

WARTRACE SUPPORTS FIRE VICTIMS

A week of fire and water

In addition to dealing with a fire Sunday evening off Spring Street, the Town of Wartrace dealt with ongoing water issues all week.

A community meeting was planned for Monday, but some residents said they went to the meeting to find that it had been closed due to "sickness."

Some residents have questioned whether Cascade Springs could be used once again as Wartrace's main water source. Currently, Wartrace purchases its water from Tullahoma.

Wartrace Mayor Brian Ross said this week: "Going back to Cascade Springs will not solve any of our problems at all and the only thing that would change would be our water source as currently we get it from Tullahoma. If we did go back to the springs, it would be millions of dollars to do so, somewhere between \$5-10 million. The problem is how old some of our lines are, how they were placed and where they were placed. We are working on being able to monitor our lines better and that is our next plan."



Photo by Erin Douglas, Silver End Photography

Local firefighters were on the scene to put out a fire on Sunday evening on Spring Street in Wartrace. The fire left the home unlivable. The family is in need of donations. Drop clothing off at the Wartrace Town Hall. Some sizes needed are women's small and medium shirts, men's 33x32 pants, boys' youth large shirts and 4-5 size shoe.

Shelbyville homeless camps closed

Public works conducts major clean up

By DAWN HANKINS

dawn@richardsonmediagroup.net

Shelbyville's homeless community in the vicinity of the Duck River and Veterans Bridge have been asked to move on, Mayor Randy Carroll confirmed Thursday.

He read an internal message from Shelbyville Police Department about the homeless camp cleanup and patrol efforts. Working the project was Shelbyville Public Works.

Carroll advised it is nice to see those areas cleaned up.

The mayor advised that some of the camps were behind the City flood pumps, some were on the Duck River/Fisherman's Park side and some "homeless" were on a nearby church's property.

Carroll said it may seem harsh, but Shelbyville has dealt with the difficulties of the homeless community for many, many years.

He advised how many of the current "homeless" have been offered jobs and given resources and the majority say they'd literally rather "live in the woods."

But that is just no longer acceptable, Carroll explained. Many times, it is even difficult to get a previous address from someone, he explained.

"Things have changed," Carroll said, noting more drug-related activity has come into the camps. This over burdens law enforcement. (About 2 weeks ago, there was a "homeless" man arrested and incarcerated for drug possession and resale.)

During a City work session last week, Council member Gary Haile said he worked to help a displaced lady find a residence. When it was all said and done, she said, "I don't want it."

Carroll said he's a Christian man; he continues to pray for wisdom. He said he has a heart for those in need. But he also has a heart and a civic duty to

serve local tax payers.

"We're not trying to be mean," said Carroll. "This action is for the safety of the public."

Carroll said he'd like to see Shelbyville residents be able to go to Fisherman's Park without being afraid. He said the City is working hard on this effort so residents and visitors they can take their children fishing without a multitude of on-site safety issues.

The City and County have talked jointly over the last couple of years about making the Duck River area more useable and attractive to tourists. The City has leaned toward spending more tourism dollars and have considered a design that would make a River Park which connects with the back of the south side of the public square.

Last week, the homeless communities at the Veterans Bridge on South Cannon Boulevard were given 72 hours by Shelbyville Police to vacate the premises. This work was done in cooperation with the City of Shelbyville.

"It looks pretty good," said Carroll. "The Fisherman's Park area is pretty clear."

As of Thursday morning, only one woman was still trying to get moved from the property on the west side of Cannon Boulevard behind Jackson Street, Carroll said. Police said they do not know where those evicted from the camps are planning to go.

At approximately 10 a.m. Thursday, a set of packed bags could be seen parked at the curb on South Cannon.

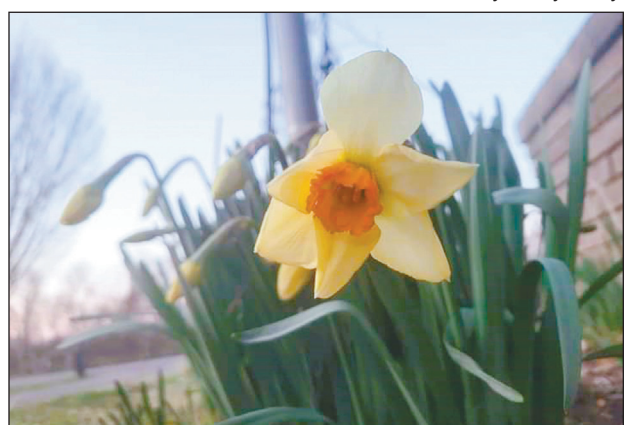
Officers and Shelbyville Public Works have dismantled any temporary shelters the homeless may

See HOMELESS, 2A



Photos by Cindy Griffy

Daffodils pop out, spring nears



T-G Photos by Dawn Hankins

Johnny Reed has returned to Bedford County's register of deeds office. The County official had surgery to amputate his left foot. He is now encouraging others to avoid diabetes at all costs. See more photos on page 12.

Johnny Reed is on a mission

Register of Deeds shares diabetic journey

By DAWN HANKINS

He was overweight, yet ate all the fries and sugary drinks he wanted. He didn't correctly take his diabetic meds. Then, last fall, life suddenly changed for Bedford County's Register of Deeds Johnny Reed.

Earlier this week, Reed talked about his journey with diabetes while sitting in a new wheelchair behind his desk on the third floor of Bedford County Annex.

A diabetic most of his life, he talks about how he became an amputee last October. After months of recovery, he shares the tough story of what happens so often to diabetics like himself.

Proactive care is essential, he says in hindsight.

Still, being a recent amputee hasn't by a long shot gotten him

down. In fact, he's more determined to keep fighting the disease.

His new goal is to help others who may be struggling as a recent amputee. He says or may be there's someone who needs advice on how to live a cleaner lifestyle in order to prevent adult-onset diabetes.

For him, it was too late to save his left foot. Now he has an artificial one.

His foot became so spongy from the diabetes/wound, it was like a stick in a bowl of cottage cheese. That's graphic, but it is in his medical records.

Reed was first diagnosed with adult-onset diabetes in 2002. It wasn't a great big surprise, real-

See REED, 12A

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Roper's Ranch

Local Longhorn rancher, Shauna Roper Mora, shares what it is like at her ranch.

See Page 7A



Rogers shares tales of life

Local veteran shares his experience of growing up and living as a homeless youth in New York.

See Page 2A





Local United Way offers free tax services

The local United Way serving Bedford County announces free VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) services on Friday, March 1st and 8th at the Experience Community Church – Shelbyville Campus. If your household earned \$76,000 or less in 2023, you may be eligible for this free, in-person tax preparation assistance.

The United Way VITA program is an IRS-supported tax preparation service, through which trained volunteers prepare taxes at no cost for qualifying individuals and families. The VITA program, along with My Free Taxes, connects community members with eligible credits such as the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). The EITC is a benefit for working people with at least one dependent and can mean more resources for essential needs such as reliable transportation, housing, and

food. According to Debbie Curtis, United Way's VITA program coordinator, the program "is a wonderful example of how your local United Way works to improve the financial stability of everyone in our community, by helping to keep money in taxpayer pockets."

"We can offer this free service to qualified families and individuals through the assistance of very committed volunteers and community partners, like Experience Community Church in Shelbyville," Curtis added.

Appointments are limited. Visit yourlocaluw.org/vita to schedule your in-person filing appointment for March 1st or 8th or call the appointment line at 615-206-7560. For more information, visit yourlocaluw.org/vita.

Historic E. Depot building collapses



Above: Crews worked Saturday to remove the building on East Depot as it was deemed dangerous to the public. Traffic was re-routed away from that area.



Right: The back side of the building located across the square from the Capri Theatre on East Depot Street collapsed Friday. Templeton Insurance employees further down the row said they did not hear any noise. Owner is Chavigny Beasley.

HOMELESS

From page 1

have constructed on the properties. The mayor said "no trespassing" signs have been constructed for certain areas of private property and those City areas which should not be visited by the general public.

The mayor said sadly, those cleaning debris could see syringe needles in the trash. The mayor said SPD will continue to patrol that area.

The mayor said he understands there is another homeless camp located on Woodbury Street. That area will have to be addressed as well.

He said some area businesses have reported needles in their trash. He said issues with the homeless community these days goes beyond people needing a place to sleep. He assured resources have been offered to those in the camps, churches have provided food and clothing, the Shelbyville Community Soup Kitchen has been more than gracious and services are also offered through Open Door and the Community Clinic.

The mayor said it is ob-

vious that there needs to be more mental health offerings to those in homeless camps. He believes Shelbyville has gone beyond the call of duty in

many instances to accommodate the homeless for generations.

Carroll advised it is nice to see those areas in Shelbyville finally cleaned

up. He said some of the camps were behind the City flood pumps and some "homeless" were living on a nearby church's property.

CITY SPRING CLEANS EARLY: HOMELESS CAMPS



Homeless have camped in this area in downtown Shelbyville near the flood pump/river for quite some time. It has become less than acceptable to City officials.



City applies for airport tower grant

By DAWN HANKINS

Shelbyville Municipal Airport is moving on with its plan for an FAA control tower. Council voted Monday to allow the mayor to apply for an aeronautical grant, which is the first step in getting that plan off the ground.

Two Council members were absent for the noon, special called meeting-Stephanie Isaacs and Gary Haile. The other four Council members, William Christie, Bobby Turnbow, Marilyn Ewing and Henry Feldhaus moved to allow the mayor to sign that application with the FAA's control tower program.

The special called meeting was held because the grant deadline is Feb. 28. Airport officials said they will have to wait another quarter, if they miss that deadline.

Airport Director Paul Perry made his statements in regard to the application for the grant. When asked by Council member Ewing what he thought the probability of getting the grant might be, Perry said it's not 100%.

Then Perry added, "But I wouldn't have brought this to you if I didn't know better." Perry said the grant is for \$131,800 and the City would be liable for a 5 percent match, or \$6,590, if dollars are received.

City Attorney Ginger Shofner clarified that Council through its vote was approving for the mayor to apply for a state grant. If the City receives that grant, then Council will move forward with a layout plan. Basically, it's all contingent on grant dollars at this point.

Council member Ewing also asked Perry if this plan has anything to do with MTSU, which is building an aviation school near the airport. Perry said this tower will certainly address concerns such as noise and safety. Perry explained to Council that the plan is to apply through the FAA for the tower. This means the airport would be supplied federal employ-

ees. The airport director has said in several meetings that he is working toward employing the 107th Air Guard as manpower.



