



Ford Community Center road-tour team to visit Atoka

Residents will have an opportunity to learn about programs and services available through the Ford Community Center during a community outreach event Thursday, Sept. 17.

The center's road-tour team will be available from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Atoka Town Hall Board Room. Residents may stop by to learn about available resources, complete an intake or speak with team members about assistance they or someone they know may need.

The Ford Community Center is designed to serve as a central hub connecting residents with local services and opportunities. Programs and resources include financial literacy, employment assistance, job fairs, entrepreneurship support, emergency assistance, legal services, college and career counseling, preventive health care, fresh food access, nutrition and fitness programs, transportation assistance and volunteer opportunities.

Additional areas of focus include education, job training, community safety and community activities and events.

Organizers describe the center as a "front door" through which residents can connect with community organizations and coordinated services in one location.

A permanent Ford Community Center location in Atoka is scheduled to open in December. In the meantime, Thursday's

SEE FORD, PAGE A3

QUOTE OF THE WEEK
"I still believe that if your aim is to change the world, journalism is a more immediate short-term weapon." - Tom Stoppard

OBITUARIES

Jessie Lee Williams
Shirley Jean Orman

INSIDE

Faith A4
News A2
Legals A8-A9
Sports A10

Volunteers remove 480 pounds of litter from Highway 51

Volunteers collected 480 pounds of litter from a half-mile stretch of Highway 51 during Keep Tipton County Beautiful's quarterly Adopt-A-Highway cleanup, the organization reported.

The cleanup covered the highway leading to the Tipton County Landfill. Litter officers Dalton Hicks and Terry Lovett provided safety support while the crew worked alongside the road.

Board member Christie Norwood, representing Golden Circle Chevrolet,

joined the effort. Volunteers from Safe Harbor of Tipton County also took part, and Eddie Shelby provided water for the group.

After the cleanup, board member Amanda Marie Faurbo opened Atoka Railroad Adventure Plus for the volunteers to enjoy frozen yogurt.

Keep Tipton County Beautiful thanked the participating individuals and organizations for helping remove litter and improve the highway corridor.

Volunteers gather outside the Tipton County EMA building for Keep Tipton County Beautiful's quarterly Adopt-A-Highway cleanup. The crew removed 480 pounds of litter from a half-mile stretch of Highway 51 leading to the Tipton County Landfill. Photo courtesy of Keep Tipton County Beautiful.



Highway 51 sidewalk project advances in Covington

A Highway 51 sidewalk extension moved closer to construction Sept. 15 when Covington's Finance and Administration Committee approved Rose Construction's low bid of approximately \$1.82 million.

Public Works Director Tim Haynes said five bids were received for the project, which city officials described as having been in discussion for about eight years.

Haynes said he hoped to see work begin within a month to six weeks, depending on state approval. Once the approved paperwork is signed and submitted, he said, the state review was expected to take one to two weeks before the contractor could proceed.

The project requires a 20 percent local match, Haynes told the committee. The low bid came in below an earlier estimate of about \$2.1 million, although officials noted that changes during construction could affect the final cost.

The discussion also covered future sidewalk extensions. Haynes said planning and design work for a second phase had been completed and that officials had already contacted the state about moving it forward.

He said he hoped work on the first two phases could overlap. Mayor Jan Hensley said residents could see work on the second phase by spring 2027.

Officials also discussed a proposed third phase intended to extend sidewalk access toward apartment complexes along Old Brighton Road. Haynes said design work was underway and the city was preparing to seek state funding. That phase could still be several years away.

Haynes credited city staff with helping secure the rights of way needed for the first phase. Hensley thanked him for working with the Tennessee Department of Transportation to move the long-delayed project forward.

Covington committee rejects cemetery sale proposal

Covington's Finance and Administration Committee voted Sept. 15 to reject a proposal to sell Munford and Townsend cemeteries after concerns about property value, historic deeds and the handling of perpetual-care money.

In a separate vote, the committee moved to remove a public hearing on the proposed sale from the Sept. 22 meeting agenda. The city had advertised the hearing for a proposed sale to Broylan Memorial.

The discussion brought together questions about what property could be transferred, whether the city would receive adequate value and how the cemeteries should be maintained in the future.

City Attorney Rachel Simmons said the cemeteries' chain of title reaches back roughly 150 years. Some older deeds describe individual lots, while later documents describe the larger property, creating issues that would need to be addressed in a sale.

Simmons said the city owns the cemeteries, but additional legal work, potentially including court action, could be necessary to establish a title that would satisfy a purchaser. She also said public access through a cemetery road would need to be protected.

Another unresolved question involved

perpetual-care funds held by the city. Simmons recommended seeking an opinion from the state comptroller before transferring that money to a buyer. She said she had not yet requested that guidance.

Committee members questioned the lack of an appraisal and competitive bids. They also discussed the expectations of families who purchased burial plots believing the city would continue caring for them, along with the cemeteries' historical importance.

The proposal had prompted discussion of whether a private operator could improve maintenance and relieve the city of some upkeep responsibilities. After hearing the concerns, members said the city needed to improve cemetery care and reconsider the proposed transfer.

Following the rejection, discussion turned to possible community help. Participants raised the idea of a Friends of Munford Cemetery organization that could assist with preservation, restoration and maintenance.

They also discussed researching grants and whether more of the perpetual-care money could be used for upkeep. Those ideas remained under discussion, with legal and funding questions still to be answered.

ArtiCast plans 100 jobs at former Jackson plant

Brandon Shields / The Jackson Post

JACKSON — A Michigan manufacturer's trip to buy equipment from a closed Jackson plant instead led to plans for a new operation that will employ 100 people by 2031.

ArtiFlex announced Sept. 15 that its ArtiCast division will occupy the former Pace Industries facility and invest more than \$10 million in the property.

Company leaders originally came to Jackson to purchase equipment and move it to another facility. After visiting, they decided to keep the equipment in place and establish an operation here.

ArtiCast specializes in die casting for a range of industries, including aerospace, defense and humanoid robotics. John Husby said at the announcement at the Greater Jackson Chamber.

"Establishing a new diecasting operation here in Jackson isn't just an addition of a building," Husby said. "It's a long-term commitment by our company to this area and the people in it."

"Because we see the workforce development and the work ethic of the



John Husby speaks to a crowd gathered at the Greater Jackson Chamber for the announcement of ArtiCast's plans to bring 100 jobs to Jackson. Photo courtesy of the Greater Jackson Chamber.

people here.

"Artiflex has been looking to expand our operations into the southeastern United States, and Jackson is the place that makes the most sense."

Husby said some former Pace leadership employees had already been hired by ArtiCast, the division he leads as CEO. The company aims to contact former Pace employees about returning to work.

Pace closed its Jackson operation earlier this year.

Kyle Spurgeon, president and CEO of the Greater Jackson Chamber, said trust is important in the chamber's

work with companies considering a move to Jackson.

"That trust is a key component because trust is what you build on when you're ready to say 'Jackson is where I want to set up shop and live' instead of saying it's a nice place to visit," Spurgeon said. "And we've gotten to know John and the rest of the group from Artiflex, we like them and we trust them."

"We're glad they're here and that everything worked out for them to come to Jackson."

Gill elected school board chairman; closer commission ties urged

Mike Gill was elected chairman of the Tipton County Board of Education on Sept. 10 following a discussion about strengthening the board's relationship with the county commission as school facilities needs grow.

Gill, the District 8 representative, succeeds Blake Shankle. The board also elected District 4 member Matt McCann as vice chairman during its annual September selection of officers.

Before the election, members praised Shankle's work and the time he had devoted to the position. At the same time, members said stronger cooperation with county commissioners would be important in securing support for capital improvements.

The discussion centered on the need to work together across county government as school buildings age and additional expenses emerge. Members who supported considering a leadership change emphasized their appreciation for Shankle's



Mike Gill

service.

In remarks later in the meeting, Gill said he wanted communication with the county commission to begin before the school board needed funding or faced a disagreement. He called for regular conversations, joint planning and mutual respect between the two bodies.

Gill said he spoke often with the commissioners from his district and intended to invite them to a future school board meeting as one step toward building those relationships.

He also outlined priorities for the board's own work, including following established

SEE GIL, PAGE A3



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The Town of Atoka’s promotional illustration announces two dumpsters at Pioneer Park for general household trash and unwanted items. AI-labeled graphic courtesy of the Town of Atoka.

Atoka to offer household trash drop-off at Pioneer Park

The Town of Atoka will provide two dumpsters at Pioneer Park for residents to dispose of general household trash and unwanted items from Sep 18, 2026 through Sep 25, 2026. The dumpsters will be at the park, 399 Walker Parkway, according to the town’s announcement. The town listed several items that must not be placed in the dumpsters: tires; hazardous waste, including paint, oil and chemicals; batteries; mattresses; appliances; electronics, including televisions and computers; and construction or demolition debris. Town officials encouraged residents to use the opportunity to clear out clutter and help keep Atoka clean.

