 2023 Williams Family Trust, Larry Williams, Patricia Williams; Buyer, Larry Glen Williams, Patricia Cheryl Williams; Price, \$0 (QD).
 Location: Burnt Hill Rd; Seller, Shirley A Hill; Buyer, Terrell A Hill, Donna S Hill; Price, \$0 (QD).
File date: March 23
 Location: 718 Gant Rd; Seller, Jack Roper; Buyer, Victor Vilchiz Garcia; Price, \$125,000 (Deed).
 Location: 337 Hilltop Dr; Seller, Laura Odom; Buyer, Cynthia Ray; Price, \$339,900 (Deed).
 Location: North Main Street; Seller, Shelbyville Grand LLC, Keith Edward Weaver; Buyer, Jon English; Price, \$275,000 (Deed).

AD VERITAS
 Who is Paying for This War?



Daniel Richardson
 Publisher/
 Owner

daniel@RichardsonMediaGroup.net

Gas prices have a way of getting people's attention.
 Over the past few weeks, prices across Tennessee have jumped more than a dollar per gallon, with the statewide average now sitting around \$3.63 to \$3.64. Nationally, we're pushing toward \$4 per gallon again. For many families, that's not just a headline—it's a line item in the budget.
 And it raises an important question:
 Who is paying for this war?
 Not in the sense of government funding or military appropriations. That conversation tends to happen in Washington. But here at home, the cost shows up in a much more familiar place—the gas pump.
 When prices jump, the impact adds up quickly. The average American

driver uses roughly 50 to 60 gallons of gasoline per month. That means a dollar increase translates to about **\$50 to \$60 more per month per driver**. For families with two drivers, it's easily \$100 or more. And it's still going up.
 And that's just the direct cost.
 Across the United States, there are more than **230 million licensed drivers**. Even if we conservatively estimate that only 200 million of them are actively buying fuel in a given month, a \$100 increase per driver adds up to roughly **\$23 billion in additional monthly fuel costs**.
 Twenty-three billion dollars.
 Every month.
 And potentially increasing from here.
 That money isn't coming from nowhere. It's coming out of household budgets—money that might have gone toward groceries, savings, or paying down debt. And fuel costs don't just affect drivers. They ripple through the entire economy. Higher die-

sel prices raise the cost of transporting goods. That shows up on store shelves. Food, materials, and everyday essentials all become more expensive.
 So while the conflict in Iran may feel distant, its effects are anything but.
 Now, to be clear, Iran's leadership has been hostile to the United States for decades. Their support for terrorism and pursuit of advanced weapons have made them a legitimate concern on the world stage. No one should pretend otherwise.
 But even when a threat is real, the cost of responding to it is real too.
 History has shown that conflicts in the Middle East rarely stay contained. They disrupt global energy markets, tighten supply, and send prices climbing. The Strait of Hormuz—a narrow passage through which a significant portion of the world's oil flows—has already been cited as a source of concern. When that supply is threatened, the price is felt worldwide.

Including right here in Tennessee.
 This is one of the less visible ways war is paid for. Not just through taxes or national debt, but through everyday expenses that quietly increase. A few extra dollars at the pump. A slightly higher grocery bill. A little less margin at the end of the month.
 It doesn't make the evening news in the same way missile strikes or troop movements do. But for most Americans, it's the part they feel the most.

None of this is to suggest that national security decisions are simple or that threats should be ignored. But it is worth remembering that every major decision carries consequences beyond the battlefield.
 We often think of war in terms of strategy, objectives, and outcomes. But for millions of families, the question is much simpler:
 What is this costing us?
 And right now, at least in part, the answer is showing up every time we pull up to the pump.

Tennessee gas prices climb sharply, reports show weekly surge

Average gasoline prices in Tennessee rose by about 30 cents over the past week, according to data from both GasBuddy and AAA.
 AAA reported the state average reached \$3.64 per gallon on March 23, an increase of 30 cents from the previous week. That price is \$1.09 higher than a month ago and 96 cents more than one year ago.
 GasBuddy data showed a similar trend, with the statewide average at \$3.63 per gallon, up 31.1 cents over the past week. Prices are 110.7 cents higher than a month ago and 97.3 cents higher than this time last year.
 The lowest price reported in Tennessee was \$2.99 per gallon, while the highest was \$4.59 per gallon, a difference of \$1.60, according to GasBuddy.
 AAA spokesperson

Megan Cooper said several factors are contributing to rising prices.
 “Tennessee pump prices have risen over a dollar more expensive since the beginning of the month, and we're now seeing the most expensive gas prices since August 2022,” Cooper said. “Elevated crude oil prices, the seasonal switch to summer blend gasoline and an expected rise in gasoline demand are all placing upward pressure on prices at the pump.”
 Nationally, gas prices also increased, rising 24 cents over the past week, according to AAA. GasBuddy reported the national average at \$3.92 per gallon, up 24.3 cents during the same period.
 The national average price of diesel rose 27.0 cents over the past week to \$5.227 per gallon, the highest level since November 2022, according

to GasBuddy.
 AAA data showed the most expensive metro markets in Tennessee were Nashville at \$3.69, Cleveland at \$3.67 and Clarksville at \$3.67. The least expensive markets included Morristown at \$3.54, Johnson City at \$3.59 and Knoxville at \$3.60.
 Among nearby markets tracked by GasBuddy, Chattanooga averaged \$3.64 per gallon, Nashville averaged \$3.68 and Huntsville averaged \$3.57.
 “Gas prices continued to rise nationwide over the last week as seasonal factors, combined with ongoing supply concerns tied to the continued disruption in the Strait of Hormuz, pushed both gasoline and diesel prices sharply higher,” said Patrick De Haan, head

of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy.
 “It now appears increasingly likely that the national average price of gasoline will reach the \$4-per-gallon mark — potentially as early as this week — for the first time since 2022.”
 AAA said increased seasonal demand, higher crude oil prices and the transition to summer fuel blends are contributing to continued upward pressure on prices.