Airport Director, Paul Perry

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BELLA MINIX, CASCADE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



JUDGES AND MASCOTS

BCS spelling bee champions announced

(Shelbyville, TN) Winners of the Bedford County Schools (BCS) Inaugural Districtwide Spelling Bee were announced Thursday evening for three grade bands. Finn Carter, grades k-2, Southside Elementary School; Sahara Biswa, grades 3-5, Learning Way Elementary School; and Bella Minix, grades 6-8, Cascade Middle School were all declared word champions for the district.

Judges for the event were: Michael Cook, Sylvia Pinson, Neil Watson and Daniel Watson. Mascots were: SCHS senior, Victor Smith, the beekeeper, and SCHS senior, Gracie Herrod, the bee. The baby bee was Judson Sommers, pre-k student from Eakin Elementary.

Joining them on the stage, hosted at Harris Middle School, were 18 other school-level winners participating in the competition: (Grade Band K-2) Ollie O'Brien, Cascade Elementary; Paisley Winton, Community Elementary; Ryleigh Richardson, Eakin Elementary; Hannah Person, East Side Elementary; Emily Reyes, Learning Way Elementary; Remi Foster, Liberty School; and Anna Marsh, Thomas Magnet;

(Grade Band 3-5) Gabriel Shibayama, Cascade Elementary; Lucas Walker, Community Elementary; Santos Lopez, Eakin Elementary; Jesse Harris, East Side Ele-

mentary; Amy Vitervo, Liberty School; Floyd Powers, Southside Elementary; and Lyla Victory, Thomas Magnet; (Grade Band 6-8) Isabella Manire, Community Middle; Michael Bailey, Harris Middle; Tatiana Clark, Liberty School; and Piper Hambrick, Thomas Magnet.

"We congratulate these amazing students and spellers for their achievement at their respective schools and for advancing to the district competition," commented Director of Instruction Dr. Kim Germany. "The competition was really tough – so many impressive students – so a big shout out to our district champs!"

Below is the number of rounds and total

words spelled in each age group:

K-2—27 rounds—102 words

3-5—25 rounds—87 words

6-8—21 rounds—59 words

Germany further stated that the evening was such a success the district plans to make this district bee an annual tradition.

"Thank you to our sponsors, First Community Bank and New Covenant Christian Bookstore, for making this event possible. Thank you to our judges for their hard job of verifying the results. And to all the BCS team that helped put this together, you were the key to our success," said Germany.

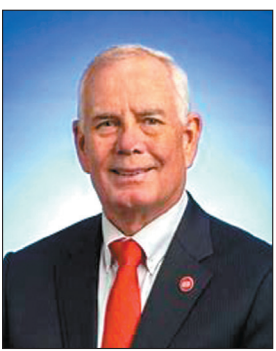


FINN CARTER, SOUTHSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



SAHARA BISWA, LEARNING WAY

News from State Rep. Pat Marsh



STATE REP. PAT MARSH

"To learn, you have to listen. To improve, you have to try." - Thomas Jefferson

President's Day brought us a short week at the General Assembly, and we are happy to be back at work! Many bills are exciting and are passing through the committees to become law. I wanted to put out information about a few of them.

A new bill introduced this session, known as the Second Amendment Financial Privacy Act, is making its way through the committee process. The new bill is listed as House Bill 2762. It prohibits financial institutions like banks or credit card companies from requiring specific merchant codes that identify transactions at a firearm retailer. House

Bill 2762 will provide more privacy, especially when purchasing a firearm from a retailer.

Another bill introduced this year, House Bill 2321 by Rep. Patsy Hazlewood, will increase personal needs allowance for residents in a nursing home from \$50 to \$70 per month. Existing state law allows Medicaid-eligible individuals receiving long-term care in a nursing home to deduct a portion of their income for personal needs, with the remainder being applied to the cost of their care.

The House Education Instruction Subcommittee advanced legislation to expand firearm safety education in Tennessee public schools. Sponsored by Rep. Chris Todd, House Bill 2882 provides students with age and grade appropriation instruction on firearm safety as part of public school safety training. The curriculum would include safe storage information, how to identify a firearm, associated safety risks, and how to notify an adult if one is found.

This week, we had legislation make its way out of our House Criminal Jus-

tice Subcommittee that ensures Tennessee college students can protect themselves on campus without facing criminal charges! Rep. Gino Bulso introduced House Bill 1909, which clarifies that it is not a crime for adults to carry certain non-lethal weapons in most buildings, recreational areas, and other facilities on public college campuses. The non-lethal weapons it includes are pepper spray, a pepper spray gun, pepper gel, mace, an electronic control device, a stun gun, or other conducted energy devices.

We have another bill relevant to school safety but is more helpful for our teachers and public school employees. House Bill 1812, by Rep. Rebecca Alexander, allows all public and charter school em-

ployees to receive their full salary or average pay and full benefits if they were physically assaulted on the job and unable to work as a result. There were 1,918 cases of assault and 71 cases of aggravated assault against teachers and staff during the 2022-23 school year, according to the 2024 Tennessee Safe Schools Report.

I was glad to see Mary Beth Seals with Lincoln Health when she was in Nashville for the

Tennessee Hospital Association's Day on the Hill. We had several groups from the district in Nashville this week. Scott Spence, CEO of Duck River Electric Membership, and several

board members came by my office while they were up for the Electric Co-op's day. Also, Scott Collins, Shelbyville City Manager, stopped by on Wednesday to let me know about all the news from Shelbyville. I had Tristan Call and India Ruth Bailey, with the Bedford County Listening Project, come by to let me know what they are doing to try to help with affordable housing and the homeless situation in Shelbyville and Bedford County.

Dr. Sydney McPhee, MTSU President, and several of his staff stopped by my office on

Wednesday afternoon to fill me in on the progress of moving the MTSU Aero-

navics Academy to the Shelbyville airport. Things are happening quickly, and planes should be flying out of Shelbyville very soon.

Seeing Mr. Mike Swafford, the Cascade High School FFA Advisor, and several Future Farmers of America students from Cascade High School this week was an absolute pleasure! Accompanying Mr. Swafford was Madison Wilson, Laura Bilbrey, Juliana Aderholt, Taylor Wilson, Stacia Bown, and Laurel Cox. I was glad to have the chance to get a picture with everyone once the Calendar and Rules Committee convened for the day, and it was great to see folks from the district!

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Bedford County Schools news - New childcare leader

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Tammy Garrett recently announced the appointment of Lyndsay Davis to coordinator of the school age care program (SACP) for Bedford County Schools.

Davis is responsible for districtwide supervision of SACP, which provides safe and enriching care for students before and after school.

"We are excited to have Mrs. Davis in this role at our central

office," said Garrett. "Her passion for educational excellence and leadership is something we look forward to having on

our team at the district-level."

Davis has worked at BCS for almost 7 years. She has a Tennessee Early Childhood

Training Alliance Certification through Tennessee State University and a bachelor of arts in elementary education.

"My philosophy on SACP is realizing the importance of caring for students after school hours.

We have made progress over

the years by expanding after-care services and addressing the

individual needs of every student," commented Davis. "My goal for the future is providing

comprehensive and enlightening after-care experiences for every student."

Davis explained that she is looking forward to working with a great group of people and building

positive relationships with staff and students. Davis is a mother of three and has been married

to her husband for 16 years.

"I am a family-oriented person and feel that our workplace should have that family feel as well. I

tend to be laid-back and have a soft spot for kids. I have several years of leadership experience

and am open to new ideas to bring to the program. I am excited to take on this role as the coordinator of SACP, and my door is always open."

Bedford County Schools is a district of 16 schools committed to the academic and personal success

of each child and serving over 9,000 students.



LYNDSAY DAVIS
NEW CHILDCARE
DIRECTOR

Roasted lamb is a Sunday classic

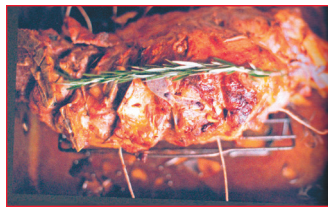
Lamb is a popular Sunday meal, and this recipe for Roasted Lamb with Roasted Asparagus from Feast of the Seven Fishes: A Brooklyn Italiano's Recipes Celebrating Food & Family (Powerhouse Books) by Daniel Paterna can make for the perfect Easter entrees. Lamb is most tender in spring and mild in flavor, and it pairs well with the earthiness of asparagus.

Roasted Lamb with Roasted Asparagus

Serves 8 to 10

Lamb:

- 1 leg or loin of lamb, about 4 to 5 pounds
- 5 garlic cloves, sliced
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 4 cups dry white wine
- 1 fresh bay leaf
- 4 sprigs fresh rosemary
- 4 to 5 sprigs fresh thyme



Cut small slits in the meat of the lamb with a sharp paring knife. Insert a slice of the garlic into each slit. Place the lamb in a large sealable plastic bag and add the olive oil, 2 cups white wine, bay leaf, rosemary, thyme, salt, and pepper. Seal the bag tightly and place in the refrigerator to marinate for 12 hours.

Remove the lamb from the fridge the next day, at least 4 hours before roasting. Keep the lamb sealed in the marinade bag and allow it to come to room temperature.

Heat the oven to 400 F. Remove the lamb from the bag with marinade. Place it on a rack in a roasting pan. Add 2 cups of wine. Roast for 11½ hours or until the thermometer reads 150 to 160 F. Baste with drippings while roasting. Serve warm.

Asparagus:

- 4 pounds of asparagus, remove woody ends
- 2 cups coarse bread crumbs
- 1 cup grated Romano cheese
- 2 tablespoons garlic powder
- Freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- 4 large eggs
- Sea salt, to taste



Preheat the oven to 400 F.

Place the bread crumbs, cheese, garlic powder, and black pepper in a dish or bowl wide enough to hold the asparagus. Mix well to combine thoroughly.

Put the eggs in another dish or bowl of similar size and beat well. Working in batches, dip the spears into the egg, making sure they are coated well. Immediately place them in the bread crumb mixture and toss until each spear is fully coated. Transfer the breaded asparagus to a large baking sheet.

Place the asparagus in the preheated oven and bake for 30 minutes or until the breading is browned and crispy. Serve with wedges of fresh lemon.

Shelbyville Central Library receives trust grant

Trip planned to Stones River National Battlefield

Shelbyville Central High School Librarian Heather Richards, co-teacher Dona Northcutt and her students in their new Tennessee history class will soon head to Stones River National Battlefield in Murfreesboro, thanks to a grant from the American Battlefield Trust's History Field Trip Grant Program.

This trip will provide students with an exceptional, hands-on history learning opportunity. Grants are awarded based on a competitive national application process, demonstrating Richards' commitment to excellence in the classroom.