Munford-Tipton County Memorial Library

CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

September 21-26th

We will be closed for computer network upgrades.

There will be no internet access or Wi-Fi during this time.

Stock up before we close!

Until then, checkout limits are doubled: 16 books and 4 movies.

Thank you for your understanding!

The Munford-Tipton County Memorial Library’s notice announces a temporary closure for computer network upgrades and encourages patrons to stock up on books and movies beforehand. Graphic courtesy of the Munford-Tipton County Memorial Library.

Munford library announces weeklong closure for network upgrades

The Munford-Tipton County Memorial Library will close to the public from Sep 21, 2026 through Sep 26, 2026 for computer network upgrades. Internet access and Wi-Fi will be unavailable during the closure, according to a notice posted by the library. Patrons are encouraged to stock up on reading and viewing materials before the work begins. Until the closure, the library is doubling checkout limits to 16 books and four movies. The library asked residents to share the notice to help spread the word. For more information, call the library at 901-837-2665.

Kustoff visits Tipton County manufacturers, hospital

Submitted U.S. Rep. David Kustoff visited two Tipton County manufacturers and Baptist Memorial Hospital-Tipton during his August district work period, according to a Sept. 15 release from his office. Kustoff toured Mueller Fittings Company in Covington with general manager Kevin Gay and Covington Mayor Jan Wade Hensley. The company manufactures copper fittings for plumbing, heating and cooling, and industrial uses. He also toured the Magnum Ice Cream factory with factory head Andres Borrero. At Baptist Memorial Hospital-Tipton, Kustoff met with chief financial officer Carlos Mendoza, quality and compliance administrator Madalyn Mason, human resources director Myra Cousar and other hospital leaders. The Tipton County stops were part of meetings across Tennessee’s 8th Congressional District with manufacturers, health care providers, farmers, law enforcement officers, business owners and civic leaders. “Those conversations shape my work in Washington, and I will continue fighting for the West Tennesseans who make our community strong,” Kustoff said in the release.

Le Bonheur announces 16th consecutive year on national hospital list

Submitted Le Bonheur Children’s Hospital announced Sept. 15 that it has been named to U.S. News & World Report’s 2026-2027 Best Children’s Hospitals list, marking its 16th consecutive year receiving the recognition. In its announcement, the Memphis hospital said the rankings are intended to help parents and caregivers, working with their physicians, compare care for children with serious illnesses or complex medical needs. Le Bonheur also highlighted its regional clinics in Jackson, Tennessee; Tupelo, Mississippi; and Jonesboro, Arkansas, which serve children and families across the region.

Main Street seeks artisan vendors for holiday market

Covington Main Street is seeking makers and artisan vendors for a holiday market planned in Historic Downtown Covington on Dec 5, 2026. The Artisan Vendor Market will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. as part of “There’s No Place Like Home for the Holidays.” The celebration is expected to include Christmas shopping, dining, food trucks and special activities. Organizers are gathering interest from vendors who make or sell handcrafted goods, including pottery, artwork, woodworking, jewelry, candles, soaps, baked goods, home decor, textiles and Christmas items. Spaces will be limited, according to Main Street’s announcement. Interested vendors are asked to leave their name, contact number and a short description of what they make or sell in the comments on the organization’s Facebook post. Main Street also encouraged residents to share the announcement with local makers who might want to participate.

Local author book signing coming to Merle Norman in Atoka

Merle Norman Studio & Unique Gifts & Yon Salon in Atoka will host a book signing and new product launch from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Oct. 10. Tipton County author Elaine W. Watkins will sign copies of “The Mouse in the Tractor,” which was illustrated by Tipton County artist Barrie Foster. Refreshments and goodie bags will also be available during the event. “The Mouse in the Tractor” was inspired by a mouse that spent a day in the cab of a tractor while Watkins’ son was farming. The book’s main character, Gracie, was named for Watkins’ granddaughter. Watkins has been writing for more than 20 years. Many of her books are available at the Tipton County Museum and through Amazon. Foster, a nationally award-winning artist, retired as director of the Tipton County Museum in 2020. Since her retirement, she has taught art throughout the Memphis area. The signing will bring the work of the two Tipton County residents to Merle Norman Studio & Unique Gifts & Yon Salon, a business opened in May 2007 by Sarah Carol Swift and her daughter, Jaelyn B. “Yon” Parsons. Swift began her career at the Barbizon School in Memphis, where she graduated and later worked. She learned various aspects of the beauty business during her time there. She later spent 20 years working in several areas of Jerol Hopkins Ford Lincoln-Mercury Inc., where she developed her customer service skills. Parsons previously worked at Richard and Company, a hair salon in Germantown, before joining her mother in the Atoka business. Merle Norman Studio & Unique Gifts offers skin care products, makeup, clothing, accessories and gifts. Parsons operates the salon located in the rear of the store, providing hair color and styling services. Swift and Parsons have emphasized customer service throughout nearly two decades in business. In 2009, they received the Gold Medallion Award for meeting Merle Norman’s standards of excellence in customer service. Merle Norman Studio & Unique Gifts & Yon Salon is located at 11665 U.S. Highway 51 in Atoka, next to Kroger.

Reed Family Dentistry wins Memphis Business Journal Small Business Award

Reed Family Dentistry has been named the winner in the Small Company category of the 2026 Memphis Business Journal Small Business Awards. The annual awards recognize locally owned businesses for leadership, innovation, sustained growth and community impact. Reed Family Dentistry was selected as the top honoree in the Small Company category from a group of finalists. Founded in 1949 by Dr. Loyd Reed, Reed Family Dentistry was Millington’s first dental practice. The business has since grown into a third-generation family practice with offices in Millington and Covington. The practice is led by father-and-son dentists Dr. Kevin Reed and Dr. Taylor Reed. “We are incredibly honored to receive this recognition from the Memphis Business Journal,” Kevin Reed said. “This award belongs not only to our family but also to our dedicated team, our loyal patients and the communities that have trusted us for generations.” Reed Family Dentistry has reported annual growth of between 5% and 8% during the past three years. Through the first quarter of 2026, the practice reported a 7% increase over the previous year. The practice says it ranks among the top 3% to 5% of dental practices of its size nationwide by total revenue. The dentists attribute the practice’s growth to the values established by its founder and an emphasis on continuing education. Training through the Pankey Institute has been part of the practice’s approach to comprehensive dental care. “As a third-generation dentist, it is incredibly meaningful to continue the legacy my grandfather began in 1949,” Taylor Reed said. “While dentistry has evolved tremendously over the years, our mission has remained the same: treat every patient like family and provide exceptional care that helps them enjoy healthy smiles for life.” The practice also supports organizations and community initiatives throughout the Mid-South. Kevin Reed has served on Church Health’s team of volunteer dentists. Kevin Reed and Taylor Reed also volunteer with Donated Dental Services and Mid-South Mission of Mercy, providing free dental care to qualifying patients. Both dentists have also participated in mission trips to provide dental care to people in need. “Our success has always been about relationships,” Kevin Reed said. “We have the privilege of caring for multiple generations of the same families, and that’s something we never take for granted.” Reed Family Dentistry plans to continue investing in dental technology and patient care as the family practice builds on its more than 75-year history. “Receiving this award inspires us to continue striving for excellence,” Taylor Reed said. “We are proud of where we’ve been, excited about where we’re headed and grateful to continue serving the communities that have supported our family for more than three-quarters of a century.”

MT. CARMEL NEWS

Elaine Watkins

It's already 92 degrees, with a high of 95 today. Mid- to high 90s all week, again, then boom! Fall arrives on the 22nd and the high is supposed to be 81! Yay!

I took all the red, white and blue decorations down outside and decorated for fall, the porch and playhouse Tuesday, but I'm waiting for the actual start of it to decorate inside. Next week!

This Week's Farm Report: And we got rain — the drought is busted! We got 0.4 inches Thursday, then 1.7 inches Friday and another scant 0.2 inches Saturday! We just sat out on the porch and watched it! The rain may be too late for the soybeans, but we'll see. Some spraying done.

I went to the eye doctor, EyeMed in Atoka, and saw my regular, Dr. McMillian. Love him and his crew, and we always enjoy sharing jokes! I don't go back for six months.

Thursday, 11 Byars-Hall Class of '69 girls drove to Bartlett and ate at Sweetpea's, a cute little place serving meat and two vegetables. We all got

dessert too. Then some of us drove over to see Bill and Carolyn Murray's new place — beautiful! Fun trip!

We went to Court Square Friday, and I got the Onion Tangles. I don't eat much fried stuff, but they are great! I always check the menu on Facebook to see if they are available that day!

Liz and Lyla visited Saturday, and we had a good afternoon. And she brought us some eggs from a customer at MixSouth Munford!

On our prayer list at the Covington Church of Christ are Beverly Keith, Joyce Scott, Lang Taylor and Gail Davison, Teri Robinson's aunt.