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NOTICE OF LIEN SALE
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 The following vehicles will be sold at public auction to satisfy towing and storage charges on or after Friday, April 10, 2026 at 12:00 PM at the above address:
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 2013 Toyota Camry #4T1BF1FK8DU246715
 2019 Toyota Camry SE #4T1B11HK5K4693401
 2015 Chevrolet Tahoe #1GN5CBKC9FR648189
 All vehicles sold AS IS.

NOTICE TO:
 Respondent, Arturo Huehue, the State of Tennessee, Department of Children's Services has filed a PETITION FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS in regards to the minor children, S.P. born on September 4, 2020 and O.P.X. born on September 23, 2021, it further appears that ordinary process of law cannot be served upon you because your whereabouts are unknown. You are hereby **ORDERED** to appear in the Juvenile Court of Rutherford County, Tennessee located at 1710 South Church Street, Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37130, on the **5th day of June 2026 at 9:00 a.m.** to personally answer the PETITION. Failing to appear for the hearing on this date and time, without good cause, pursuant to the Tennessee Rules of Civil Procedure, will result in the loss of your right to contest the petition. You may view and obtain a copy of the Petition and any other subsequently filed legal documents at the Rutherford County Juvenile Court Clerk's Office. (3194tc)

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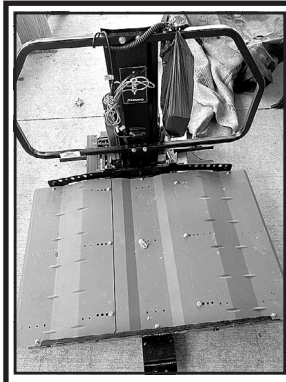
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MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE

3 APRIL

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“We’ll set our goals high, and we’ll work on a daily basis to get there” – Shelbyville Central Hires Chad Spencer as Eaglettes’ Head Coach

BY NOAH MADDUX
noah@richardsonmediagroup.net

Continued from Page 1...

“I’ve always had my eye on this job ever since I became a head coach,” Spencer said, “So when the opportunity presented itself, I showed some interest and came and interviewed. I’ve kept my eye on them this past season, and I feel like they got a lot of young ladies that have a tremendous amount of potential and skill.”

Spencer is a championship-level coach, most recently having won three District 9-A titles and two Region 5-A titles in his five seasons at Moore County. He was also named as the 2024 Basketball Coaches Association Tennessee Pat Summit Coach of the Year. The keys to his success? Tough and stingy defense paired with extremely high effort levels on both ends of the court.

“A lot of times we play 94 feet, and we’re aggressive on our defense and like to try to get out and transition,” Spencer said, “I think that’s an exciting way to play basketball. The fans are going to see some kids that when they step on the floor, they’re going to have a tremendous amount of pride [for Shelbyville Central], they’re going to play hard, tough-nose defense, and we’re going to share the ball offensively.”

As a former assistant with the Eaglettes under the legendary Rick Insell, and when he was attending Shelbyville Central, Insell guided the program to a pair of national championships. Spencer has always been around tremendous success in his time at Shelbyville Central, and he has a high amount of reverence for the history of the Eaglettes.

“I’ve had a lot of Eaglettes that go all the way back to the first team that won a state championship there reach out to me about getting the job, and that means the world to me,” he said, “The opportunity that Coach Insell gave me when I was just a kid, just wanting to learn the game, learn those life lessons about how to work hard, and the system that he ran I still use that as a template to this day. I’ll never not be thankful for him and his family to take me under their wing like they did. I think back when I was in school, and then even when I was an assistant there with Coach Insell, we just had great leadership at Shelbyville Central High School with Mike Bone and all those teachers who took pride in the program. So we had our coaches in the gym, you know, but we also had a lot of faculty members that were a huge part of our success by helping those young ladies along the way, fulfill their dreams, and I feel like at Shelbyville Central High School we’ve got that coming. I think Mr. Pope is doing a fantastic job.”

“I’m excited to get back into that high school that meant so much to me and for these kids, not just the athletes and the basketball players, but all those kids. This is a job that I’m going to take a lot of pride in.”

Although he’s leaving Moore County after a short stint, Spencer says that he’ll always remember the five years he spent in Lynchburg while also being thankful to the current administration at Shelbyville Central for the opportunity.

“I will always have a place in my heart for Moore County and the Raiderettes,” he said, “We accomplished a lot in my short tenure, and I’ll never forget that. All

the fans that came out and supported us...it is a special place, and I’m confident that whoever they get to come in will do a good job as well. I’d like to thank all the administrators for giving me this opportunity. I take it very seriously, and I’m excited.”

Included below is the press release from Bedford County Schools last Friday:

Shelbyville Central High School is proud to announce the hiring of Chad Spencer as the new head coach of the Golden Eaglettes basketball program.

A championship-level coach and U.S. Army veteran, Spencer brings a strong record of success, leadership and program development to the role.