"Mrs. Dona Northcutt and I are co-teaching Tennessee history this year as a new class at SCHS, and we

are thrilled and thoroughly grateful to the American Battlefield Trust for us be able to take our

students to see a national battlefield hands on. Tennessee played such an important helping role in the Civil War that being able to allow the students to stand and witness where actual history was made is truly an exciting addition to our class," says Richards.

The American Battlefield Trust is the largest battlefield land preservation organization in the country

having saved more than 562,000 acres of hallowed

ground across 24 states. Through visiting preserved battlefields and walking in the footsteps of the citizen soldiers who fought there, the Trust aims to

provide a foundation of good citizenship for the leaders of tomorrow. The Trust strives to produce

excellent educational resources in a variety of formats for both educators and the public alike, ensuring

that Americans never forget how their country was forged.

Every year, the Trust receives applications from classrooms across the country to participate in the

History Field Trip Grant Program, which offers funding and assistance to K-12 teachers

planning field

trips to Civil War, War of 1812, or Revolutionary War battlefields and related historic sites. During the

2018-2019 school year, more than 7,500 students from 24 states took part.

"These kids get a chance to go to where history was made, where our country was created and defined,"

said Trust President David Duncan of the History Field Trip Grant Program recipients, "Battlefields are

outdoor classrooms that will teach future Americans about our democratic republic."

Richards has enormous

enthusiasm for teaching history and is excited to utilize Stones

River National Battlefield as

an outdoor classroom that will give her students a meaningful and memorable

experience. The American Battlefield Trust is proud to support and empower such excellent educators

as they inspire the next generation of proud Americans.

The American Battlefield Trust is dedicated to preserving America's hallowed battle-grounds and

educating the public about what happened there and why it matters today. The nonprofit, nonpartisan

organization has protected more than 54,000 acres associated with the Revolutionary War, War of 1812

and Civil War. Learn more at www.battlefields.org.



SCHS teachers Dona Northcutt (far left) and Heather Richards (back row, far right) are pictured with a few of their SCHS Tennessee history students who are excited to explore more with hands-on learning opportunities provided by the American Battlefield Trust.

Community Calendar

DENTAL DAY FOR DARLINGS

The Community Clinic of Shelbyville & Bedford County, 200 Dover St., sponsored its first free Children's Dental Day on Feb. 13. Clinic representatives said it was a huge success, thanks to Dr. Robert Foster and Amanda Arnold.

Submitted Photo



Submit calendar items to dawn@richardson-mediagroup.net

Family and Community Education Club Meeting Report

Liberty Family and Education Club met Feb. 19, with Ann Spencer reporting. Judy Smith called the meeting to order. Dorris Turrentine gave the devotion. Roll call was answered by telling what color rose you prefer. The club report of yearly activities was given to extension agent Whitney Danhof. Judy Smith gave the County Council report.

The County meeting will be at the extension office on March 7 at 4 p.m. The achievement program is March 19 at 6 p.m. at the extension office. Everyone can bring food items for the Food Waste Prevention Drive.

Whitney Danhof gave the education lesson, "How to make Valentine's pop-up cards." The sunshine report was given and Ardis Rittenberry and Debbie Parker had birthdays. Dorris Turrentine's club demonstration was a stand up block.

The next meeting is March 18.

School Event

Eakin Elementary will present "Aladdin Kids: The Musical" on March 14 and 15 at 6 p.m. and at 2 p.m. March 16. \$10 reserved seating. \$5 at the door. Purchase tickets March 5-7 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. in the school lobby and on the performance days at the door.

Church Services

Pastor Abe Zimmerman's sermon Sunday at Shelbyville First United Methodist Church will be "Lent: The Power of the Gospel, Part 3" from Matthew 9:18-26. In the quiet corners of our hearts, the song of the gospel plays - it's a symphony of hope, redemption, and unyielding power. Join us as we delve into the profound power of the gospel by examining pivotal moments in Jesus' ministry. Come see how the gospel continues to shape our lives today. Worship is at 10 a.m. The service is also livestreamed on Facebook and broadcast on WLJ 1580 AM.

Half marathon

Lynchburg will host its 15th annual half-marathon, the Oak Barrel, on Saturday, April 6, at 8 a.m.

Horse Shows

The Walking Horse Trainers' Association will have its national show March 13-16 at Cooper Steel Arena.

The FAST Spring Showcase is March 28-30 at Cooper Steel Arena.

Art Event

On Friday, May 10, 4 to 7 p.m., area residents and visitors will fill the Historic Uptown Shelbyville Square to enjoy what is sure to become one of the City's most dynamic and popular events: #bedfordartcrawl. The community will come alive as artists, and a wide variety of businesses in the uptown district feature local and regional artists. Also capture a photo with the Shelbyville Butterfly Mural located on S. Main Street. Art Vendors and their individual artistic creations will be located inside and outside of participating businesses around the public square. Enjoy music and food.

Insider Tip: Avoid parking hassles by utilizing the Public Parking Lot located on S. Main St.

The Bedford Arts Collective Art Crawl is best explored on foot once you arrive. Organizers recommend making it an evening with dinner at The Coffee Break, Pope's Café, Audrey's On The Square or Bocelli Pizza and Pasta Shoppe.

There is a \$20 Fee for Art Vendors to participate. This fee will allow organizers to purchase signage to place around the square and at main intersections in Shelbyville. All artwork must be original work of the participating artist. For complete details and to pay your \$20 Fee visit the following Art Crawl Application: <http://tinyurl.com/BACArtCrawlMAY2024>.

Education Meeting

Bedford County Retired Teachers meets March 6 at 11:00 a.m. at Emmy's Restaurant (Urban Plantation.) Charlie Pope, Principal of SCHS, will be the speaker.

Presidential Candidates

The following candidates will be on Tennessee's March 5, 2024, ballot:

Republican Primary Ballot:

Ryan Binkley
Chris Christie
Ron DeSantis
Nikki Haley
Asa Hutchinson

Vivek Ramaswamy
David Stuckenber
Donald J. Trump

Democratic Primary Ballot:

Joseph R. Biden

SCOTT'S CHAPEL UMC
SEASONED WITH A TOUCH OF SALT

FOOD PANTRY

Saturday March 9,
2024
9AM

SCOTT'S CHAPEL UMC
940 MORTON STREET
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FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
[HTTPS://SCOTTCHAPELUMC.ORG](https://scottchapelumc.org)

Working on the Grindstone Cowboy



T-G Photo by Dawn Hankins

Work continues on Shelbyville's Grindstone Cowboy restaurant off the public square. It's an old, historical building needing lots of tender, love and care.

Dave Rogers: A brave soldier from the get-go

This is the first in a two-part series on Dave Rogers' life as a homeless teen. The Shelbyville veteran is now a chef, author and new resident to this community.

By DAWN HANKINS

If you would have asked new Shelbyville resident and U.S. Army veteran Dave Rogers what his career aspirations were as a teen, he'd likely have told you he didn't think he'd live past age 30.

But, of course he did.

Now he's a prolific writer of cookbooks and novels. His latest series is about his experiences on the streets of New York and the types of people he encountered growing up.

Years ago, he was encouraged by a therapist to write about his childhood experiences. He was told that his story should be published, because there are things he has to say that are important—those things society doesn't talk about, he said.

He said society talks about women and how they're molested and abused. He understands that's important.

But he is troubled, still, that society doesn't talk as much about the men who go through the same life experiences/abuse.

"When I was little, I think kids dreamed about being the next Stephen King or the next Tom Clancy. But it's not easy to write a book—to get the nuance of what you're seeing, the smells, people's essence and their character."

Rogers says there was a huge surge of homeless people in the 1980s. He remembers how people just slept in old abandoned buildings, anywhere, really.

"You had to find your own way."

He says New York draws in more homeless, because there are actually more resources and businesses.

Rogers says he became homeless, by choice, at age 15.

As for Tennessee, he says there aren't a lot of shelters. Comparing what he experienced, he sees a lot of flaws in the political system regarding how to truly help the homeless.

The struggle, he notes, while being homeless in New York, was the lack of mental health resources. As well, there weren't a lot of veterans also for veterans.

Rogers just moved from New York a couple of years ago to Shelbyville. He had a full career with the military and even worked in New York during 911.

That is why he's considered disabled, now. That tragedy ended his military career.

While he was able to pull himself out of the homeless life, Rogers says others never do, really. But he said people need to think about their circumstances.

"A lot of these people didn't become homeless because they were looking for it. They didn't get up one day and say 'you know what, I think I want to live on the streets.' It doesn't really work like that. You're struggling and having a hard time. And yes, some people are able to find their way out of it and others are not."

Rogers said the idea of the 1980s was to give the homeless a place to live and a job. But he said many of the homeless didn't learn how to budget money.

"The way I got off the street was to join the Army," says Rogers. "My first 4 years in the Army, I didn't save."

He notes that was "crazy" because the military was paying for his expenses. It took one of his sergeants telling him to save money and the future.

"He said, 'because if you don't, what will you do when you get out of the service?'"

He admits that he didn't learn how to save. So, when he got out of the service, he began "couch surfing." He remembers a veteran living in her car and how she wasn't counted as homeless, because

she had a car.

A lot of these stories are going to be a part of his 5-volume series. His books will be eye-opening and maybe a little sad.

Rogers said imagine being 15, homeless and trying to get a job. He said he was able to go to the YMCA and get changes of clothes.

"We had to beg, hustle. . . that's the way it was," Rogers recalls.

He says during the 6-year period of living on the streets, he had about 150 jobs. He said back then, the garment district used to pay him about \$10 a day to push the clothing racks across the street.

He remembers crashing rich kids' birthday parties in New York. The homeless kids, he recalls, would go to the "Y," shower and get some new clothes at the thrift store. "We would crash, so that we could have a good meal. We had to hustle."

Rogers said he worked hard to earn money, because he was really trying to get off the streets. "Some people think when they get on the streets, and I did at first, I thought this is going to be my whole life. Even though I was always working on a plan there was times when I thought, I'm never going to make it off the streets. And a lot of people didn't."

His stepfather was abusive. So, he thought living on the streets would be better. That wasn't really the case.

"You never know if someone is your friend or taking advantage of you," he notes. "I've had people turn on me. I had people steal and then blame it on me. I went through a lot during that 6-year period."



DAVE ROGERS



What seniors should know about prediabetes

Most seniors recognize that routine visits to their physicians are an important component of preventive health care. Annual physicals are important for everyone, but they're especially important for individuals 65 and older who may be more vulnerable to disease and various other health conditions than younger adults.

The National Institute on Aging reports that millions of individuals 65 and older have visited their physicians and learned they have a condition known as prediabetes. For some, the day they receive a prediabetes diagnosis also marks the first time they've heard of the condition. Since so many seniors are affected by prediabetes, it can behoove anyone to learn more about it.