And all of our servicemen and women. God bless the USA!

Congratulations to Coltin and Jayden Clay on the birth of a daughter, Murphy Elaine, on Sept. 1! And to Brad and Becky Evins on the birth of a granddaughter, Micah Jean Miller, on Sept. 9!

Happy birthday this week goes to Dayton Maness on Sept. 13, to Christie Coughlan and Mindy Stavrum on the 14th, to Addison Vujicic on the

16th, to Chloe Coughlan on the 17th, to Eli Charnock on the 18th and to Chris Huggins on the 19th!

Happy anniversary to Matt and Mallory Moody on Sept. 17!

We had pinto beans and ham last week on Wednesday night. And a birthday cake for Andy Whaley! Lots of good sides and desserts. No meal this week because of the gospel meeting at the Brighton High School gym! I'll let you know how it went!

This Week's Farmer's Almanac Quote: "We can't all be heroes, because someone has to sit on the curb and clap as they go by." — Will Rogers, American humorist (1879-1935).

This Week's Joke: I drove my cow through the vineyard this morning. Herd it through the grapevine.

Now you have a song in your head!

Actually, I told this joke, as I usually do, to Ron Sutton in church this morning, and he said he was in the Navy and they sang that song on the Kitty Hawk! Gotta keep morale up someday!

Until next week . . .

School board approves \$1.17 million in generator work

The Tipton County Board of Education approved contracts Sept. 10 for whole-building generators at three schools, part of a broader effort to address aging facilities and plan future improvements.

The work at Covington High School, Drummonds Elementary School and Munford High School totals approximately \$1.17 million, based on figures presented by maintenance supervisor Hunter Bennett during the meeting.

Bennett listed the individual project costs as \$345,360 for Covington High, \$332,100 for Drummonds Elementary and \$493,600 for Munford High. He said the combined cost came in about \$60,000 below the amount budgeted for the work.

The generators are intended to power entire school buildings during outages. Bennett distinguished them from existing equipment configured to serve life-safety needs rather than

supply power throughout a building.

Installation was being targeted for fall break and Thanksgiving break, Bennett said. He cautioned that the schedule still depended on executing contracts and issuing purchase orders. The work had not begun as of the meeting.

The generator decisions came as board members discussed the growing demands of maintaining older school buildings, particularly their heating and air-conditioning systems.

Bennett said he had received three options for replacing air-handling equipment at Munford Middle School. He planned to review them with district administrators before bringing the engineers' presentation to the board's next work session.

Across the district, some air-conditioning equipment dates to the original construction of the buildings it serves, Bennett

told the board. Extended heat puts additional strain on those systems, and maintenance employees respond to failures as quickly as they can, he said.

Bennett urged members to keep basic building needs in view when deciding how to spend capital-improvement money, emphasizing the importance of keeping classrooms comfortable for students.

District officials also outlined plans for an hourlong visit to every school with its principal. The walkthroughs were scheduled to begin Sept. 14, with board members invited to participate.

The goal is to combine priorities identified by principals with the maintenance department's assessment of infrastructure needs to develop a five-year capital-projects plan.

Tipton County Schools announces Parent University at Brighton High

Tipton County Schools will hold Parent University at Brighton High School on Oct. 24, 2026, offering information and resources for families with children in kindergarten through 12th grade.

The program will run from 9 a.m. to noon, with registration beginning at 8 a.m., according to the district's event notice.

Parents may choose sessions on topics including internet safety, English as a Second Language support and the third-grade retention law. The event will also include resource booths, coffee and donuts, and activities for children ages 5 through 12.

The district shared the announcement on its Facebook page and encouraged families to mark their calendars.



PARENT UNIVERSITY

This is a great opportunity to learn about several important topics relevant to families with K-12 school-age children.

- Information for Parents of K-12: Pick your sessions! Topics include Internet Safety, ESL Support, the 3rd Grade Retention Law, and many more!
- Booths with resources
- Coffee & Donuts provided
- Activities for children ages 5-12

Saturday, Oct. 24th, 2026

9am-12noon;
Registration starts at 8:00

Brighton High School

For more information, email: khuffman@tipton-county.com, vrichardson@tipton-county.com, or cbounds@tipton-county.com





Bristol Turner displays her grand champion commercial ewe at the Dyer County Fair. The animal was bred at her farm. Photo courtesy of Covington FFA.



Linley Turner displays her reserve champion market lamb at the Dyer County Fair. She also won senior high showmanship. Photo courtesy of Covington FFA.

Linley and Bristol Turner earn Dyer County Fair honors

Linley Turner and Bristol Turner earned top honors at the Dyer County Market Lamb Show, according to results announced by Covington FFA.

Linley won senior

high showmanship and reserve champion market lamb. Bristol won grand champion commercial ewe with an animal bred at her farm.

The chapter recognized

the students' work in agriculture, along with their commitments at school and on the court, in a post shared by the Covington TN FFA Alumni page.

FORD

From A1

event will allow residents to meet members of the team and learn how they may access assistance. Atoka Town Hall is

located at 334 Atoka-Munford Ave. For additional information about the Ford Community Center and its programs,

visit www.uwwt.org/fcc, email fcc@unitedway.tn.org or call 731-432-7833.

GIL

From A1

policies, explaining decisions to the public and supporting Superintendent Dr. Rebekah Byrd.

Gill said the board's responsibilities include setting policy, providing oversight and giving the superintendent the resources and support to lead the school system.

He emphasized respecting the different roles of board members, administrators, principals and employees.

On transparency, he said residents should be able to understand what the board is considering, why it is considering it and how decisions are reached.

Gill acknowledged that

members would disagree and ask difficult questions. He urged them to continue working as one board after votes are taken, and said he would need their help in carrying out the chairman's responsibilities.

The Leader

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901-476-5811

Antioch Baptist Church
190 Antioch Road
Munford, TN 38058
901-837-9635

Associated Reformed Presb
81 Church Ave
Brighton, TN 38011
901-476-7233

Atoka U.M. Church
609 Atoka-Munford Ave
Atoka, TN 38004
873-8454

Atoka Evangelical Preb
1041 Atoka Idaville Rd
Atoka, TN 38004
837-3500

Avery Chapel CME
2365 Leighs Chapel Road
Covington, TN 38019
901-476-2337

Beaver Baptist
9344 Holly Grove Rd
Munford, TN 38058
901-837-2904

Bethel Baptist Church
55 Andrea Dr.
Munford, TN 38058
837-2247

Bethel Cumberland Presbyterian
3406 Tracey Rd
Atoka, TN 38004
837-0343

Big Hatchie Baptist Association
1390 Hwy. 51 N
Covington, TN 38019
901-476-6759

Bright Hill M.B. Church
4650 Ballard Slough Rd.
P.O. Box 166
Burlison, TN 38015
901-476-3227

Campground U. M. Church
3183 Drummonds Road
Drummonds, TN 38023
837-4629

Canaan Baptist Church
211 Main Street N
Covington, TN 38019
476-8782

Canaan Grove Baptist Church
57 Canaan Grove Rd
Mason, TN 38049
901-294-2990

Carey Chapel AME
4955 Ballard Slough Rd
Burlison, TN 38015
475-2288

Calvary Baptist Church
2010 Highway 51 S
Covington, TN 38019
476-4433

Calvary Bible Church
894 Munford Ave
Munford, TN 38058
837-8563

Central Baptist Church
755 Lucy Kelly Rd.
Brighton, TN 38011
901-475-4422

Central Christian Church
400 South Maple Street
Covington, TN 38019
901-476-6858

Charleston Baptist Church
8642 Hwy 179
Stanton, TN 38069
901.476.8479

Covington Church of Christ
1690 Highway 51 S.
Covington, TN 38019
901-476-8278

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
9604 Hwy. 51 North
Millington, TN 38053

City of Refuge
176 B Wesley Reed Drive
Atoka, TN 38004
901-826-4034

Clopton U. M. Church
5285 Brighton Clopton Rd
Brighton, TN 38011
901-476-5512

Collins Chapel C.M.E. Church
303 W. Ripley Avenue
Covington, TN 38019

Cornerstone Assembly of God
8041 Mt. Carmel Road
Covington, TN 38019
901-476-4676

Cornerstone Community Church
3030 Drummonds Rd
Atoka, TN 38004
901-840-4326

Crossroads Community Church at the Nazarene
3865 Beaver Rd
Munford, TN 38058
901-837-2545

Crossway Cowboy Church
8932 Mt. Caramel Rd
Brighton, TN 38011

Ebenezer Cumberland Presbyterian Church
70 Witherington Rd
Mason, TN 38049
901-294-2670

Elm Grove Church of Christ
2016 Elm Grove Rd
Burlison, TN 38015
901-476-5440

Elm Grove United Methodist
1108 Elm Grove Rd.
Burlison, TN 38015
901-476-8799

Faith Baptist Church
900 Simmons Rd
Drummonds, TN 38023
901-837-2683

Fellowship Bible Church
6920 Highway 59 W
Burlison, TN 38015
901-476-1008

First Assembly Of God Church
1422 Old Hwy 51
Brighton, TN 38011
901-837-0950

First Baptist Church of Atoka
102 Kimbrough Ave
Atoka, TN 38004
901-313-2919

First Baptist Church of Munford
521 Giltedge Rd.
Munford, TN 38058
901-451-1364

First Baptist Church of Covington
2105 Highway 59 South
Covington, TN 38019
901-476-2489

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Faith

ALONG THE JOURNEY

THE LEADER • THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2026 • A5

Recently, in my studies and conversations, I have been confronted by the concept of covenant. Many of the Old Testament stories and events center around covenant experiences between God and the characters of the story. They tell the story of covenant love between God and humankind and the deep compassion the Creator has for us.