Spencer most recently served as head girls basketball coach at Moore County High School, where he led his team to a TSSAA State Runner-Up finish in 2024 and a State Quarter-final appearance in 2025. His teams have earned multiple district and region championships, and he has built a reputation for developing disciplined, defense-focused programs and student-athletes who excel on and off the court.

In recognition of his accomplishments, Spencer was named the 2024 Basketball Coaches Association of Tennessee Pat Summit Coach of the Year and has received numerous district and region coach of the year honors throughout his career.

Spencer also brings valuable collegiate experience, having served on the coaching staff at the University of Mississippi, where he contributed to opponent scouting, film analysis, game planning and player development at the SEC Division I level.

A familiar face to the Shelbyville community, Spencer is a graduate of Shelbyville Central High School and previously served as an assistant coach for the Eagles during



Chad Spencer (pictured) patrols the sidelines at Moore County. He was hired as the new head coach of the historic Shelbyville Central Golden Eaglettes program on Wednesday, Mar. 18. In his most recent stint at Moore County, the Shelbyville Central alumnus led the Raiderettes to back-to-back Class A State Tournament appearances, and finishes his run in Lynchburg with a record of 95-37 over five seasons. Submitted Photo.

a historic run that included four TSSAA state championships.

“I am honored to return to Shelbyville Central and lead the Golden Eaglettes program,” said Spencer. “I am looking forward to building a strong culture and getting to work with the players, teachers and administrators every day. There is a lot of talent and potential in this program, and I am excited to help these players grow, compete and take pride in what they are going to build together. I truly believe we are going to do something special, and I can’t wait to get started.”

Spencer’s first day with the team is yet to be determined but will be soon, according to SCHS Principal Charlie Pope. As far as the classroom, Pope shared that Spencer will be teaching Physical Education starting next August.

When asked about his top priorities, Spencer responded, “The biggest priorities are establishing trust, setting a clear standard, and creating a team-first mindset. I want our identity to be built on toughness, discipline and

unselfish play. That starts with daily habits — how we practice, how we communicate and how we support each other. I also want our players to excel in the classroom. If we can consistently do those things, we will build a culture that our players, parents, teachers and community will be proud of.”

“Also, my goal is to develop complete student-athletes,” shared Spencer. He explained this as fundamentals on the court in effort and understanding the game, and added, “Off the court, it’s about accountability, leadership and making good choices. When our players leave this program, I want them to be better prepared for life.”

Shelbyville Central High School Principal Charlie Pope expressed enthusiasm about the new hire. “I am excited to welcome Coach Spencer back home to SCHS! He is a proven winner from his early days as a young assistant with Coach Rick Insell and including stops at Liberty Middle, Cascade High School and most recently Moore County. He is a

high-character guy, a hard worker and he believes deeply in student success on the court, the classroom and the community. We are lucky to have both Chad and his wife Scarlett join Eagle Nation!”

What can the community expect from the team this season?

“Players, parents and fans can expect a tough, disciplined team that plays hard, plays together and competes every game,” commented Spencer. “We are going to work, improve and represent Shelbyville the right way. We are building something special here, and I hope our community will come out and support the Eaglettes this season.”

In addition to his coaching experience, Spencer has served in the United States Army and the Tennessee Army National Guard. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education from Middle Tennessee State University and an associate degree from Motlow State Community College.

Golden Eagles Sweep District 6-4A Foe Warren County; Brody Thomas Throws No-Hitter in Game Two

BY NOAH MADDUX
noah@richardsonmediagroup.net

SHELBYVILLE, Tenn. – The Shelbyville Central Golden Eagles (9-1, 2-0) opened up District 6-AAAA play in style against Warren County (9-2, 0-2) in a 19-2 win after five innings on Monday followed by a 5-0 win on Tuesday.

In game one, The hosts tallied 13 hits and drew six walks, and got a good performance from Kaleb Maillet on the mound. Maillet threw all 5.0 innings, giving up just two earned runs on five hits and two walks with seven strikeouts on 84 pitches.

Meanwhile, the Pioneers were forced to use six pitchers to get 15 outs after starter Lealon Arnold was knocked from the game after getting just a single out in the first inning.

Warren County took an early lead on a solo home run to right field from Ryder Gillespie in the top of the first in-

ning, but the Golden Eagles quickly responded with five runs in the home half.

After a shutdown inning by Maillet, the hosts scored a whopping 13 runs in the bottom of the third to take a commanding 18-1 lead before eventually tacking on another run before the fifth inning.

At the plate for Shelbyville Central, Miles McCullough went 2-for-3 with one RBI, a double, and a walk, Bone went 2-for-3 with two RBIs and a double, and Westbrook went 0-for-1 with an RBI and two walks. Case Davis finished a perfect 4-for-4 with a double and four RBIs, Brody Thomas batted 1-for-2 with a walk, an RBI, and a double, and Caden Peacock finished 1-for-2 with four RBIs after tallying his first round-tripper of the season. Whorley went 2-for-3 with a double and three RBIs, and Billig batted 1-for-2 with one RBI and a walk.

In game two, Brody Thomas started on the

mound for the Golden Eagles in McMinnville, and he threw a complete-game no-hitter with just four walks to seven strikeouts on 105 pitches to pick up the win.