What is prediabetes?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention notes that prediabetes is a serious health condition characterized by higher-than-normal blood sugar levels. When a person has prediabetes, his or her blood sugar levels are not yet high enough to indicate type 2 diabetes, but that could change if prediabetes patients do not make changes to prevent such a progression.

How common is prediabetes?

What causes prediabetes?

A 2023 study published in the journal Diabetes Care indicates that 464 million individuals across the globe had impaired glucose tolerance (IGT) and 298 million had impaired fasting glucose (IFG) in 2021. Each of those conditions are hallmarks of prediabetes, cases of which the study indicates are expected to rise significantly by 2045.

What causes prediabetes?

The CDC notes that when a person has prediabetes, the cells in his or her body do not respond normally to insulin, which is a hormone produced by the pancreas that enables blood sugar to enter cells, which then use it for energy. The pancreas then makes more insulin to get cells to respond, but eventually the pancreas cannot keep up, resulting in a rise in blood sugar.

Does prediabetes produce symptoms?

Many people have prediabetes for years and do not know it. In fact, the CDC reports that more than 80 percent of the 98 million American adults who have prediabetes are unaware that they do.

How can I determine if

I have prediabetes?

The sheer volume of people who have prediabetes but are unaware that they do begs the question of what individuals can do to learn if they have the condition before they develop type 2 diabetes. Recognition of the risk factors for prediabetes is a good start. The CDC urges anyone who has any of the following risk factors to speak with their doctor about having their blood sugar tested:

- Being overweight
- Being 45 or older
- Having a parent, brother or sister with type 2 diabetes
- Being physically active less than three times per week

• A history of diabetes during pregnancy (gestational diabetes) or giving birth to a baby who weighed more than nine pounds

• Having polycystic ovary syndrome

• Being African American, Hispanic/Latino American, American Indian, or Pacific Islander. Some Asian Americans also are at greater risk for prediabetes.

Prediabetes can be a precursor to type 2 diabetes, which only highlights how important it is that older adults recognize their risk for the condition.

Leap into these Leap Year facts

Leap Year typically takes place every four years. The process of adding a day to the calendar every four years was designed to realign the clock and calendar more closely with how long it takes the Earth to rotate around the sun, which is slightly longer than the 365 days attributed to a year. If not for Leap Year, the seasons would slowly shift out of place.

There are many interesting facts to learn about Leap Year, and February 29 is the perfect time to explore them.

• It takes the Earth 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 45 seconds to circle once around the sun, says Time and Date. Without leap years, we'd lose almost six hours every year. After a century, the calendar would be off by nearly 24 days.

• Despite 2100, the next turn of the century, being divisible by four, it will not be a leap year. That's because it is divisible by 100 but not 400, which means it will not be a leap year. This exception to the rule pertains to new century years.

• Forbes reports that it's likely the calendar will need to be changed again since the Earth's rotation rate, the axial tilt orientation and the Earth's orbital motion around the sun is not constant. Various effects, such as earthquakes and something called tidal braking, affect the passage of time.

• Legend states that on February 29 it is alright for a woman to propose to a man, a custom attributed to St. Bridget. Bridget

complained to St. Patrick that some women had to wait too long for their suitors to pop the question. As the legend goes, Patrick supposedly provided women this day to propose to compensate.

• Some cultures view February 29 as an unlucky day. In Greece, couples are warned against planning weddings during leap years. In Italy, the phrase, *Anno bisesto, anno fufetto* (Leap year, doom year) is uttered.

• Individuals who are born on February 29th are known as leaplings or leapers.

• Leap Day is not considered a legal day. Those

who are leaplings have to choose February 28 or March 1 for their official and legal birthdays.

• Individuals who are paid fixed monthly incomes often work for free on February 29th because their wages will not be calculated to include the extra day.

• Guinness World Records indicates the only family it could verify as producing three consecutive generations born on leap days belongs to the Keoghs. The elder Patrick Anthony Keogh was born in 1940, his son Peter Eric was born in 1964, and his granddaughter Bethany in 1996.

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Crossword

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Chaps
- 5. Currently fashionable
- 9. Collision
- 11. More slim
- 13. European city
- 15. Implicitly
- 16. The side of something that is sheltered from the wind
- 17. The Mount Rushmore State
- 19. Gold or silver wire cord
- 21. Muscles along insects' diaphragm
- 22. Trent Reznor's band
- 23. Sweet juicy gritty-textured fruit
- 25. Broken branch
- 26. Indicates ten
- 27. Expression of annoyance
- 29. Brings together
- 31. Ancient city in Thrace
- 33. Sailors' spirit
- 34. Looked into
- 36. Muckraking woman journalist Rheta
- 38. A type of cast
- 39. One's responsibility
- 41. Where golfers begin
- 43. Make a mistake
- 44. Semitic Sun god
- 46. Ancient Italian-Greek colony
- 48. Beheaded
- 52. A place to stay

CLUES DOWN

- 53. Unwise
- 54. Most supernatural
- 56. "Dennis" is a famous one
- 57. Ointments
- 58. Exam
- 59. Leaked blood
- 1. Baseball managers assemble it
- 2. Revised
- 3. Mountain is a popular kind
- 4. Takes to civil court
- 5. Pouches
- 6. A type of veil
- 7. Chants
- 8. Boston hoopster
- 9. Elongated appendage
- 10. Sailboat
- 11. 2017 Oscar-winning film
- 12. Actor Gosling
- 14. Monetary units
- 15. Assembly
- 18. Russian pop duo
- 20. Embellished with expressions
- 24. Infrequent
- 26. Temperature unit
- 28. Hydrophilic amino acid
- 30. Honk
- 32. Legislative body
- 34. Swinish
- 35. Russian assembly
- 37. Take over for

	1	2	3	4					5	6	7	8	
9					10				11				12
13						14			15				
16				17			18						
19			20		21							22	
	23			24		25					26		
			27			28		29			30		
				31			32		33				
			34					35		36			37
	38				39			40		41			42
43					44				45		46		47
48			49	50						51		52	
53								54			55		
56									57				
	58									59			

- 38. Put in advance
- 40. Satisfy
- 42. Felt
- 43. Dutch cheese

- 45. Witnesses
- 47. Strong insects
- 49. Gasteyer and de Armas are two

- 50. Ancient people of Scotland
- 51. Cheerless
- 55. Sick

Horoscopes

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, think about collaborating on a fun project with someone close to you. Find out if anyone needs help on something they may be working on if you don't have a project in mind.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21
An excitement concerning work goals or a business venture may compel you to take some action to get your ideas heard by higher-ups, Taurus. The audience will be receptive.

GEMINI - May 22/June 21
Gemini, trying to resolve issues in a relationship this week may leave you feeling unsettled. It might be that you are trying to avoid sensitive topics that you will have to address eventually.

CANCER - June 22/July 22
Cancer, if you are feeling content with yourself and life in general lately, that is excellent. Embrace this positive state of mind and take the necessary steps to continue the good feelings.

LEO - July 23/Aug 23
Leo, this week you may be feeling nostalgic or sentimental. Look over old photographs or watch family movies for a bit. If you want to take it further, reach out to childhood friends.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22
Find new activities that you can add to your daily routine, Virgo. This may be a sport, hobby or even a new club. Add a dose of creativity to each and every day for good effects.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23
Uncertainty regarding long-term plans may be driving emotions of shyness, Libra. If you are having trouble, plan excursions or events with friends you trust.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, encouragement comes from people you may not feel are on your team. Take all of the support you can get as you start plowing through some long-term goals.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21
It's always the right time to tell others how much they mean to you, Sagittarius. It will not take grand gestures to do so, merely your loving words.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20
Your busy schedule this week has everything feeling more hectic even if it really isn't, Capricorn. Carve out some time to sit quietly or enjoy some alone time to refresh.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18
This week you may be feeling especially charitable, Aquarius. Open your heart up to others who may need some extra support. This may be a stranger or someone you know.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20
Some news from a family member may catch your off-guard, Pisces. You'll soon recover when you learn that it is extremely happy news. You may even get good news of your own.

MARCH MADNESS WORD SEARCH

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

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

WORDS

- BANK
- BASKETBALL
- CENTER
- COURT
- DEFENSE
- DRIBBLE
- FORWARD
- FOUL
- FREE THROW
- GUARD
- HOOPS
- LAYUP
- LINEUP
- NET
- OFFENSE
- OPEN
- OVERHEAD
- PALMING
- PASS
- REBOUND
- SHOOTER
- SIDELINES
- TRAVELING
- WALKING

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!

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

Level: Beginner

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

Level: Intermediate

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

Level: Advanced

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

- MARCH 3
Camila Cabello, Singer (27)
- MARCH 4
Draymond Green, Athlete (34)
- MARCH 5
Matt Lucas, Comic (50)
- MARCH 6
Shaquille O'Neal, Athlete (52)
- MARCH 7
Bryan Cranston, Actor (68)
- MARCH 8
Benny Blanco, Music Producer (36)
- MARCH 9
Khaby Lame, TikTok Star (24)



Irene Valdivia

Mrs. Irene Valdivia, age 68, of Shelbyville, passed away February 20, 2024, at her home, under the loving care and comfort of her family and Hospice Compassus.

Funeral Mass was 12 noon Thursday, February 22, 2024, at St. William Catholic Church. Father Eduin Cardona officiated, with burial in Willow Mount Cemetery.

The family received visitors 10 AM until service time Thursday at the church.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.



Robert Michael Sanders

Robert Michael Sanders, age 45, of Bell Buckle, manager of the Bell Buckle Café, passed away February 20, 2024, at his home, under the loving care and comfort of his family and Hospice Compassus.

Funeral services were held 1 PM Monday, February 26, 2024, at Feldhaus Memorial Chapel.

Reverend Larry Sanders officiated, with burial in Hazel Cemetery in Bell Buckle.

The family received visitors 4-8 PM Sunday, and again one hour prior to service Monday, at the funeral home.

He was born July 21, 1978, in Shelbyville, to Janice Hayes Allen and Bobby Michael Sanders. In addition to serving as the manager of the Bell Buckle Café, Robert enjoyed woodworking, camping, fishing, and anything outdoors.

Preceding him death were a brother, Nakia S. Sanders, grandfather, Gerard J. Hayes, grandmother, Rachel E. Hayes Thropp, grandfather, Ralph O. Sanders, grandmother, H. Marie Pass, and step grandfather, John E. Pass.