The Hebrew word, *hesed*, holds before us the great theme of compassion. It is a word so laden with meaning that translators struggle to find an English equivalent, often rendering it “loving kindness” or “steadfast love.” It is a word most frequently used in reference to God’s unwavering compassion for God’s people. God’s wonderful *hesed* love is from everlasting to everlasting, declared the Psalmist in Psalm 103:17.

It is a steadfast love that endures forever as we read in Psalm 106:1.

But the great challenge for us is that this covenant love, this durable mercy that is so central to the character of God, is to be reflected in us as well. Through Hosea, the prophet, God declares, “I desire steadfast love (*hesed*) and not sacrifice, ... the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings” (Hosea 6:6).

Sprinkled throughout the Hebrew Scriptures are grace-filled laws of compassion, of *hesed*. The law of gleaning ... is a prime example. Farmers were to leave some of their crop along the borders and the grain that fell on the ground during the harvest so that the poor could gather it (Leviticus 19:9-10). Likewise, the vineyards and the olive groves were not to be stripped bare, in order to make provision

for the needy. The simple fact of need was sufficient reason to provide for them.

Think of the tender compassion in the old Hebrew laws about giving and taking a pledge. If someone borrowed your oxcart and left his coat in pledge, you had to be sure to give the coat back before sunset even if he had not finished with the oxcart. Why? Because the night air was cold, and he would need his coat for warmth. The rule was doubly binding if the person who made the pledge was poor, for the likelihood was he had no other coat with which to keep warm (Deuteronomy 24:12-13). Graciousness, courtesy, compassion ... this is *hesed*.

To live with compassion toward others in need is the very flow of God’s compassion. If the heart of divine mystery is turned in compassion toward the

world, then devotion to God draws persons into the shape of divine communion with all others. “Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful” (Luke 6:36). To deny one’s connection with the suffering needs of others is to detach oneself from divine communion.

The praxis of mercy is propelled by this dynamic. So too is committed work on behalf of peace, human rights, economic justice, and the transformation of social structures ... such as sheer respect for one another (which has been significantly lost in today’s world). Solidarity with those who suffer, being there with commitment to their flourishing, is the locus of encounter with the living God in our journeys ...

In the journey with you,
Kenneth S. Uselton



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by Rick Huffman, Elder

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Maybe we cannot but God can

Consciously or not, we all tend to view God in terms of what we ourselves are capable of doing. The Bible itself speaks of God at times in human terms. Possibly the first occurrence is Genesis 3:8 where it speaks of “God walking in the garden.” God is a spirit (John 4:24), not a human, not fleshly. Does he have physical legs on which to walk? No. The Bible sometimes applies human traits and characteristics to God to help us better understand Him; this is called anthropomorphism. However, we should never apply our limitations, imperfections, frailties and shortcomings to God. He is perfect and complete in every way, being omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent.

Our limitations do not limit God. If there are things that I cannot do (and there are), that does not mean God cannot. The only limits God has are limits He has placed upon Himself. For example, God is good; therefore He cannot be evil.

A man whose son had a dumb spirit (Mark 9:17-29) that cast the boy at various times into the fire and into the water to destroy the boy came to Jesus for help after Jesus’ disciples could not cast the dumb spirit out. “Jesus said unto him (the father), If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth. And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief” (Mark 9:23-24). The man realized his own limitations

and he had seen the limitations of the twelve. If the faith of the twelve had not been sufficient, we can understand the man doubting his own faith so he asked Jesus to help his unbelief. Jesus, who has no limitations, cast the dumb spirit out of his son.

When the young man with many possessions came to Jesus seeking eternal life (Matthew 19:17-27; Mark 10:17-27; Luke 18:18-27), Jesus told him “If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me” (Matthew 19:21). When the young man went away sorrowfully (Matthew 19:22), “Then said Jesus unto his disciples, Verily I say unto you, That a rich man shall hardly enter into the kingdom of heaven. And again I say unto you, It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. When his disciples heard it, they were exceedingly amazed, saying, Who then can be saved? But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible” (Matthew 19:23-26). God has no limitations. His word (Romans 1:16) can cause the heart of any man to give up whatever it is that the man is placing ahead of God (Matthew 6:33).

Paul makes the following statement: “But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God

hath prepared for them that love him” (I Corinthians 2:9). This statement is concerning our salvation as being so great as to be beyond our ability to imagine (I Corinthians 2:7-10). If this statement is true of our salvation, and it is, is it not also true of the heavenly home He has promised to give us (John 14:1-3)? This is yet another example of the unlimited power of God and our inability to comprehend it.

We serve a living God with limitless power, but we do not avail ourselves of His power through His Son (Matthew 28:18). “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me” (Philippians 4:13). Do we believe it? With God and His Son at our side, the sky is the limit. No, there are no limits. “Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us” (Ephesians 3:20).

Too often we are like Moses. When God called him from the burning bush to return to Egypt from whence he fled forty years earlier, Moses gave many excuses. One of these excuses was his ability to speak (Exodus 4:10-17). “And Moses said unto the LORD, O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue. And the LORD said unto him, Who hath made man’s mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I the LORD?

Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say” (Exodus 4:10-12). Essentially, God told Moses that Moses may not be able to speak and deliver Israel but with God, Moses would be successful. God once told Paul, “my strength is made perfect in weakness (of Paul and of us)” (II Corinthians 12:9).

We need only to recall the feeding of the five thousand to be reminded of the boundless power of God and His Son. Jesus asked Philip, “Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat?” (John 6:5). “One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, saith unto him, There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?” (John 6:8-9). But Jesus fed them all with five loaves and two fishes and there were “filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten” (John 6:13).

We need to trust God. Even when we cannot accomplish a task on our own, God can and He will if it is His will (I John 5:14-15). God can and will bless our feeble efforts. “And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work” (2 Corinthians 9:8). Trust God! Do not limit His power by a lack of your faith!

There is suffering in the world; 2) There is an omnipotent, omniscient, perfectly good God; and 3) There is no morally sufficient reason for an omnipotent, perfectly good God to allow evil and suffering. In agreement with philosopher Eleonore Stump, I have formulated the argument from evil by substituting the word “suffering” for evil. The reason, quite simply, is that the problem is not with

The Problem of Evil

call this apparent conundrum “The Problem of Evil.” The logical problem of evil presents as a question: “If the God of Christianity is omnipotent (all-powerful), omniscient (all-knowing), and omnibenevolent (all-caring), then why is there evil in the world?” Did God create the evil that befalls man? If He, in fact, did not create evil, then where did it come from? Is God’s “good” creation not as good as advertised? Couldn’t God have created a world

without evil? Or maybe one with less evil? The list of questions goes on and on. For the critic, the fact that there is evil and suffering in the world proves not only that God is dead but that He never existed in the first place. On the other hand, for the Christian, the existence of God and the existence of evil and suffering in the world are compatible realities.

Formally, the logical problem of evil can be presented in this form: 1)

SEE **EVIL**, PAGE A7

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DOUBT? ... OR DARE!

By: rj johnson

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[illegible]

STICKELERS [sic]

by Terry Stickels

Here's a "trickledown" puzzle. The rules are simple; you merely change one letter on each line to make a new word and continue until you reach the final word.

EXAMPLE: COAT	ANS: COAT
_____	COST
_____	CAST
_____	CASE
VASE	VASE

TRACK

Terry Stickels

"Now there's a car everyone can afford — providing the entire _____ pays for it!"

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Restore	_____	_____
MYSONNY	_____	_____
Short	_____	_____
FIBER	_____	_____
Fiend	_____	_____
LOUGH	_____	_____
Injury	_____	_____
ASPRIN	_____	_____

TODAY'S WORD

Cryptogunip
answer
The petition was presented with the strongest protestors at the top.
It's in dissension order

UMPIRES
Today's Word
3. Grudge; 4. Leash
1. Repair; 2. Merit
Solution

SCRAMBLERS
Solution
1. Repair; 2. Merit
3. Grudge; 4. Leash

Word Spiral
Answer
TAILIGHT
Each of these words can have an opposite or contradictory meaning.