Gage Walker got the start for the Pioneers, pitching six shutout innings before giving up five runs – three earned – in the top of the seventh inning before being pulled for Daylen Holguin. Walker finished giving up four hits and five walks with five strikeouts on 104 pitches in 6.1 innings. Holguin got the final two outs in seven pitches.

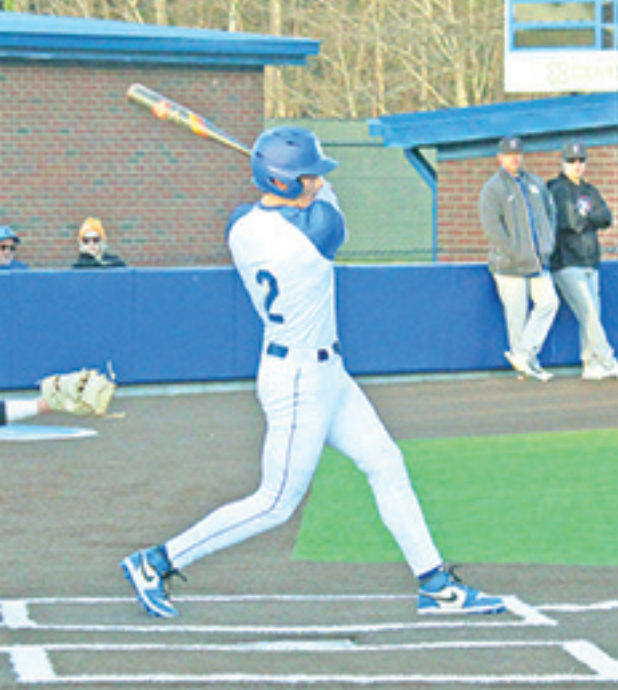
Neither team scored through the first six innings, and the Golden Eagles finished with just four hits as a team on the night after an impressive performance on Monday. The visitors did work five walks in total, and took advantage of a pair of Pioneer errors while overcoming a trio of errors themselves.

In the top of the seventh, Case Davis got things started by draw-

ing a leadoff walk. After a pickoff attempt by Walker flew past his first baseman and allowed Davis to take second, Brody Thomas laid down a perfect bunt down the first base line that resulted in a base hit. Then, Caden Peacock delivered an RBI-double into right field on an 0-2 count to drive home the first run of the game.

Ashton Whorley followed that by working a walk to load the bases, and after Chase Billig struck out, Braxton Vari worked another walk to double the Golden Eagles lead.

With the bases still loaded, Warren County brought in Holguin, and on his second pitch to Miles McCullough, the Golden Eagles’ centerfielder reached first safely on an error by the Pioneers’ shortstop, driving home their third run of the inning. Blake Bone drove home Whorley from third on a sacrifice-fly to center, and then Braxton Vari scored the fifth and final run on a passed ball.



Caden Peacock (2) went a combined 2-for-5 at the plate with five RBIs in the series sweep over Warren County with a 3-run home run in game one followed by massive RBI-double to break the scoreless tie late in game two. T-G Staff Photo by Noah Maddux.

Brody Thomas promptly shut the door in the bottom of the seventh to secure the sweep.

At the plate for Shelbyville Central, McCullough went 0-for-1 with an RBI, a walk, and a HBP at the leadoff spot. Bone was 0-for-3, but his sac-fly resulted in an

RBI. Elijah Westbrook finished 1-for-4, Brody Thomas went 2-for-3 with a pair of singles, and Caden Peacock delivered the massive RBI-double in a 1-for-3 night. Vari went 0-for-1 but worked a pair of walks and delivered an RBI.

Rick Insell Announces Retirement, MTSU Names Matt Insell as New Head Coach

MT ATHLETICS

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — Rick Insell, the winningest coach in Middle Tennessee basketball history, announced Thursday that he will retire at the conclusion of the 2025-26 season. Following Insell’s retirement, current associate head coach, Matt Insell, will take over the program, continuing the Blue Raiders’ tradition of excellence.

“Coach Insell’s extraordinary success on the court is matched only by the relationships he has built and the lives he has influenced along the way,” said President Sidney A. McPhee. “On a personal level, I am grateful to call Rick a longtime friend and, on behalf of the university, I thank him for his remarkable contributions and enduring legacy.”

In 21 seasons at his alma mater, Insell has led Middle Tennessee to 505 victories, making him the all-time winningest coach in program history, men’s or women’s. His Blue Raiders have made 21 consecutive postseason appearances, including 12 NCAA Tournament bids, seven WNIT appearances and one WBIT berth. His teams have won 10 conference regular-season championships (six in the Sun Belt, four in Conference USA), 10 conference tournament titles (five in the Sun Belt, five in Conference USA) and reached the conference championship game 13 times. Insell has coached seven All-Americans, five conference players of the year and produced five WNBA Draft picks.

“Rick Insell’s impact on our women’s basket-

ball program and our university is truly extraordinary,” said Director of Athletics Chris Massaro. “When we hired Rick, we knew we were bringing in one of the most respected and accomplished coaches in the game, but what he has built here has exceeded even those high expectations. His passion for the game, his commitment to developing young women on and off the court, graduating his student-athletes at a high level, and the championship culture he established have defined our program for nearly two decades. Rick’s legacy is measured not only in wins, championships, and national recognition, but also in the countless lives he has influenced through his leadership. He will forever be a part of the fabric of Middle Tennessee athletics, and we are incredibly grateful for everything he has given to this university.”