Survivors include his wife of 30 years, Heidi Lynn Heinike; children, Hayla Marie Sanders (Joe), Haven Alexis Sanders, Hunter Michael Sanders (Kassidee); grandchildren, Kyler Michael Sanders, Hendrix Ryan Harper, K'Lynn Jade Sanders, Keegan Nicole Sanders, and Kirkland Gregory Sanders; mother, Janice Lynne Allen, father, Bobby Michael Sanders (David), step father, Kenley Kyle Allen; a sister, Takesta Lynne West, nieces and nephews, Ryan Sanders, Isabella Smith, Zander Smith, and many more.

Memorials may be made to: Bedford Cancer Foundation, PO Box 1523, Shelbyville, TN 37162-1523, 931.488.4188, bedfordcancerfoundation@gmail.com



David Lee Jackson

David Lee Jackson, age 63, of Rocky Face, Georgia, passed away February 26, 2024.

Graveside services will be 1:30 PM Saturday, March 2, 2024, at Foster-ville Cemetery. Reverend Jeff Adcock will officiate.

The family will receive visitors 11 AM until 1:00 PM Saturday at Feldhaus Memorial Chapel.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.



Guadalupe Miguel Francisco

Guadalupe Miguel Francisco, age 40, was born January 19, 1984, in Guatemala to parents, Miguel Juan Sebastian and Eulalia Francisco. She passed from this life on Tuesday, February 20, 2024, after an extended illness.

Including her parents she is survived by: husband, Juan Gomez; sons, Milo Sebastian Gomez and Miguel Tapia Francisco; along with two sisters and five brothers.

Funeral services will be held 12 p.m. Saturday, March 2, 2024, at St. Williams Montevergine Catholic Church with Father Edwin Cardona officiating. At a later date she will be returned to Guatemala for burial.

Visitation with the family will be held on Saturday, prior to funeral services, beginning at 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. at Doak-Howell Funeral Home.

Doak-Howell Funeral Home is serving the family. www.doakhowellfuneralhome.com

Guadalupe Miguel Francisco, de 40 años, nació el 19 de enero de 1984 en Guatemala, hija de Miguel Juan Sebastián y Eulalia Francisco. Falleció el martes 20 de febrero de 2024, después de una larga enfermedad.

Incluyendo a sus padres le sobreviven: su esposo, Juan Gómez; hijos, Milo Sebastián Gómez y Miguel Tapia Francisco; junto con dos hermanas y cinco hermanos.

Los servicios funerarios se llevarán a cabo a las 12 p.m. del sábado 2 de marzo de 2024 en la iglesia católica St. Williams Montevergine con el padre Edwin Cardona oficiando. En una fecha posterior será devuelta a Guatemala para su entierro.

El velorio con la familia se llevará a cabo el sábado, antes de los servicios funerarios, a partir de las 9:30 a.m. hasta las 11:30 a.m. en la funeraria Doak-Howell.

La funeraria Doak-Howell está sirviendo a la familia. www.doakhowellfuneralhome.com



Billy F. Jones

Billy F. Jones, age 88, of Shelbyville, passed from this life Monday, February 26, 2024, at his home.

Graveside services will be held 12 noon Thursday, February 29, 2024 at Wheeler Cemetery with Chad Clanton officiating.

Billy was born on August 6, 1935, in Lawrence County to the late Aurthur and Sadie Jones. He is survived by loving wife of 64 years: Arlene Jones, children: Andy (Mary) Jones, Eric (Kristina) Jones, grandchildren: Andriana (Dustin) Lamb, Marissa (Jordan) Baker, Michaela (Andrew) Ball, Amber (Jason) Leverette, Jarred Jones, great grandchildren, Everett, Ty and Sadie Lamb, Ada Baker, Rylei Hale and Hadley Leverette, siblings: Janice Lambert and Jenell Barber.

Billy was a Farm Bureau Director for 40 years, lifelong farmer, avid bee keeper, Bedford County Commissioner for 4 years, Bedford County School Bus Driver for 20 years and a member of Maxwell Chapel Church.

Along with his parents he was preceded in death by brother in-law Kelly Lambert and great granddaughter Ellie Brooke Ball.

Doak-Howell Funeral Home is serving the family.



Charles Edward Johnson

Charles Edward Johnson, age 53, passed away Friday, February 17, 2024, at his home.

Funeral services were 1:00 PM Friday, February 23, 2024, at Feldhaus Memorial Chapel. Reverend Jamie Bean was eulogist.

The family received visitors 12 PM until service time Friday at the funeral home.

He was born January 19, 1971, to Charles Edward Johnson and Louise B. Johnson. To his Family and Friends, he was known affectionately as "Bambi". He was educated in the Bedford County School system and served in the United States Army. He loved to Box and play basketball. He joined Mt. Ziona Haley Church at an early age.

Preceding him in death was a sister, Sharon K. Buchanan.

In addition to his parents, he leaves to cherish his memory, three brothers, Bobby (Toledo) Johnson, Tim (Rhonda) Johnson, and Charlie Johnson, all of Shelbyville; three sisters, Regina (Neal) Ransom, Liga (David) Wade, and Cheryl Mason, all of Shelbyville; three aunts, Dorothy Hendon, of Shelbyville, Vanessa Harden Hill of Murfreesboro, and Josephine Whitaker, of Tullahoma; three uncles, Ernest Newsum and William Newsum, of Shelbyville, and Paul Harden, of Mulberry, Tennessee; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and other relatives and friends.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.



Carol Ann Emanuelson

Mrs. Carol Ann Emanuelson, 84, of Bell Buckle, passed away February 22, 2024, under the loving care and comfort of her family, Adoration Hospice, and the caring and professional staff at Legacy Health and Rehab in Manchester, Tennessee.

There will be no public services at this time.

Feldhaus Memorial Chapel is assisting the family with the arrangements.

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF MARSHALL COUNTY,
TENNESSEE AT LEWISBURG
KRYSTAL SHENEQUIE HUFFMAN,)
Plaintiff,)
vs.) Case No. 2023-PAT-13
CHRISTOPHER BRANDON MABRY,)
Defendant.)

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

Upon motion of Petitioner and Sworn affidavit of Counsel for Petitioner, who have filed Petition to Establish Paternity and Set Visitation and Support, and for good cause shown, it is hereby

ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that:

1. Petitioner has conducted a diligent inquiry for Respondent as presented to this court with particularity in Petitioner's sworn petition or affidavit.

2. The best possible notice under the circumstances and notice reasonably calculated to give Respondent actual notice is by publication in The Shelbyville Times Gazette, a newspaper located in Bedford County, Tennessee.

NOTICE TO FATHER

In this cause, it appearing from the Order of Publication, that Petitioner, by and through counsel, has been unable to successfully serve Respondent, CHRISTOPHER BRANDON MABRY, though reasonable and diligent efforts have been made, it was Ordered that publication be made for four successive weeks, in The Shelbyville Times Gazette, to notify Respondent, CHRISTOPHER BRANDON MABRY, to file an answer with this court and send a copy to Petitioner's attorney, Debbie Z. Boudreaux, who's address is 205 West Commerce Street, Lewisburg, TN 37091, within 30 days from the last date of publication, exclusive of the last date of publication, or a judgment by default may be entered against Respondent.

This 12th day of February, 2024.

/s/ Honorable Lee Bussart

/s/ Debbie Z. Boudreaux, #030416

McKenzie Law Firm, Attorney for Petitioner

County Crime and Time

This week's Crime and Time report includes a lot of driving on revoked and no driver's license. A lot.

Why is it that people continue to think they can get away with driving without proper identification and registration. People will spend money on things they don't need and neglect those aspects of life. Then, they're arrested and have to pay a big fine.

It boggles the mind.

And several people did not learn to play

nice when they were kids. There were even more cases of people slapping each other around this week. That's really a crying shame.

Next week, we will return with our public record listings in the Times-Gazette. We've been working to prepare these reports in the best readable manner.

So, stay out of trouble. Don't get incarcerated this week. Your name might just show up in public record.

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SPORTS

Eaglettes Upset Lady Patriots in Region 5-4A Quarterfinal

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com

The Shelbyville Central Golden Eaglettes defeated the Page Lady Patriots, 34-28, in a dominant defensive performance on the road in their Region 5-AAAA Quarterfinal game on Friday night.

Page came into the game with a very impressive 24-8 record overall, but it was the Lady Patriots' 14-0 district record in the regular season that caught many people's attention. However, after losing their only district contest of the season to Nolensville in the District 10-AAAA Championship, 40-38, the Eaglettes would surprisingly be traveling to what was presumed to be the best District 10 challenger in Region 5 after beating Columbia in double overtime in the District 9 consolation game.

That was not to be the case, as Shelbyville and Coach Kyle Turnham came in with a stellar gameplan after having an entire week to prepare and left Franklin with a massive win.

The defense was excellent from the very jump, but Shelbyville's offense was the story in the first quarter. The Eaglettes jumped out to a 16-5 lead to set the tone after the opening frame, spearheaded by Lanaya Young's six points.

The offensive at-

tack was about as balanced as could be for the Eaglettes with four players scoring seven points apiece: Jaz Western, Paige Blackburn, Lily Brown, and Lanaya Young. Sammie Brown chipped in with six points as well.

Page began to settle down in the second quarter, stiffening up defensively to hold the visitors to just three points in the second quarter on a three-pointer by Western. However, the Lady Patriots were only able to counter with six points themselves, going into the halftime locker room trailing Shelbyville 19-11 in this win-or-go-home affair.

Page's Lily Espelet started to find her rhythm from the field in the third quarter, scoring five of her game-high 16 points after connecting on both of her field goal attempts to cut the Eaglettes' lead to 25-19 going into the final frame.

Espelet had five more points in the fourth quarter, but only two teammates – Samantha Lee and Miah Cabale – joined her on the scoresheet with eight and four points respectively.

After a Paige Blackburn three-pointer, the Eaglettes would hit just enough free throws to close out the Lady Patriots, 34-28, after holding Page to 3/11 shooting from the field in the final eight minutes to cap off the incredible defensive performance.



Paige Blackburn (11) was one of four Eaglettes who scored seven points at Page. Photo by Noah Maddox

sive performance.

For all their efforts, the Eaglettes improve to 17-12 (3-7) overall on the year.

Page's season ends with an impressive 24-9 (14-0) record.

Unionville Youth Soccer League Set For Second Season

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com

With over 3.5 billion fans worldwide, the sport of soccer, or football as it's called almost everywhere else in the world, is the most followed sport on the planet, and local man Sam Bullington is working to make it a staple in Unionville.

Bullington is the pastor at Rover Baptist Church and a father to four beautiful daughters, three of which play soccer.

"Chapel Hill has a great soccer league that's been going on for years, and personally we were taking our kids there to play along with several other families," said Bullington.

"A few times they allowed us to put together a team of just Unionville kids for practice purposes, and at some point enough people in the community said hold on, we have enough kids that we can just start our own league."