Stickelers Answer
These words are called "contronyms."
Each of these words can have an opposite or contradictory meaning.

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Fort Pillow plans weekend tours, paddling and nature activities

Fort Pillow State Historic Park has announced a weekend of tours, outdoor recreation and nature activities for Sep 19, 2026 and Sep 20, 2026.

Saturday’s schedule begins at 11 a.m. with a park tour led by Ranger Stoney Hughes. Participants will meet at the Butterfly Garden parking lot for a ride through the park with stops along the way and an opportunity to cross the suspension bridge en route to the restored fortification. The tour costs \$5 plus tax; reservations may be made online or through the park office.

At 2 p.m., Ranger Chris will lead a preparedness program at the museum. A bee-box building activity is scheduled for 3 p.m., followed by cornhole and s’mores at the campground at 5 p.m.

Sunday begins with an 8 a.m. introductory paddling program at the Fort Pillow Lake dock. Equipment will be provided, and participants should bring water and sun protection. A campground litter scavenger hunt follows at 9 a.m., with a park sticker or other prize for children who turn in a bag of collected trash.

A museum tour and video are scheduled for noon. At 1 p.m., visitors can meet at the museum for a round-trip hike to the restored fortification across the suspension bridge.

The park is at 3122 Park Road in Henning. The full schedule is available on the park’s Facebook event page.



Viewing scopes overlook the river and wooded landscape in this image shared by Fort Pillow State Historic Park with its weekend activities announcement. Photo courtesy of Fort Pillow State Historic Park.

Jessie Lee Williams
June 20, 1955 - August 18, 2026
Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Sept.

Aaron Dewayne Middlebrook, 58
December 9, 1967 - August 20, 2026
Former Native of Mason,

Shirley Jean Orman
September 9, 2026
Shirley Jean Orman, 90, of Atoka, Tennessee, passed away Sept. 9, 2026. She retired from Maryland Casualty Company (American General) after 28 years and became a homemaker, babysitting several grandchildren with her husband, Jimmy Orman. Mrs. Jean was a member of Gateway Baptist Church. She loved to cook and always shared with others. She is survived by her three daughters, Cheryl (Frank) Huggins, Sherry Lewis, and Diane (Chip) Grimes; her sisters-in-law, Janice Orman, Janell Gault, and Lanita Bernhardt; seven grandchildren, Shane (Claire) Morton, Heather (Caleb) Hollingsworth, Brooke (Scott) Spahr, Jennifer (Jason) Taylor, Marshall (Kristen) Lewis, Amanda (Jeremy) Hervey, Angela (Charley) Bledsoe; 23 great-

18, 2026, at New Trinity COGIC in Mason. Burial will follow in the church cemetery.

TN- visitation Friday September 18, 2026 from 1:30-3:45



grandchildren; two great-great-granddaughters; and an abundance of nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. The services for Mrs. Jean will be held at Munford Funeral Home – Munford Chapel in Munford, Tennessee, on Thursday, Sept. 17, 2026. The family will receive friends from 10 a.m. until the service at 11 a.m., with the graveside service to follow at Salem ARP Cemetery in Atoka, Tennessee.

TWRA reports no boating fatalities over Labor Day weekend

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency reported no boating-related fatalities across the state during the 2026 Labor Day holiday weekend, marking the fifth consecutive year without a boating fatality over the holiday period.

The TWRA Boating and Law Enforcement Division compiled statistics from the agency’s four regions following the weekend.

Three injury incidents were reported, occurring on Kentucky Lake, Chickamauga and Watts Bar reservoirs. Four additional incidents resulted in property damage.

TWRA game wardens also made eight boating under the influence arrests during the holiday weekend.

The Labor Day weekend continued a trend seen during Tennessee’s three major summer boating holiday periods. No boating fatalities occurred during the extended Memorial Day, Fourth of July or Labor Day periods in 2026.

Statewide, Tennessee has recorded 15 boating-related fatalities as of the agency’s Sept. 10 report, three fewer

than at the same point in 2025.

TWRA is responsible for protecting, managing and conserving fish and wildlife species for Tennesseans and visitors. The agency also works to maintain public safety through law enforcement and safety education on the state’s waterways.

Lamar Alexander receives lifetime achievement award for environmental stewardship

Former Tennessee Sen. Lamar Alexander has been named the recipient of the 2026 Robert Sparks Walker Lifetime Achievement Award, the top honor in the Governor’s Environmental Stewardship Awards presented by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation.

The award recognizes at least 20 years of exceptional service in environmental protection or conservation in Tennessee.

Alexander’s conservation work spans nearly half a century and includes efforts to protect forests, parks, wetlands and other natural resources in Tennessee and across the nation.



HONORED - Former Tennessee Sen. Lamar Alexander holds the 2026 Robert Sparks Walker Lifetime Achievement Award, the top honor in the Governor’s Environmental Stewardship Awards.

outdoor recreation planning.

His conservation efforts later included protection of the Rocky Fork watershed. Beginning in 2006, Alexander helped secure more than \$30 million to conserve the roughly 10,000-acre landscape. The protected area included 2,076 acres that became Lamar Alexander Rocky Fork State Park in 2015.

Alexander also helped shape the 2018 Tennessee Wilderness Act, which established or expanded wilderness areas totaling 19,556 acres, including the Upper Bald River

Wilderness.

At the national level, Alexander played a role in passage of the Great American Outdoors Act in 2020. The legislation provided benefits for Great Smoky Mountains National Park and Cherokee National Forest, secured permanent funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund and created a \$9.5 billion restoration fund for public lands.

Alexander also chaired President Ronald Reagan’s Commission on Americans Outdoors and served as honorary co-chair of the bipartisan Outdoor

Resources Review Group.

His work included Homecoming ’86, a statewide initiative that grew into more than 6,000 local projects involving parks, trails and cultural restoration.

In 2025, Lee and the Tennessee General Assembly invested in the Alexander Institute for Conservation Leadership and the Sciences at Maryville College, establishing a center to train future conservation leaders across the Southern Appalachian region.

The Robert Sparks Walker Lifetime Achievement Award is named for a founder of the Chattanooga Audubon Society who turned his childhood home and surrounding farmland into a wildlife sanctuary. Walker was also an author, magazine editor and newspaper columnist. He died in 1960 at age 82.

The lifetime achievement honor is part of the Governor’s Environmental Stewardship Awards, which are marking their 40th year in 2026 and recognize individuals, businesses and organizations for work preserving Tennessee’s natural resources.

Before disaster strikes: protect your memories and your home



Mr. Peel seeks justice for those injured in tractor-trailer and car accidents, medical malpractice, and disability. He often addresses churches, clubs, and groups without charge. Mr. Peel may be reached through PeelLawFirm.com wherein other articles may be accessed.

A close friend recently lost everything in a house fire — not just furniture and walls, but decades of photographs, keepsakes, and the small things that told their family’s story. Everyone made it out safely, and that’s what matters most. But it got me thinking about how much heartache a little preparation now could spare any of us later, whether the threat is fire, flood, tornado, earthquake, or theft.

Here are a few simple steps worth taking this week:

- Save your memories**
 - Lay old photo albums in good, glare-free light and photograph each page with your phone. Back everything up to the cloud (iCloud, Google Photos, etc.).
 - If you find old black-and-white photos of people who aren’t labeled, write down who they are now. An unlabeled photo of a stranger rarely survives the next generation’s cleanout — but a name turns it into family history worth keeping.
- Document your home for insurance**
 - Walk slowly through every room with your

phone recording, showing each wall and piece of furniture.

- In closets, run your hand across the hanging clothes so every sleeve appears on camera. You may not remember the history of every shirt — but with video, you won’t need to.
- Don’t skip the attic, garage, shop, and sheds. Here’s why this matters: if disaster does strike, you may find yourself filling out an insurance claim from a hotel room. Being able to pause that video, point to an item, and screenshot it can help you document your belongings and support your claim.

A few more worth doing today

- Double-check that your homeowners policy’s contents coverage still matches what you actually own.
- Back up your photos and videos to the cloud — and consider mailing a hard drive to a relative in another part of the country, safely out of reach of your local risks.
- None of this takes long. All of it could matter enormously.

Mr. Peel seeks justice for those injured in tractor-trailer and car accidents, medical malpractice, and disability. He often addresses churches, clubs, and groups without charge. Mr. Peel may be reached through PeelLawFirm.com where other articles are available.

EVIL

From A5

evil specifically but with the suffering that evil brings about.

The logical problem of suffering is not a new invention. It has been around almost as long as man himself. Scarcely three pages into the Genesis account of creation, we see one man, Cain, rise up and murder his brother, Abel, and in the words of the Christian apologist Clay Jones, “We have been going to funerals ever since.” Questions often attributed to the Greek philosopher Epicurus (341–270 B.C.) continue to be asked today: “Is God willing to prevent evil, but He is unable? Then He is impotent. Is He able but not willing? Then, He is malevolent. Is He both willing and able? Whence, then, is evil?” It is an indicting set of questions. Questions that, nevertheless, need to be asked and questions that need to be answered.