Before his time at Middle Tennessee, Insell compiled a 775-148 record over 28 seasons at Shelbyville Central High School, winning 10 TSSAA Class AAA state championships—including consecutive titles multiple times—and earning four national coach of the year honors. He is the only coach in NCAA history to produce three consecutive NCAA scoring champions and the only coach in history to win over 500 games at both the NCAA Division I level and in high school. His career includes more than 1,279 wins thus far.

Insell’s Hall of Fame honors include induction into the Women’s Basketball Hall of Fame (2017), the Naismith Hall of Fame Morgan Woot-

ten Award for Lifetime Achievement in High School Girls Basketball (2010), the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame (2012), and the Conference USA Hall of Fame (Class of 2025), among others.

A native of Murfreesboro, Tenn., Insell is married to the former Deb Spry. The couple has three sons: Tom, Kyle, and Matt, and thirteen grandchildren.

Statement from Rick Insell

“First, I want to thank my wife, Deb, for her unwavering support over the past 21 years at Middle Tennessee. She has been with me every step of the way and has made countless sacrifices to help me succeed. I am also grateful to our three sons, Tom, Kyle, and Matt, who have been a constant source of pride and encouragement.

I am honored to have led the Middle Tennessee women’s basketball program for over two decades. From our first season together to our 20th consecutive post-season appearance, it has been an incredible journey. I am thankful to our administration, our athletic staff, and the countless assistant coaches who have contributed to the sustained success of this program.

Most importantly, I want to thank the student-athletes I have had the privilege of coaching. They have embodied what it means to compete with integrity, pursue excellence on the court, and excel in the classroom. Each player has left her mark on this program and on me personally.

Finally, I want to thank the Blue Raider Nation



Photo courtesy of MT Athletics

for their incredible support over the years. You have made every home game, every trip, and every championship run unforgettable. I look forward to the next chapter of my life, which will include more time with my family, travel, and continuing to cheer for Middle Tennessee athletics. This program will always hold a special place in my heart.”

Following the announcement that Hall of Famer Rick Insell will retire at the end of the 2025–26 season, Middle Tennessee women’s basketball has named Matt Insell as the next leader of the program. Insell becomes the eighth head coach in program history.

“No coach has shaped Middle Tennessee women’s basketball more than my dad, Rick Insell,” Matt Insell said. “I’m honored for the opportunity to continue the tradition he built here and to work alongside this incredible group of players, staff, and fans. I’ve spent my life around basketball excellence, and I will continue to give everything I have to this program, both on and off the court. I want to thank President McPhee, Director of Athletics Chris Massaro, and everyone at Middle Tennessee for trusting me to lead this program into the next chapter of its history.”

“Matt Insell has been an integral part of the success of our women’s basketball program for many years, and we are excited for him to lead the Blue Raiders into the next chapter,” said Middle Tennessee Director of Athletics Chris Massaro. “Matt understands the

championship standard that has been built here, and he has played a major role in helping shape that culture. Just as importantly, Matt brings significant experience as a head coach and assistant at the highest levels of women’s college basketball. He led the program at Ole Miss for five seasons and previously spent five years on staff at Kentucky, where he was part of three Elite Eight runs. That background, combined with his deep connection to our student-athletes and his passion for Middle Tennessee, gives us great confidence that he will continue the proud tradition of this program and lead it successfully into the future.”

A native of Shelbyville, Tenn., Insell enters his eighth season on the Blue Raider staff and his fourth as associate head coach after returning to his alma mater in 2018. He previously served as head coach at Ole Miss for five seasons and as an assistant at Kentucky, where he was part of four NCAA Tournament squads, including three Elite Eight teams.

Since returning to Murfreesboro, Insell has helped guide Middle Tennessee to three NCAA Tournament appearances (2021, 2023, 2024) and a WNIT semifinal run in 2022. Under the combined leadership of Rick and Matt Insell, the Blue Raiders posted one of the best seasons in program history in 2023–24, finishing 30–5 overall, sweeping the Conference USA regular season and tournament titles, and advancing to the NCAA Tournament Round of 32 with a win over Louisville. The

2022-23 team ended the season ranked No. 23 nationally in the AP Top 25 Poll—the program’s first end-of-season national ranking since 2010.

“Matt Insell is the right person to lead our women’s basketball program into its next chapter,” said President Sidney A. McPhee. “I’ve had the opportunity to watch him grow as a coach and leader over the years, and he understands what it takes to succeed at Middle Tennessee. His experience, leadership, and commitment to our student-athletes—along with his deep understanding of the standard of excellence that defines this program—make him the ideal choice to carry it forward.”

Insell’s résumé highlights his ability to recruit and develop elite talent, including multiple All-Conference and All-America players, McDonald’s All-Americans, and future professional athletes. His game preparation, strategic mindset, and focus on player development have made him a highly respected coach nationally.

“Matt Insell has been instrumental in the success of our program for the last eight years,” Rick Insell said. “He understands the culture, the history, and the values that define Middle Tennessee women’s basketball. I can’t think of a better person to carry the torch forward and continue the legacy of excellence that our fans and players deserve.”

Matt Insell and his wife, Autumn, reside in Murfreesboro with their two children, Clark and Evie.



Photo courtesy of MT Athletics

Cascade Splits D9-AA Series With Loretto

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@richardsonmediagroup.net

BELL BUCKLE, Tenn. — The Cascade Champions (5-3, 1-1) got off to a strong start in District 9-AA play with a 6-0 win over the Loretto Mustangs (3-3, 1-1) on Monday before falling 5-0 in game two on Tuesday to split the series.