He was right.

This past autumn, Bullington, an inaugural board member, along with help from fellow board members in Treasa Land, Leandro Holder, Marie Farrar Sherrod, Mark Neill, Amy White, and Kaylie Bullington, along with assistance from people running the youth league in Chapel Hill, helped put together a successful fall season.

"Honestly, it [the fall] was great. We had a lot of support from the community, a lot of local businesses that sponsored teams and signs, and they were able to give us the capital that we needed to get started," Bullington explained, "We had enough of a turnout player-wise that we were able to put together two teams in each age division [U5, U7, U9, U13, and U17]."

The assistance of Chapel Hill paid off as well.

"Because of the help we received from Chapel Hill, we could even play some of their teams because we are all under the same umbrella state-wise," he said.

This fall success has ensured that a "second season" will begin in the spring, and their final "Skills Assessment" took place this past Saturday, February 24, at the Game Fields behind Community High School.

"We would love to see, especially with the county league, those same players be developed, and that's really what we are after," Bullington continued, "Obviously we would love more numbers of players, but when we were playing teams that had a bit more experience it showed."

"We would love to have games that are more competitive against experienced teams."

Building to that of course takes time, but time is something Bullington and the board feel like they have that is on their side.

"Really looking forward to us getting established as a league. Really, last fall was really just to see if it works, see what kind of response we get, but this spring is a follow up, can we keep this level of success up and develop players?" Bullington inquired. "Let's see if we can continue to raise funds, and all the behind the scenes stuff that keeps it going at a sustainable level, so we are not looking just at the spring, but the future so this becomes a fixture in Unionville that's a great option for parents looking for something for their kids to do that will be good for them."

This, along with seeking to help improve the quality of soccer teams at Community school, is the main goal of the youth league, one Bullington and others are following as they go about this process.

The season is scheduled to begin at the end of March and the beginning of April, once the county season ends, and Bullington expects a great turnout once again. Before the spring season commences however, he does have one distinct request for the public.

"We always could use more board members," he concluded, "We have 6 or 7 officially but we would really like a couple more, just to take some of that responsibility, not much to it but it is something that is important to do and be a part of."

With his love of coaching and sponge-like tendencies when it comes to learning about the most popular sport in the world, Bullington has high hopes for the Unionville Youth Soccer League, and the community in the town should as well.

Lady Champs Tame Lady Panthers in Region Quarterfinal

BY NOAH MADDOX
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The Cascade Lady Champions under second-year head coach Janie Demonbreum have been in the business of making history this season, and after beating Lewis County, 62-43, in the Region 5-AA quarterfinal at home on Friday night, they surpassed yet another milestone.

For the first time since 2018/19, the Lady Champions advanced to the region semifinals, and for only the second time since 2013/14.

Spearheaded by Suzanna Crews' career high 24 points and 11 rebounds, including 17 points in the second half, and Kaegan Young's 16 points, Cascade pulled away from the Lady Panthers in the second half.

"Suzanna Crews had an amazing night, she was just all over the glass and drove to the hole," Demonbreum said postgame, "You couldn't ask for more from her."

Cascade got off to a slow start offensively in the first



Janie Demonbreum (center) gives her team final pregame instructions before Friday's win. Photo by David Smith.

quarter, perhaps due to some nerves for their first win-or-go-home situation of the season, but their defense helped build a 13-7 lead after the opening eight minutes.

"I thought the girls did well handling the pressure," Demonbreum continued, "We have been prepping ourselves for this win-or-go-home situation since before the district tournament."

The Lady Champs certainly started to settle down in the second quarter, outscoring Lewis County 15-4 to take a 28-11 lead into the halftime locker room.

The scoring was pretty spread out in the first half with Young and Crews scoring seven points apiece while Sophie Ray and Kaydence Miller each added six points.

The energy definitely picked up in the second half for the Lady Champs, outscoring the visitors 20-9 in the third quarter to take an insurmountable 48-20 lead into the final frame.

Demonbreum was able to empty the bench late in the fourth quarter after the lead ballooned to almost 30 points, and the Lady Champs moved within one win of a surprise state sec-

ondary appearance.

"There are a lot of things we have to tighten up on and do better for Monday night, but these types of games are tough to play," she said.

Monday night sees Cascade travel to Loretto to take on the hometown Lady Mustangs, the District 10-AA champs with state tournament aspirations, but Demonbreum sees this as a can't-lose situation with how her team has grown together this season.

Crews finished with 24 points, Young finished with 16 points, Ray finished with eight points, and Kaydence Miller finished with nine points of her own.

For Lewis County, Haylee Carroll finished with 16 points, including 14 in the second half, but the Lady Panthers' 20 turnovers as a team were too much to overcome.

Lewis County's season ends at 7-17 (2-4) while the Lady Champions improve to 13-15 (4-4).



Suzanna Crews (30) passes to a teammate. She finished with a career-high 24-point, 12-rebound double-double. Photo by David Smith.

Bedford County Basketball Roundup

Shelbyville Central Golden Eaglettes: 17-13 (3-7)

Upcoming Game(s): Offseason

Past week Result(s): 2/23 W 34-28 @ Page in the Region 5-AAAA Quarterfinal, and 2/26 L 40-24 vs #4 Coffee County in the Region 5-AAAA Semi-Final at Centennial High School.

Shelbyville Central Golden Eagles: 6-21 (2-8)

Upcoming Game(s): Offseason

Past week Result(s): 2/15 L 64-54 @ Lincoln County in the District 9-AAAA Quarterfinal.

Cascade Lady Champions: 13-16 (4-4)

Upcoming Game(s): Offseason

Past Week Result(s): 2/23 W 63-42 vs Lewis County in the Region 5-AA Quarterfinal, and 2/26 L

61-50 vs #4 Loretto in the Region 5-AA Semi-Final at Loretto High School.

Cascade Champions: 12-17 (4-4)

Upcoming Game(s): Offseason

Past Week Result(s): 2/24 L 65-42 @ Loretto in the Region 5-AA Quarterfinal.

Community Viqueens: 10-19 (4-4)

Upcoming Game(s): Offseason

Past Week Result(s): 2/23 L 60-29 @ #4 Loretto in the Region 5-AA Quarterfinal.

Community Vikings: 12-17 (4-4)

Upcoming Game(s): Offseason

Past Week Result(s): 2/24 L 76-72 @ Summertown in the Region 5-AA Quarterfinal.

Eaglettes' Season Ends In Region Semifinal Against Coffee County

BY NOAH MADDOX
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A scoreless second quarter ended up being the difference in the Shelbyville Central Golden Eaglettes' loss to the fourth-ranked Coffee County Lady Red Raiders, 40-24, in Monday's first Region 5-AAAA semifinal at Centennial High School.

Coming off of an impeccable defensive performance at Page to get to this point, Shelbyville simply had no answer offensively for Coffee County's own defensive effort in the second and third quarters as they were outscored 29-7 over the course of the middle 16 minutes.

It was the fourth matchup between the team teams this season, and this time Coffee County did not allow a single Eaglette to reach double-digit scoring.

Seniors Paige Blackburn, Lily Brown, and Sammie Brown finished with a team-high eight points, four points, and three points, respectively, as their impressive careers in Shelbyville came to a close. Lanaya Young chipped in with four points, and Jaz Western added five points, all in the fourth quarter.

Channah Gannon led all scorers with a game-high 12 points, shooting 6/6 from the field, and she was joined in double-figures by Natalie Barnes with 10 points. Audri Patton and Olivia Vinson added seven points apiece as well.

Shelbyville started the game well, ending the first quarter tied at 9-9. Lily



Eaglettes' Head Coach Kyle Turnham (center) gives instructions during a timeout against Coffee County. Photo by Jason Blackburn.

Brown scored all four of her points in the opening period, and Sammie Brown converted on her only three-pointer as well.

However, the second quarter is when cracks began to show themselves in the Eaglettes' offensive armor. After matching the Lady Raiders pace in the first, Shelbyville went ice cold in the second, and they went into the halftime locker room trailing 23-9 after shooting 0/9 in the period. Senior star Paige Blackburn struggled to find the range in the first half as she was held scoreless, a stark contrast from her 24-point performance earlier in the season against the Lady Raiders.

Blackburn would respond in the third quarter, knock-

ing down both of her field goal attempts, a three and a two, but Lanaya Young's two points were the only help she received as Coffee County extended their lead to 38-16 going into the final frame.

Blackburn and Western were the only Eaglettes to score in the eight-point fourth quarter. Despite holding Coffee County to two points as they slowed the pace, it was too little too late, and Shelbyville's season came to a close at Centennial High School, 40-24.

Coffee County improves to 30-3 (10-0), and in spite of the many great teams they have had recently, advance to their first region championship game in 31 years. The Lady Raiders

will take on the Lincoln County Lady Falcons in a rematch of a tightly contested District 9-AAAA Championship game on Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m.

The Shelbyville Central Golden Eaglettes up-and-down season ends at 17-12 (3-7). With the departure of 1,000 point-scorer Paige Blackburn, Lily Brown, and Sammie Brown from an already thin team, it will be interesting to see how this program develops over the summer into next season in what is sure to include some rebuilding pains. Fortunately for the Eaglettes, starters Lanaya Young and Jaz Western will be returning for their senior seasons to soften the blow of losing their three starting teammates.

Lady Champs' Campaign Weathered at Loretto

BY NOAH MADDOX
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A resurgent Cascade Lady Champions' season came to a close in Loretto against the fourth-ranked Lady Mustangs, 75-46, in the second Region 5-AA semifinal on Monday night.

Despite being physically outmatched by an extremely lengthy Loretto side, the Lady Champs knew they had to bring the fight for a full 32 minutes.

"My girls just competed all night," said Lady Champions' Head Coach Janie Demonbreum, "They [Loretto] are just big, and they make some really good basketball decisions. I just felt like we were running out of gas in the fourth quarter."

Loretto put their length and size advantage to use early and often, jumping out to a 24-13 lead at the end of the first quarter. For Cascade, Sophie Ray set the tone early, repeatedly attacking the basket and keeping the Lady Champs within four points, 12-8, to start the game.

Unfortunately for the visitors, Ally Weathers, Jenny Clifton, and Jessie Chance were borderline unstoppable offensively in the first half, finishing with 14 points, nine points, and nine points respectively. Weathers finished the game leading all scorers with 29 points and countless assists as well.

The length of Loretto gave Kaegan Young problems in the first half as she was held to three points. She finished with 11, but as the primary ball handler and a tenacious defender, it was tough for Young to find the mark in the first 16 minutes.