The theistic answers to

Epicurus’ questions generally come in two forms: the Free Will Defense and theodicy. The Free Will Defense does not necessarily seek to answer why a good God might allow evil to exist. Still, it is an argument that attempts to show that there is no logical contradiction in the simultaneous existence of an omnipotent, omniscient, and benevolent God and the existence of suffering in the world. On the other hand, arguments giving possible reasons why God allows evil to exist are called theodicies. The following articles on this topic cover the highlights of both defenses.

We can begin to touch upon the subject of suffering by first wrapping our minds around what evil is. Merriam-Webster defines “evil” as “morally reprehensible: sinful, wicked; an evil impulse arising from actual or imputed bad character or conduct.” And when that evil impulse is

acted upon, suffering always follows. Augustine, the fourth-century bishop of Hippo who wrote extensively about the existence of evil, identified evil as “a privation” of good. Augustine argued that since evil was a privation, it was not a created thing but the absence of a thing. Much like the hole in one’s pocket is not a thing but is the absence of a thing, namely, the absence of fabric.

In the same way, Augustine reasoned that evil is not a created thing but is the absence of good. And, since evil is not a created thing, then it was not a creation of God. This is a critical assertion because it cannot be argued that there is a perfectly good God if, in fact, God is the creator of the evil that brings about suffering. We can safely say that premise 1 is true. I do not think there is any argument to be made there; there is suffering in the world. We might even say this constitutes a bit of common ground between Christians

and nonbelievers. Premise 2 also seems to be true; there is an omnipotent, omniscient, perfectly good God. Premise 3, then, becomes the major point of contention between Christians and nonbelievers.

Join us again next week as we continue to discuss evil and the suffering caused by it. This topic is important because many argue that evil and suffering in the world can help directly answer the question: Is God dead?

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Ty B. Kerley, D.Min., is an ordained minister who teaches Christian apologetics and serves as a relief preacher in southern Oklahoma. Dr. Kerley and his wife, Vicki, are members of the Waurika church of Christ and live in Ardmore, Oklahoma. You can contact him at dr.kerley@isGoddead.com.



LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
As Required by TCA §30-2-306

Case Number, PR-5094
Estate of LONNIE WAYNE BOWLING, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that on September 2 of 2026 Letters Testamentary (or of Administration as the case may be) in respect of the estate of LONNIE WAYNE BOWLING, who died 7/18/2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Tipton County Chancery Court of Tipton County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this

(2) notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before date that is four (4)

months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or

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

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

SHARON HARVEY
Executor,
Administrator, Personal Representative

JULIE BYRD ASHWORTH
Attorney
GINA SMITH
Clerk & Master/
Deputy Clerk
`SHARON HARVEY personally appeared before me, the undersigned Clerk of Tipton County Chancery Court of Tipton County, Tennessee, and made oath that the attached notice, being in the form required by Tennessee Code Annotated §30-2-306 shall be published in the The Leader, a newspaper published in Tipton County, Tennessee on and.

09/10,09/17

DELTA HUMAN RESOURCE AGENCY NOTICE OF ELECTION

LOW-INCOME REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE ADVISORY BOARD

Delta Human Resource Agency is seeking interested individuals from Tipton County to serve as a Low-Income Representative on the Delta HRA Advisory Board. The representative will provide input and representation for low-income individuals and families and participate in Advisory Board activities and discussions concerning programs and services.

Nomination period will begin 09/21/2026 and the deadline is 10/02/2026.

Interested eligible residents may nominate themselves or may be nominated in accordance with Delta HRA's approved selection procedures. Eligible voters will have the opportunity to select a representative through the announced democratic election process.

Contact Person: Nikki Gray, 901-476-5226, ext. 1002
Delta Human Resource Agency
4501 Mueller Brass Road
Covington, Tennessee 09/17,09/24

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
As Required by TCA §30-2-306

PR-5096
Estate of KAREN DIANE ELLISON, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that on September 8 of 2026 Letters Testamentary (or of Administration as the case may be) in respect of the estate of KAREN DIANE ELLISON, who died 5/23/2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Tipton County Chancery

Court of Tipton County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this

(2) notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before date that is four (4) "months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or

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

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

PATRICE INGRAM
Executor,
Administrator, Personal Representative
R. Scott Vincent
Attorney
Gina Smith
Clerk & Master/
Deputy Clerk
Patrice Ingram personally appeared before me, the undersigned Clerk of Tipton County Chancery Court of Tipton County, Tennessee, and made oath that the attached notice, being in the form required by Tennessee Code Annotated §30-2-306 shall be published in the The Leader, a newspaper published in Tipton County, Tennessee on and.

09/17-9/24
TIPTON COUNTY INVITATION TO BIDDERS

The Tipton County Purchasing Committee is soliciting sealed bids for maintenance trucks.

Any qualified and licensed company is invited to obtain a copy of the specifications from the Budgets & Accounts Office located at 103 East Pleasant Ave. Covington, TN 38019

during normal working hours, or can call 901-476-0219 for an electronic copy.

All bids are to be returned in a sealed envelope marked in the lower left-hand corner "Maintenance Trucks" on or before OCTOBER 2nd, 2026 at 12:00 pm to:

Tipton County Purchasing Committee
c/o W.T. Bailey
P.O. Box 686
Covington, TN 38019

or in person at 103 E. Pleasant Ave., located on Court Square in Covington, TN.

Tipton County reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality or irregularity in any bid received.

09/10

PUBLIC NOTICE
FOR ELDERLY VOTERS OR VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES

Any elderly voter or a voter with a disability whose polling place is inaccessible may vote early by

absentee ballot or at the election commission office on Election Day. If the voter chooses to vote

at the Election Commission Office on Election Day, they must complete an affidavit at the Election Commission Office not later than Saturday, October 24, 2026 stating that their designated voting

location does not comply with the provisions of Public Law 98-435 of the 98 th Congress.

As an alternative to voting at the election commission office on Election Day, the voter may vote

by absentee ballot or during the early voting period. To vote an absentee ballot by-mail, the voter

may call our office and we can mail them an application or they can make the request in writing and include their name (as registered), date of birth, social security number, residence address

(911 address), mailing address (if different from residence address), the election(s) they wish to vote in, the reason they are requesting to vote an absentee ballot and their signature. The written

request must be received no later than Saturday, October 24, 2026. Requests must be mailed to

the Tipton County Election Commission, P.O. Box 456, Covington, TN 38019. If you are voting

during the Early Voting period, remember to bring photo identification with you. Forms of acceptable identification include, even if expired, Tennessee driver's

license with your photo, United States Passport, Photo ID issued by the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland

Security, Photo ID issued by the federal or Tennessee state government, United States Military photo ID, Tennessee handgun carry permit with your photo.

THE TIPTON COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

Jimmy Vandergrift, Chairman
Chris Brent, Member
Letitia Wilson, Secretary
Kerry Williams, Member
Jena Hackett, Member
Cindy Pinner, Administrator

Office Location - 113 East Church St., Covington, TN 38019
Phone – 901-476-0223 Email – election@tiptonco.com

Office Hours - Mon. – Fri. 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

OUR OFFICE IS CLOSED FOR ALL STATE AND LOCAL HOLIDAYS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
As Required by TCA §30-2-306

PR-5087

2
Estate of BEVERLY GAIL KRUSE, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that on August 26 of 2026 Letters Testamentary (or of Administration as the case may be) in respect of the estate of BEVERLY GAIL KRUSE, who died 5/25/2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Tipton County Chancery Court of Tipton County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

Aur

(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this

**

notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or

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

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

Date: 09/11/2026
REBECCA OSTRANDER

*
Executor,
Administrator, Personal Representative
Date: 09/11/2026
Date: 09/11/2026
SARAH SCHNAUTZ
Attorney
GINA SMITH
Clerk & Master/
Deputy Clerk
REBECCA OSTRANDER personally appeared before me, the undersigned Clerk of

Tipton County Chancery Court of Tipton County, Tennessee, and made oath that the attached notice, being in the form required by Tennessee Code Annotated §30-2-306 shall be published in the The Leader, a newspaper published in Tipton County, Tennessee on and.

09/17,09/24

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF TIPTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

D YOUNG
MANAGEMENT GROUP LLC,
VS.
Plaintiff,
GAULT FINANCIAL, LLC,
AND UNIFUND CCR PARTNERS.
Defendant.
No. 40186

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

A case has been filed in the Chancery Court of Tipton County, Tennessee, it appearing that

the Defendants, Gault Financial, LLC and Unifund CCR Partners, are not to be found at their last

known address, and that the present whereabouts and address of Gault Financial, LLC and Unifund CCR Partners are unknown and cannot be ascertained after diligent search and inquiry.