In game one, senior lefty Jayden Hathcock was dominant on the mound for the Champions, throwing a complete 7.0 innings with just three hits allowed while striking out 11 batters and walking zero on 93 pitches.

Hathcock first made his presence known at the plate, coming up with a big two-out, 2-RBI double into right field that plated the first two runs of the day in the top of the first inning after Xykaiah Dixon had

singled and Daymien Maldonado had walked. River Maddox drove Hathcock home with a bloop single into center to give Cascade a 3-0 lead heading into the home half of the first.

Loretto’s starter, Dillon Thompson, got through the second and third innings unscathed, but Cascade was able to tack on another run in the fourth inning. Elijah Wesenberg worked a leadoff walk then Thomas Demertelaere bunted Wesenberg to second. Caleb Crouch followed that up with a bunt of his own, and Crouch used his speed to reach first safely for a single and flip the lineup over to Jordan Childress with just one out. Childress’ ground ball to Loretto’s shortstop Grant Fisher resulted in just a single out at second, allowing Wesenberg to score and give the visitors a 4-0

lead heading into the home half.

Thompson held Cascade scoreless in the fifth, but he was pulled from the game before the sixth inning after throwing 83 pitches. Thompson pitched 5.0 innings, giving up four earned runs on six hits and three walks with three strikeouts. John Will Tucker came on in relief for the top of the sixth.

After tallying the first two outs, an error from Fisher allowed Crouch to reach safely and once again flip the lineup over. This time, Childress delivered an RBI-single to put Cascade in front 5-0.

Hathcock struck out two of the three batters he faced in the sixth, and Cascade would generate one final insurance run in the top of the seventh.

At the plate for the Champions, Childress finished 1-for-4 with two RBIs, Dixon went

2-for-4, and Parker batted 1-for-4 with a triple. Maldonado went 1-for-3 with an RBI-double, Hathcock finished 2-for-3 with a double and two RBIs, and Maddox batted 1-for-4 with one RBI. Wesenberg finished 1-for-3 with a walk, and Caleb Crouch provided a spark at the bottom of the order after going 2-for-3 with a run scored.

On Tuesday, A.J. Manus got the start for Cascade on the bump, putting up 5.0 innings of work and giving up four earned runs on seven hits and one walk while striking out seven batters on 86 pitches.

“A.J. threw the ball well,” Cascade Head Coach Travis Sheffield said postgame, “That’s all you can ask of a guy is to go out there and give it all he’s got.”

For the Mustangs, Mason Tidwell started on

the mound, but only lasted 2.0 innings. He struck out three batters and walked one with no hits on 35 pitches. George Springer came on in long relief, getting the next 12 outs while allowing just three hits and two walks with seven strikeouts on 70 pitches.

“Their [Loretto’s] pitching did what they had to do,” Sheffield said, “They went right at us. If they threw 20 off-speed pitches all game I’d be shocked. It was mostly fastballs, and we just weren’t fully ready to hit them. We were a little tardy. The approach against a hard-throwing lefty is typically to go backside, but when you overcompensate on staying inside the baseball, you wind up tardy, and that’s what happened to us.”

Loretto scored three runs in the fourth inning after Tidwell led off with

a single to left followed by a Ralee Ellis double before a dropped third strike allowed Tidwell to reach home safely and break the seal. Cooper Burleson followed that up with an RBI-single to score Ellis, and then after a bunt single preceded a flyout, Brayden Bennett delivered a sacrifice fly to left that allowed the Mustangs to take a 3-0 lead.

The visitors would score one more in the fifth and one in the seventh for insurance.

At the plate for Cascade, Jordan Childress went 2-for-4 with a triple, Daymien Maldonado batted 1-for-3, and Thomas Demartelaere finished 1-for-3. Wickey Parker drew a pair of walks. The Champions stranded seven runners on base.

SCHS Alumnus Kelly G Rollins appointed to TN State Board of Education

Lt. Gov. Randy McNally has appointed Kelly G Rollins of Murfreesboro, formerly of Shelbyville, to serve on the Tennessee State Board of Education, the governing body responsible for establishing policy and long-term educational standards for Tennessee's K-12 public education system.

Rollins will represent Tennessee's 4th Congressional District, providing oversight and

policy leadership representing approximately 200,000 students across 15 counties and 17 public school districts in middle and east Tennessee.

"Kelly G Rollins has demonstrated a lifelong commitment to serving others and strengthening communities across Tennessee," said Lt. Governor McNally. "His leadership experience and dedication to students, families, and community organiza-



Kelly G Rollins

tions will be a tremendous asset to the State Board of Education as

it continues working to ensure every Tennessee student receives a high-quality education."

Tennessee State Board of Education establishes statewide academic standards, sets policies governing Tennessee's public education system, and works closely with the Tennessee Department of Education and the Tennessee General Assembly to advance student achievement across the state.

Rollins retired after a 37-year career with United Parcel Service (UPS), beginning as a part-time employee while attending college and advancing through numerous leadership roles in operations, marketing, supply chain solutions, and business development. He concluded his career as a business development sales manager in the Mid-South District.

"I am honored by the confidence Lt. Gov. Mc-

Nally has placed in me through this appointment," said Rollins. "Education plays a critical role in shaping the future of our communities and our state. I look forward to working with fellow board members, educators, and policymakers to continue strengthening opportunities for students across Tennessee."