The Lady Mustangs' depth began to impose themselves in the second quarter especially, whereas Cascade primarily played six or seven players



Lady Champs Head Coach Janie Demonbreum (center) gives her team final pre-game instructions before Monday's Region 5-AA Semifinal. Photo by David Smith.

in the rotation for the entire game all season. Loretto won the second quarter 18-8 to take a 42-21 lead into the halftime locker room.

As the second half wore on, Demonbreum switched to a full court press that caused a few problems for the hosts. The Lady Champs were able to force some turnovers that led to run outs for easy baskets, but then Ally Weathers would come back down the court and get to the basket to keep Cascade at arms length.

Young scored eight points in the second half, and Suzanna Crews also scored 10 of her 11 points in the final 16 minutes. After netting nine points in the first two quarters, Sophie Ray added seven in the second half to finish with a team-high 16 points.

Cascade could never cut the lead to single-digits in the second half, but it

was not due to a lack of effort.

"[Loretto's] Coach Rutledge even said, to go from three wins last year to 13 this year, it shows what these girls want," Demonbreum said postgame.

"These girls are going to play hard."

Cascade kept pace with Loretto in the third quarter, heading into the final frame trailing 58-37 after a 16-16 third quarter.

However, as Demonbreum alluded to, her team just ran out of gas in the fourth quarter while Loretto closed like the great team they are. The Lady Mustangs held Cascade to nine points in the final eight minutes to win, 75-46, and advance to the region championship.

The result marked the end of a career for Cascade's lone senior, Hailey Giel.

"Hailey Giel brought a lot to our team as far as lead-

Champs' Season Ends At Loretto In Region Quarterfinal

BY NOAH MADDOX
noah@t-g.com

second quarter.

The Cascade Champions were unable to overcome the first quarter loss of senior leader Saebyn Burris on Saturday as they fell to the hometown Loretto Mustangs, 65-42, in the Region 5-AA quarterfinal.

Head coach Chris Lawson was cautiously optimistic about his team's chances coming into Saturday after winning seven of their last ten games, but those hopes were quickly dashed when Burris crumpled to the floor on defense after landing awkwardly on his left ankle. Burris was unable to put hardly any weight on his ankle, hobbling off the court with his team already trailing 8-0 with 4:14 left in the opening period.

Burris' injury seemed to suck all of the air out of the visitor's side of the gym, and Loretto took advantage, taking an 18-1 lead at the end of the first quarter. Without their lynchpin on both ends of the floor, Cascade looked shell-shocked by both the intense man-to-man Mustang defense and the deliberate nature of Loretto's offensive attack.

"It's just so tough to overcome that kind of start," Lawson said postgame, "especially when you lose Saebyn [Burris] that early."

Burris was coming off of one of his best all-round performances against Community in the District 9-AA consolation game when he finished with a double-double of 13 points, 10 rebounds, and six assists.

The visitors seemed to find some signs of life in the second quarter after switching to a full-court zone press to try and speed up Loretto, and it worked for the most part. Kasen Buie, who finished with a game-high 19 points, was held to two points in the first half as he was saddled to the bench with two fouls.

Cascade was able to cut the Loretto lead to single-digits at one point, but it was a 29-16 game going into the halftime locker room after they outscored the Mustangs 15-11 in the

However, the offensive struggles from the opening period reared its ugly head in the third quarter as Loretto outscored Cascade 13-9 to take a 42-25 lead into the final frame.

Senior Isaac McElroy, coming off a career-high 36 points in the win over Community, struggled to get free without his running mate Burris out there with him, finishing with only two points in the first half. He started to get going a little bit in the second half, but Cascade could not string together stops against a hyper-efficient Loretto offensive attack.

The Mustangs finished the game shooting a mind-boggling 67.5% from the field as a team, including 15/20 from two and 6/11 from downtown. They also outshot Cascade by a massive margin at the free throw line as well, connecting on 17/23 attempts from the charity stripe compared to Cascade's three makes on only five attempts.

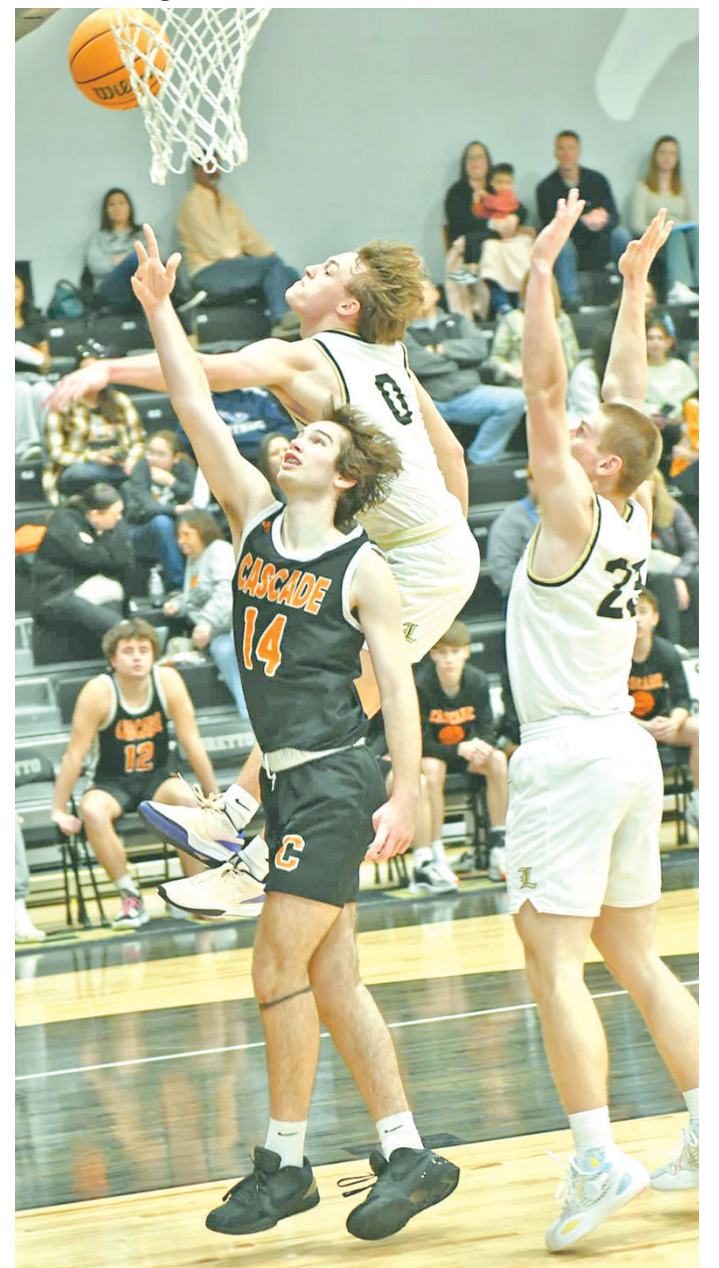
In the final frame, the result was all but in hand for the District 10-AA runners-up, outscoring the visitors 23-17 in the fourth to win comfortably, 65-42.

It was a total team effort from Loretto. Kasen Buie led all scorers with 19 points after he took over with 17 points in the second half, but Jackson Roberson and Mason Tidwell joined him in double figures with 12 points apiece. Clint Seymour chipped in with nine points as well.

Isaac McElroy's stellar two-year career at Cascade came to a close despite leading the team with 16 points on Saturday. Five other seniors, Burris, Caden Hammonds, Zach Crosslin, Tucker McGee, and Logan Pulley, saw their high school careers end on Saturday as well.

Hammonds scored six points, Crosslin tallied three points, McGee finished with five points, and Pulley scored two points of his own. Sophomore guards Tyler Rodgers and Henry Stone finished with six and four points, respectively.

The Mustangs improve to 20-7 (5-1) while Cascade's season comes to an unfortunate end at 12-17 (4-4).



Isaac McElroy (14) led Cascade with 16 points, but saw his stellar senior season come to a close on Saturday. Photo by David Smith.

Loretto improves to 25-3 (5-1).

SERVICE AT ITS BEST!



Submitted Photos
Community High School Criminal Justice Student Organization recently teamed up with Teaching as a Profession to administer child Ident-A-Kits to Community Elementary first graders. The kits are designed to help identify and/or locate a missing child. Instructor Chris Hobbs said it was a privilege to watch as the high school students applied fingerprints and acquired information.



Bedford County has two Reward Schools for 2023

Tennessee Department of Education (TDOE) announced this week that Cascade High School and Community Elementary School have received the designation of Reward schools for their work in the 2022-23 school year.

This accountability designation is given by the state to schools that earn overall federal accountability scores greater than or equal to 3.1 out of 4.0. These scores reflect excellence in both performance and growth.

"We are beyond proud of

these two schools for achieving excellence in student achievement and growth," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Tammy Garrett. "We applaud the hard work of our students and staff for this recognition. It is a major accomplishment, and we congratulate both schools!"

In addition to the Reward designations, Bedford County Schools received a Satisfactory rating for the district with an overall score of 2.0 out of 4.0. The Satisfactory rating is a step up from years

past which means the school system is now showing some growth from year to year. The next achievement level is Advancing.

"BCS is 0.1 away from receiving an Advancing rating, which is our goal, and we are so close," said

Garrett. "We will continue to be focused on student success and achievement, especially in the areas of literacy and math, through strong academic instruction and using data to help us close gaps and accelerate learning."

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REED

From page 1

ly, as he has many on his paternal side having had high blood sugar.

He's battled the disease for 22 years.

He started out taking oral medicine. "I'd get on the wagon, off the wagon, trying to eat right."

He says there's a motto in this part of the country, "If you can fry it, we can eat it."

He now knows that kind of lifestyle can be deadly. It nearly was for him.

Over the years, Reed's blood sugar continued to climb and he finally required insulin.

Wound care, well that's a whole different story. "When you have a wound being a diabetic and if your sugar reading is 250 or above, you will not heal."

He said the lower the number, the better the healing. Reed's blood sugar stayed high; his A1C was 11 at the worst point.

Back in 2017, a diabetic ulcer went from a small sore to the size of a nickel. It ate a hole through his left foot.

He says thanks to the care of Dr. Lana Beaver's team, the Wound Care Center and 27 treatments in a hyperbaric oxygen chamber, he recovered within a couple of months. He says the oxygen helps speed up the healing process.

Six more years would pass before this Bedford County native would face his greatest challenge as a diabetic.

Around horse show time in 2023, he had a crack in his left heel. The wound wasn't healing.

The County official was having trouble walking. He says while getting into his truck one day, he heard something "pop." As most busy people, he didn't give it too much thought.

This "pop" was a warning sign.

After taking his dog outside early one morning, he broke open the same left heel. The wound became infected and in 2 weeks, he heard doctors use the devastating word-amputation.