That said Defendants, Gault Financial, LLC and Unifund CCR Partners, file a response in the Chancery Court of Tipton County, at Covington, Tennessee, and with Plaintiff's attorney,

Rikki Herbert, 125 E. Pleasant Ave., Covington, Tennessee, 38019, on or before October 19, 2026, or Judgment by Default may be entered and the cause set for hearing ex parte.
Rikki Herbert (#39475)
Owen and Witherington Law Group, LLC 125 E. Pleasant Ave.

Covington, TN 38019
Phone: (901) 476-6066
rikki@owtnlaw.com

08/27,09/3,09/10,09/17

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF TIPTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

RUFUS ALBRITTON
Petitioner,
VS.
THE UNKNOWN
HEIRS OF
MARY AGNES BOYD HENDERSON (A/K/A MARY BOYD HENDERSON), DECEASED
THE UNKNOWN
No. 40288
HEIRS OF
LOTTIE BELL BOYD BROOMFIELD, DECEASED;
THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF DAISY MAE BOYD REID DECEASED;
THE UNKNOWN HEIRS OF LOUCASSIE BOYD WHITMORE, DECEASED;
AND ALL UNKNOWN
PERSONS CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, OR INTEREST
IN THE REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED HEREIN.
Respondents.
NOTICE TO UNKNOWN RESPONDENTS (ORDER OF PUBLICATION)
TO: The unknown heirs, devisees, successors, and assigns of MARY AGNES BOYD HENDERSON (a/k/a/

Mary Boyd Henderson), LOTTIE BELL BOYD BROOMFIELD, DAISY MAE BOYD REID, and LOUCASSES BOYD WHITMORE, all deceased; and ALL UNKNOWN

PERSONS claiming any right, title, or interest in the real property described below:

You are hereby notified that a Petition to Quiet Title has been filed against you in the

Chancery Court of Tipton County, Tennessee, No. 40288 by the Petitioner, Rufus

Albritton. The Petition seeks to quiet title to, and to remove clouds upon, certain real property

located on Charleston Mason Road in the Tenth (10th) Civil District of Tipton County, Tennessee,

identified on the Tipton County tax rolls as District 10, Map 133, Parcel 035.00, and more

1

particularly described in the Petition, and seeks a decree adjudging the Petitioner to be the owner in fee simple of said property free and clear of any claim of the persons named above.

You are required to appear and defend this action within thirty (30) days after the date of the last publication of this Notice, November 14, 2026, by filing an answer or other responsive

pleading with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Tipton County and serving a copy upon

Petitioner's counsel at the address below.

If you fail to do so, the Petition may be taken as confessed

as to you, and judgment by default may be entered against you, adjudging title to the property in the

Petitioner.
09/17,09/24,10/1,10/8

2

2

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF TIPTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

IN RE:
THE ESTATE OF BARBARA KNIGHT, Deceased.

JASON KNIGHT, Petitioner

VS.

DANNY KNIGHT, TERESA KNIGHT SHAW,

AND DENNIS KNIGHT, Respondents

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

No. 5044

To: The Leader

To: Danny Knight, Teresa Knight Shaw, and Dennis W. Knight

You are hereby notified that: Jason Knight has filed a Petition to Probate a Copy of the

Will of Barbara Knight in Solemn Form in the Chancery Court for Tipton County, Tennessee, in

Cause #PR 5044.

Barbara Knight died on or about November 2, 2025, as a resident of Tipton County,

Tennessee. The Will dated March 12, 2015, allegedly disinherits her three children-Danny

Knight, Teresa Knight Shaw, and Dennis W. Knight-and leaves her estate to her grandchildren,

Jason D. Knight and Sarah Nicole Knight McConnie, in equal shares.

The original Will cannot be located

Week 5 of high school football is here

Munford-Haywood clash should be a good one

Jeff Ireland
jeff@magicvalleypublishing.com

Here's a quick look at what you need to know about all four Tipton County-area matchups:

What: Munford (3-0) vs. Haywood (3-1)

When: Friday at 7 p.m.

Where: Munford

Players to watch: Munford – RB Tay Starks, DB Qua Bell, OL Jayden Mullins, LB Braxton Grant, OL Cale Deal

The skinny: Munford's defense will no doubt be focused on Haywood senior Jaden Butler, who has already committed to the University of Tennessee. No. 2 lines up all over the place and has 345 rushing yards, 121 receiving yards and eight touchdowns. Haywood's offense has been explosive of late, averaging north of 60 points in its last two games. Munford is coming off a big win over Woodford County (Ky.). Munford has completed just three passes in four attempts this season, but it hasn't mattered. Tay Starks (322 yards, 8 TDs) and Qua Bell (220, 2) form one of the best backfields in the state. As a team, the Cougars are averaging 9.3 yards per carry.

What: Covington (3-1) vs. Obion County Central (3-1)

When: Friday at 7 p.m.

Where: Troy

Players to watch: Covington – QB Colby Labermeier, RB Collen Winfrey, RB Cordarius Byars, OL Hunter Jones, DL Jalen Holland

The skinny: Covington opens region play on the road against a team that won its first three games of the season before Westview brought them back down to earth last week in a 69-7 beatdown. Covington hammered Obion Central 63-8 last year and has not lost to the Rebels in a very long time. With that said, strange things can happen in small towns on the road.

What: Brighton (2-2) vs. Memphis Central (4-0)

When: Friday at 7 p.m.

Where: Crump Stadium in Memphis

Players to watch: Brighton – LB Izayah Austin, QB Michael Gilliland, TE Brett Cothran, RB Nasir Hill

The skinny: Brighton has dropped its last two games after winning the first two, so a win would be nice to get back on track. It won't be easy, however, in the region opener for

both teams. Central won the region last year and already has impressive wins, including a blowout of PURE Academy, which Brighton beat in a close one in Week 1. Brighton's rushing attack has been a bright spot. Jakarion Burrell has rushed for 468 yards and seven touchdowns this season, and Nasir Hill has shown the ability to break a long run.

What: Tipton-Rosemark Academy (1-3) vs. Evangelical Christian School (2-2)

When: Friday at 7 p.m.

Where: ECS

Players to watch: TRA – QB Cason Gilmore, RB Reggie Holmes, TE Buck Ford, WR Edward Lague, RB Neyland Ezell

The skinny: The Rebels picked up a huge win last week in league play and are now in position to battle for a playoff spot. Getting win number two in Memphis will be a challenge, considering ECS beat Rosemark 55-21 a year ago. Holmes and Ezell combined for five touchdowns and more than 300 yards in last week's win. More of that will be needed if the Rebels are going to pull an upset at ECS.

Brighton defeats Germantown in five sets

David Perry
Sports Reporter

Brighton defeated Germantown 3-2 in volleyball Tuesday night.

Aeryl Potter recorded seven digs and five kills,

while Briley Bennett had 12 digs and five kills. Greta Garrett contributed three kills, nine digs and 20 of the Lady Cardinals' 26 assists.

Molly Quirarte finished with 20 digs and six aces.

Brighton totaled 85 digs and nine aces, with Garrett adding two aces and Bennett one.

Brighton's next opponent is county rival Covington.

Munford outlasts Brighton in five-set county rivalry

David Perry
Sports Reporter

Munford rallied to defeat county rival Brighton 3-2 in volleyball, winning the final two sets to take the

match.

Brighton opened with a 26-24 victory before Munford evened the match with a 25-20 win. The Lady Cardinals took the third

set 25-16, but the Lady Cougars responded with a 25-15 victory and won the deciding set 15-11.

Munford will travel to Halls on Thursday.

Millington approves \$240,000 land contract for manufacturing plant

Bill Short / The Millington Star

The Millington Industrial Development Board has approved a \$240,000 contract for the sale of 9.99 acres for construction of a manufacturing plant east of Old Millington Road.

Board members approved the contract during their Aug. 24 meeting on a motion by Doug Scott, seconded by Secretary/Treasurer Ken Uselton. The motion passed with five affirmative votes. Vice Chairman Jack Langford was absent.

Paul V. McGrory of Most Dependable Fountains Inc. submitted the contract. The company manufactures outdoor drinking fountains and showers, hand-washing stations and other water features.

The IDB-owned property is at the south end of Ryburn Drive and is zoned M-2, General Industrial District. The contract authorizes IDB Chairman James Warberg to execute the documents needed to

complete the transaction.

Deanna Long, the city's economic development manager, said the parcel would be finalized through a survey and subdivision process before closing.

The contract gives the purchaser 120 days to complete surveys, title examinations, environmental assessments and other inspections. The purchaser may extend that period by 30 days by paying a nonrefundable \$5,000 fee.

The purchaser must deposit \$10,000 in earnest money within five days of the contract's execution. The property will be sold as is, without representations or warranties by the IDB.

The purchaser will pay survey costs, environmental studies, title insurance premiums, recording fees and related closing expenses. The IDB will pay title search costs, corrective title instruments and the seller's legal fees.