Rollins and wife, Cindy L. Sullivan Rollins, have lived in Murfreesboro since 1986. They have two children, Kelli Lee Dillard (Devin) and G Broc Rollins (Tori), and 3 grandchildren.

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Business Spotlight

Parking lot with future potential purchased by local businessman

Local realtor and businessman work together to seal the deal

By Dawn Hankins
dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net

Jon English, Brentwood contractor and owner of several local businesses, including the Antique Sports and Cards Store on the square, has purchased the parking lot adjacent to Shelbyville Grand on North Main Street.

As someone who has literally reworked many of the historic public square buildings back from ruin, English knows this latest purchase is a project with future potential.

"I think Shelbyville will see some big changes in the next 5-10 years. Just trying to be able to have a few properties to take advantage of what may be coming."

Local realtor Ben Craig said this week, "Jon has always had great vision for our community and courthouse square area since the first property I sold him. We have had a great business relationship and friendships with Shelbyville Grand and the owners. It was a good mesh to make this happen and a win-win for both!"

He added, "This is something that interested Jon, as he owns adjoining properties. It's great to see a square come back to life as it has."

Craig, a part of the Craig & Wheeler Realty and Auction family, said living here for 50 years, this is the most activity on the weekends that he's seen-ever-around the courthouse. He advised it's "simply impressive."

"It shows what our community desires and what good businessmen and businesswomen are supplying for that demand. I am glad to be a part of that positive aspect on many respects."

As for immediate use of the parking space, English said that is on hold as it currently needs several things done and that involves City codes. He said that will take some time to achieve.

"At this time, I just bought it to make sure my Holland Street buildings have guaranteed parking. It adds value to the buildings I already own. We will work with the City to see what the best use will be."

Send your business stories to us at dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net.



CHURCH ACTIVITIES

PALM SUNDAY

Shelbyville First United Methodist Church will observe Palm Sunday this week with a procession of palms at the front of the morning service. Pastor Abe Zimmerman will preach "Palm Sunday" from John 18:33-40. After the triumphal entry to Jerusalem, the church will look at a conversation between Pilate and Jesus. Sunday School for all ages begins at 9 a.m., followed by the worship service at 10 a.m. Nursery and Children's Church are available during worship. For those unable to attend in person, FUMC-S offers a livestream on Facebook and YouTube and a broadcast on WLJ 98.7 FM and AM 1580.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Please join **First Presbyterian Church-Shelbyville** this Sunday to begin Holy Week with gratitude and open hearts as the church remembers Jesus's triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. All children are invited to meet at the top of the sanctuary steps at 9:55 a.m. for the procession of the palms. Holy Week Services: observing the first Lord's Supper at the Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 2. On Friday, April 3 at 7:00 p.m., there will be a Good Friday Cantata. The First Presbyterian Chancel Choir will be joined by the First Christian Church Adult Choir to perform a somber and moving service. There will be two services offered on Easter: A sunrise service in the courtyard (in the front of the church behind the post office) will begin at 6:30 a.m. and Easter Worship Service will begin at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.

FUNDRAISER FOR MISSIONARIES TO BRAZIL

New Bethel Baptist Church, 1832 Highway 64 West, Shelbyville, will sponsor a spaghetti fundraiser "The Curry's take a Brazil mission trip" on Friday, April 3 from 4 to 7 p.m. The meal which consists of spaghetti with or without meatballs, salad, bread and drink is \$10 a plate. Tickets may be purchased in advance by calling 931-224-8101 or 931-205-6208 or guests can pay at the door.

AREA-WIDE SINGING IN FLAT CREEK

An area-wide singing will be held Friday, April 3, at Flat Creek Church of Christ, located off Highway 82 South. Supper will be served at 6:30 p.m. The singing will be held from 7 to 9 p.m.

Easter EGG Hunt

Local Easter Egg Hunts

First Community Bank, 207 Elm Street, will celebrate its 5th annual Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, March 28. The hunt begins at 1 p.m. Bring your own basket.

First United Methodist Church on the public square will host its annual Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, March 28, at 10 a.m. on the courthouse lawn. Photo opportunities and prizes.

A "Snack and Snap with the Easter Bunny" will be held at **Shelbyville Parks and Recreation** 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, March 28. Call 684-9780 to pre-register.

Spring Fling will be held at the Ag Center, 2119 Midland Road, Saturday, March 28, from 8 a.m., to 3 p.m. and on Sunday, March 29, from 10 a.m., to 3 p.m. Featured activities include egg hunts and food vendors. The event is sponsored by Bedford County Fair.

Manage busy spring schedules with simple, nutritious bowls

Feature Impact

When jam-packed calendars and seemingly constant takeout orders get you down, diving into a fresh way to rethink homecooked meals can get you and your loved ones into a better-for-you routine.

Break out the bowls for simple yet nutritious recipes that are equal parts filling and fresh. Easily prepped ahead of time, dishes like Chicken and Rice Bowls with

Peanut Sauce provide powerful protein and flavor without the hassle. For added pizzazz, drizzle with extra peanut sauce and squeeze a dash of lime juice.