He can't say enough about Dr. Lana Beavers. He admits he could have done better as a patient to have improved his health.

He says she literally carried him as far as he could go, until he had to have the surgery. In addition to being his doctor, she's a great friend, he adds.

Reed remembers Dr. Beavers helping his wife, Kathy, get him to the hospital last October after she told her Johnny wasn't feeling well. It was at that point Dr. Beavers advised him to seek further medical help.

He was weak. Reed went to Maury Regional Hospital in Columbia in hopes he wouldn't lose his foot.

Doctors there ran an MRI. He remembers that three doctors were in agreement that his foot was not salvageable.

He does feel blessed that he didn't have damage to his heart or kidneys. He believes this amputation was really easier, though certainly not ideal.

"I was in bad shape . . . foot killing me. It needed to be amputated."

With all the love she could muster, wife, Kathy, informed doctors that amputating her loved one's foot was not going to happen. She was naturally scared, feeling alone, uncertain of their future.

Would she become a caretaker, more than a wife?

Those are natural thoughts.

Reed remembers. "At that point, she said my 'life is over.' I'll be taking care of someone in a wheelchair for rest of life."

Doctors assured her that it was amputation or her husband was certain to die. On Monday, Oct. 16, he was prepped for surgery.

"After a 5½ hour surgery and recovery, I started realizing my left foot was gone. He and his wife, with a strong faith, dealt with the medical crisis.

Reed's leg was amputated below the knee. He gives a lot of credit to his wife, calling her a "trooper" through it all.

"I proved her wrong. She said 'you've amazed me.'"

Eventually, it was time to begin life via a wheelchair. Reed says that change in his life was above all things, frightening.

It's a harsh reality, he notes, for a man his age to have to begin using walkers and shower chairs. But he was out of choices.

Four days post-surgery, he was transferred to Encompass Rehabilitation Hospital in Franklin for inpatient care. He calls Encompass the "Cadillac of Cadillacs" in the area of rehabilitation.

For 10 days, he worked to get better, stronger. He remembers the first time he walked with assistance as an amputee.



JOHNNY REED: LIVING LIFE TO THE FULLEST

HAVE A POSITIVE ATTITUDE - Johnny Reed, a victim of diabetes, says he has a lot of days behind him. Much of his past was spent treating his diabetes. While he still has the disease, these days he's striving to enjoy life more, stay healthier and work to help others who may be facing the same situation in life-foot amputation.

Still, there were also times he thought a lot about what was ahead. His two worst fears post-surgery, he says, were getting into his truck and going to the bathroom.

Reed says he's blessed that his home is easily navigated. He laughs and says he ought to write a cookbook called, "Cooking from a wheelchair." His wife is very busy working as principal at Learning Way Elementary, so he does all the cooking.

Reed still visits a podiatrist to make sure the "good leg" stays healthy. So far, so good.

As far as a prosthesis, he has a temporary (foot part permanent and suited to his lifestyle.) As for the socket which fits over the stub, he got his first semi-permanent on Wednesday. The prosthetic socket is the primary and critical interface between the amputee's residual limb and the rest of the prosthesis and therefore a good, comfortable fit is essential.

"This one can break, so that's why it is semi-permanent," he notes. "It takes about a year to 18 months for your stump to shrink down like it needs to."

Reed says with all sincerity that he wants to "live again" and "be the man his wife married, again."

In less than a year, he went from walking stairs to having to negotiate a wheelchair ramp. He had to learn how to shower, shave and get dressed, all over again.

Thankfully, at TSC Prosthetics, Daryl and Chris are amputees and Reed said they understand what it's like to live his new life. He credits Arnold with literally getting him back on his feet.

Reed says he received his leg on Dec. 27, 2023. That was a proud moment, he advises. "Chris said I was in the top 10 percent of the class. I'm on my second socket now and get measured for my third one in a few weeks."

He's learned to do life from a wheelchair, attending a TPAC event most recently. With a laugh, Reed says he now compares his life to that of the Tennessee Titans a few years ago when they ran short of winning the Super Bowl. "I'm a foot short just like they were."

Anyone who knows Reed understands he has a funny sense of humor. But most of all, they realize he loves life more deeply these days.

"I have my diabetes better in control now, better than I ever have in my life. I feel better than I have in a long time."

He gives credit where credit is due. "God has a plan for me and always has. He gave me a wonderful wife and family, my office staff and a wonderful place to live."

He added, "Bedford County people have been praying for me and [I] know it works. I'm so thankful for all."

He has a great "love" for his community. He wants to give back.

"If I can talk to or help anyone going through this awful disease

of diabetes, I'm your cheerleader."

Reed says he's up for re-election in 2026. He says with certainty that he plans to run again and continue to serve the community-this time with a new perspective on life from a wheelchair.

There's a good reason for all those handicap parking places, he says. It makes a difference in his shopping experience.

"I have a new respect for handicap folks. I always have but more now."

He's learned how to best maneuver getting into his truck. He has a running board which he says helps him get in and out of his vehicle.

"I've learned to step up with my good foot and bring the other one up. Then I take the good foot and put it in and then I swing the left one in."

Luckily his truck doors open

wide and he puts the wheelchair in the back. Then it's on down the road.

A member of First Christian Church, Reed says many meals have been prepared for his family. "The love of this community has been awesome . . . lots of prayers and lots of cards."

Life is good. But he's still working hard at making it even better. He's put aside sugary colas. Picking up an apple off his desk, he has turned to fruit instead of chips.

"I've lost 56 pounds and a foot," he says. "But I feel better than I've ever felt. I thank the Good Lord everyday that he spared me."

Reed says if you don't adapt a healthier lifestyle for yourself, at least try to be proactive in health for those you love. He can't replay his life but he hopes to help someone else in the future.

He is well acquainted with the phrase: "It's cheaper to eat bad, than it is to eat good."

He adds, "But if you look at the other side of it-if you eat right-you don't have to go through all this medical stuff. So, it is cheaper to eat right, in the long run."

Reed is in his fourth week back in the office. Things are getting back to normal, that is as it can for this very busy County official and staff. Phones ring. Customers enter the office.

Reed smiles in spite of it all. He realizes he's been given another chance at life.

"Family, friends are more special now than ever before. I've got more time behind me than I've got in front of me. I'm thankful I've still got more time left. Life itself is better today than it was the last few years."



T-G Photos by Dawn Hankins

HEALTHIER DIET - Johnny Reed has been through a battle with diabetes. These days, he's eating healthier, trading soft drinks and chips for fruit.



SEEING BETTER DAYS - Bedford County Register of Deeds Johnny Reed loves a good joke. Just ask his office staff. But they're all close, having stuck together through Reed's absence and illness for about 3 months. From left, Ronnie Reed, Tammy Bledsoe, Marie Wilson, Johnny Reed and Rhonda Whitworth.

ROPER

From page 7

"I have one that actually protects me."

All Roper's Farm cattle are registered at Texas Longhorn Breeders Association of America (TLBAA.) The family shows and sells the Longhorns at shows all across the country.

"I may be judging a futurity cow show in May and we have breeders from Switzerland that are coming to purchase our Longhorns . . . ship them to Switzerland to get better genetics in their herd."

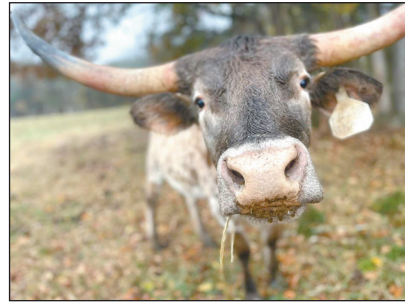
Shauna explains they have at the ranch a daughter, as well as several other relatives, of the Guinness record holder Longest Horned Bull Cowboy Tuff Chex and have elite genetics.

But Shauna says that she believes what makes Roper's Farm in Bedford County stand out is the tameness of "her babies." She

believes they understand her love for them.

"I don't want people eating my babies and I want them to go to good homes."

So, Texas may be bigger but it seems Bedford County and Roper's Ranch is the right fit for this cowgirl too. Recently, Shauna's parents have had health issues, so that just leaves her to take care of



How about a kiss? Rancher Shauna Mora says Longhorns are really docile.

the herd.

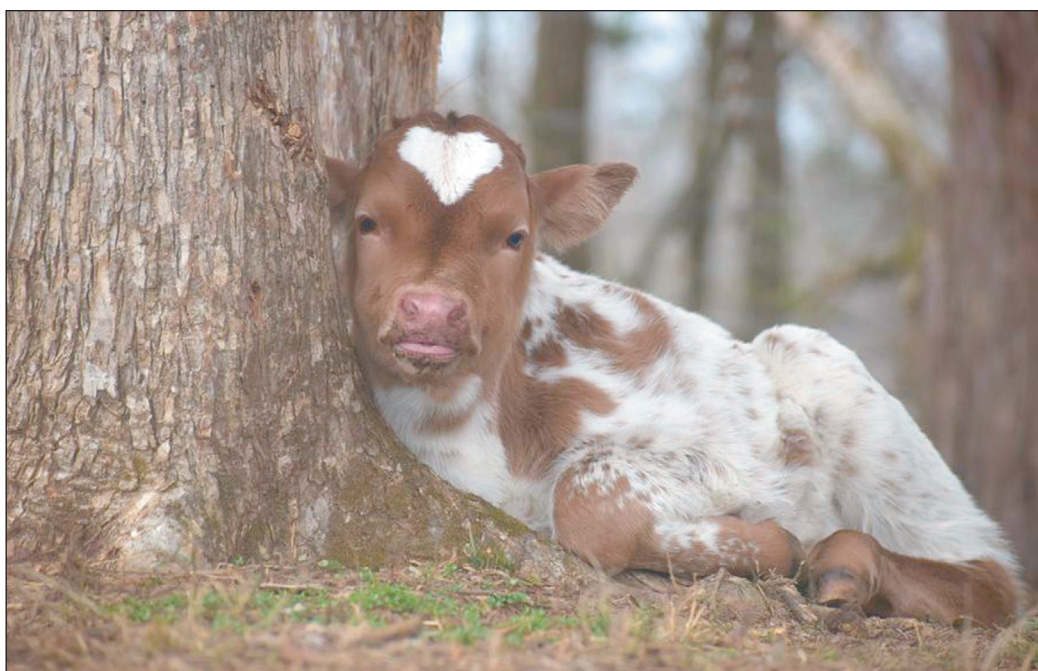
"But there's nothing else I'd rather do!"



Shauna Roper Mora hails from Texas but this cowgirl enjoys local ranch life.

'I moved to Shelbyville in 2020, after just coming for a week-long visit . . . haven't gone back home yet!'

- Longhorn rancher Shauna Roper Mora



Sweet baby rests by the tree.