Chicken and Rice Bowls with Peanut Sauce

Servings: 2

Creamy Peanut Sauce:

- 1 1/2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon freshly

- squeezed lime juice
- 2 teaspoons rice vinegar
- 1 teaspoon honey
- 1/4 cup creamy peanut butter
- 1 tablespoon toasted sesame oil

Bowls:

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 cup cooked, shredded chicken
- 1 cup cooked brown or jasmine rice
- 1 cup celery, julienned
- 1 cup shredded carrot
- 1/2 medium English cucumber, thinly sliced

- 1/4 cup unsalted roasted peanuts, coarsely chopped
- lime wedges, for serving

1. To prepare peanut sauce: In small bowl, whisk soy sauce, lime juice, rice vinegar and honey. Add peanut butter and sesame oil. Whisk vigorously until sauce is completely smooth and creamy. Set aside.
2. To prepare bowls: In nonstick 12-inch skillet over medium-high heat, heat olive oil until

simmering. Add shredded chicken and about 3 tablespoons peanut sauce. Stir constantly to coat chicken and heat through, about 3 minutes. Remove from heat and set aside.

3. To assemble rice bowls: In deep serving bowls, add cooked rice. Top with warm chicken covered in peanut sauce. Arrange celery, carrot and cucumber around chicken. Top with peanuts.
4. Drizzle remaining peanut sauce over bowls. Serve with lime wedges to squeeze over bowls.

PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

USA, USA, USA

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT #4

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the person or things to be seized.



The federal government has placed a mercenary army in our communities, masked and armed, detaining our neighbors and friends, wantonly damaging and destroying property, harming and killing people in our streets.

More than 70% of those taken have no criminal conviction. Men, women, children, and babies are being confined in windowless warehouses, sick and dying from neglect, beatings, and poor conditions.

Free the 70% of those in custody of ICE without a criminal conviction

Hold due process for those who remain

FREE THE PEOPLE

Find the People who have been deported to countries unfamiliar and unknown to them

FREE THE PEOPLE

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ONLY HAS THE POWER LISTED IN THE CONSTITUTION

**WITH THE PEACEFUL
POWER OF THE PEOPLE**

PARTICIPATE IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS

SHOW UP – STAND STRONG

PAID FOR BY CHRISTY WALTON. 4HONOR.INTEGRITY@GMAIL.COM

THE VIEWS REPRESENTED HERE ARE SOLELY THOSE OF CHRISTY WALTON.

Narrative says it all about Shelby Chapter DAR quilt



The following narrative accompanied Aurelia Swann’s wall hanging quilt entry into the DAR’s state contest recently. (Story on page 1.) It was written by local historian Melissa Edwards.

Wall Quilt – 38” x 38”

This hanging quilt tells a story of resistance, sacrifice, and hope. It honors the struggle our forefathers endured under the rule of King George III and celebrates the resilient, independent nation that was born from their courage. Every stitch reflects a moment of unrest, a choice to stand firm, and a belief that freedom was worth the cost.

Center Medallion

At the heart of the quilt lies a blue center medallion, a textile design common in the Colonial era. Outlined with a yellow star and bearing the dates 1776–2026, it marks the 250th anniversary of our nation’s birth. This central element reminds us that freedom began with a single, defiant declaration—and continues to be upheld by each generation.

Liberty Tree Leaves

In each corner rests an appliquéd tulip poplar leaf, also known as the “Liberty Tree.” These trees were sacred gathering places where colonists met in quiet defiance, sharing fears, plans, and resolve as they protested British rule and taxation without representation. Beneath their branches, rebellion took root. Each leaf in this quilt was created from paper etchings of a real tulip poplar leaf, grounding the piece in both history and nature. Tennessee, one of only three states to claim this tree as its state tree, is honored here. The gold thread edging each leaf symbolizes grief, sacrifice, and lives lost in the pursuit of freedom.

Blocks of Unity and Resolve

The four large squares of the quilt are built from three rows of meaningful block patterns. Two rows feature red and white spools, or bow tie blocks—symbols of unity and the interweaving of many lives into one shared cause. Several of these spools include the state of Tennessee, acknowledging its place in our nation’s journey. The third row in each square is made of blue and white half-square triangles, a beloved Colonial pattern, each marked with an outlined yellow star—small but powerful reminders of hope during uncertain times.

Stars and Numbers

Twelve half-square triangles and the center medallion bear yellow stars stitched with a running stitch. Together, these thirteen stars represent the original colonies—thirteen voices that dared to challenge an empire. When combined with the thirty-six surrounding blocks and the center medallion, the quilt holds fifty symbolic elements, honoring all fifty states that now stand together as one nation.

Seeds of Rebellion

Appliquéd tulip poplar seeds appear in the four corners and the center medallion. These nine seeds represent the “Loyal Nine,” respected merchants and tradesmen whose quiet courage helped spark organized resistance. Like seeds scattered on fertile ground, their actions grew into a revolution that changed the course of history.

A Heritage Remembered

Bound in red, white, and blue, the quilt reflects the colors of our nation’s flag and the shared heritage it represents. The red backing and border speak to the bloodshed and sacrifice that made freedom possible, while the stars throughout the quilt remind us of the many voices and states that form our union. Together, they affirm a living legacy—one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.



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📅 MARCH 28TH | ⌚ 10 AM – 1 PM

GOOD FRIDAY CANTATA

April 3, 2026 7:00 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church
600 N. Brittain Street
Shelbyville, TN

We are honored to host a Tenebrae Service featuring a poignant choral cantata. It is a somber but deeply moving service-perfect as we prepare for Easter morning. Join us for a powerful evening of music featuring the collaborative voices of the FPC Chancel Choir and the First Christian Church choir.

The church behind the post office.