The property must be subdivided before closing,

which is to occur within 30 days after the due diligence period expires. The IDB will receive a right of first refusal if the property is offered for sale in the future.

The purchaser also will grant a future right of way if needed to protect the city's or IDB's ability to address infrastructure or access needs.

The Millington Planning Commission unanimously approved a revised final plat for the project May 18. Roy Lamica of EFI Global submitted the revision on behalf of Connor McGrory of Most Dependable Fountains.

The commission had approved the site plan, engineering plat and original final plat March 16. The revision alters lot lines and reduces a proposed Ryburn Drive extension from 330 feet to approximately 80 feet, eliminating the need for a turnaround for trucks and emergency vehicles.

LEGALS

From A8

despite diligent search, and the Petitioner seeks to

probate a copy of the Will pursuant to Tennessee law.

A hearing on the Petition will be set before the Chancery Court for Tipton County, Tennessee, located at 1801 S. College #110, Covington TN 38019.

1

You have the right to appear and contest the probate of the Will. If you fail to appear, the Petition may be granted without further notice to you, and the copy of the Will may be admitted to probate.

Any person claiming an interest in the estate must file a response or appearance with the Clerk and Master of

the Chancery Court for Tipton County, Tennessee at 1801 S. College, #110, Covington, TN 38019.

This notice is published once a week for four consecutive weeks in The Leader, a newspaper of general circulation in Tipton County, Tennessee, as required by Tennessee law for solemn form

probate proceedings. You are required to appear and defend this action within thirty (30) days after the date of the last publication of this Notice, November 14, 2026, by filing an answer or other responsive pleading with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Tipton County and serving a copy upon Petitioner's counsel

at the address below. If you fail to do so, the Petition may be taken as confessed as to you, and judgment by default may be entered against you, adjudging title to the property in the

Petitioner.
09/17,09/24,10/1,10/8

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to The By-Laws of the Tipton County Regional Board of Zoning Appeals in Article VI,

Section 2, notice is hereby given of public meeting to be held on September 28, 2026 at the

Tipton County Justice Building, 1801 South College St, Covington, TN, at 5:00 p.m. All interested parties are invited and encouraged to attend. The purpose of this meeting is to act on the following:
Veronica Layne: Is requesting a Use Permitted as a Special Exception for a Camping Grounds.

The property is located at 4541 Mt Carmel Road, Covington, TN 38019 on Tax Map 078, Parcels 4.00 & 7.00 on approximately a 14-acre area, Zoned: C-1.

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Nothing on your roof! Sign up for Direct and get your first free months of Max, Paramount+, Showtime, Starz, MGM+ and Cinemax included. Choice package \$84.99/mo. Some restrictions apply. Call DIRECTV 1-844-230-4803

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YOUR LOW COST ADVERTISING Solution! One call & your 25 word ad will appear in 105 Tennessee newspapers for \$275/wk or 28 West TN newspapers for \$120/wk. Call this newspaper's classified advertising dept. or go to www.tnpress.com

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SUBSCRIBE!

Notice of Public Auction

The following vehicles are up for auction
on September 24, 2026 at 9 am:

2006 Chevrolet C1500 Suburban	3GNEC16Z36G125384
2020 Buick Encore GX Select	KL4MMDSL7LB115170
2012 Volkswagen Passat Sel	1VWCN7A3XCC098843
2014 Nissan Altima 2.5/S/SV/SL	1N4AL3AP7EC122777
2017 Ford Fusion SE	3FA6P0HD9HR198589
2007 Ford Escape XLT	1FMYU03137KA34620
2011 Toyota Highlander SE Base	5TDZK3EH1BS047474
2003 Toyota Tundra Access CAB	5TBRT34133S344693
2021 Chevrolet Equinox LT	3GNAXUEV6MS133671
2002 GMC New Sierra C1500 Base	2GTEC19V621306869
2008 Great Dane Trailer	1GRAA06268T546263
2015 Vanguard National Trailer	5V8VC5320FM500150
2013 Hyundai Sonata SE/Limited SE	5NPEC4AC8DH612405
2012 Chevrolet Impala LS	2G1WASE38C1186718

Whaley's Auto Repair & Towing
837 Whaley Rd. • Covington, TN. 38019
Phone: (901) 734-7910 •
Fax: (901) 476-6582

FISH DAY!
IT'S TIME TO STOCK YOUR POND!
DELIVERY WILL BE:
Tuesday, September 29
Covington 8:15-9:00 @ Stockdale's
"LIKE" us on Facebook!
FISH WAGON
To Place an Order Call
1-800-643-8439
www.fishwagon.com

PUBLIC AUCTION
A&K Towing and Recovery
54 W. Woodlawn Ave., Bldg. F
Brighton, TN 38011
901-571-0575
The following vehicles will be sold at auction on
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02 Ford Ranger 1FTYR44U52PA33888
10 Hyundai Accent KMHCN4AC8AU497772

Real estate Auction
511 East Liberty Ave
September 18th
10 am
Buddy Christmas
Auctioneer
09/10,09/17

Munford takes county clash as Brighton falls to Houston

Brighton followed a five-set win at Germantown with losses to Munford and Houston during a three-match volleyball stretch Sept. 8–14.

The Lady Cardinals finished that stretch with a 6–9 overall record after Houston won 3–1 at Brighton on Monday, Sept. 14. Houston took the first two sets 25–17 and 25–14. Brighton won the third 25–20 before the Mustangs closed the match with a 25–8 fourth set.

Statistics posted to MaxPreps credit Briley Bennett with a team-high 10 kills against Houston. Aeryl Potter added seven kills and 16 digs, while Molly Quirarte recorded 17 digs and three aces. Greta Garrett sup-

plied 22 of Brighton’s 25 assists.

Four days earlier, Munford won the final two sets to defeat visiting Brighton 3–2 in their county rivalry match.

Brighton took the opener 26–24 before Munford answered with a 25–20 second set. The Lady Cardinals went ahead again with a 25–16 third set, but the Lady Cougars won the fourth 25–15 and the deciding fifth 15–11.

Potter led Brighton with 13 kills against Munford, adding 18 digs and four aces. Bennett and Emma Smith each recorded 10 kills. Quirarte had 23 digs, and Garrett finished with 35 assists. Brighton totaled

36 kills, 86 digs and 12 aces in the five-set match.

The result gave Munford its second reported victory of the season. Individual statistics for the Lady Cougars were not available on MaxPreps.

Brighton opened the stretch with a 3–2 victory at Germantown on Tuesday, Sept. 8, giving the Lady Cardinals back-to-back five-set matches before the Houston contest.

Brighton is scheduled to visit Covington on Thursday, Sept. 17. Munford is scheduled to travel to Halls that day.

Brighton sophomore Brock Baskin takes first place at Covington cross country meet

Jeff Ireland
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The Brighton High School cross country teams fared very well at the Covington High School Invitational held Sept. 8 at Cobb-Parr Memorial Park in Covington.

Brighton sophomore Brock Baskin took first place in the boys’ event. Brighton’s Acalan Davis took 11th in the boys’ race. Other local finishers included Brighton’s Sebastian Lopez, Munford’s Cade Robinson, Brighton’s Austin Huss (21st) and Covington’s Tylen Bennett (51st).

On the girls’ side for Brighton, Alyssa Taylor finished eighth, Jada-Mary James took 10th and Mia Rodriguez was 13th. Covington’s Samantha Mullen and Munford’s Emily Rodriguez also fared well.

“Even with this insane heat we are seeing during these races, which is super rare, our kids are pushing themselves to insane limits,” BHS coach Morgan Kidd said. “We’ve got a really competitive group this year and we are really enjoying seeing how they perform with each meet. We’re looking for Brock to continue to push and be in those top placements over the course of this season. We’ve got some guys that are hanging right there with him, and that makes everyone work harder. We’ve got a young group, and I think I can speak for myself



FINISH - Brighton sophomore Brock Baskin crosses the finish line first during the Covington Invitational on Sept. 8.



TEAMWORK - Members of the Brighton High School cross country teams pose for a photo during the Covington High School Invitational on Sept. 8 at Cobb-Parr Memorial Park.

and Coach (Brian) Oswalt looking forward to the next when I say we’re really few years with this crew.”

Chargers top county rival Brighton for 10th straight win

Steve Holt

Rivalry games tend to ramp up emotions. Rivalry games between schools in the same county school system intensify those emotions. Add to that today’s trash talk on social media, and the recipe is set for a fevered clash. Such was the case when the 4A Brighton Cardinals (2-2) came to George Pinner Stadium for the annual battle with the 3A Covington Chargers (3-1). CHS came away with a 26-7 win, their 10th straight in the series.

CHS’ offense was on display despite some hiccups. Collen Winfrey, returning from injury, put the Chargers ahead with a 9-yard TD run, part of a six-carry, 33-yard night. QB Colby Labermeier, who was 0-for-2 passing, made up for that with his feet, scoring a pair

of TDs while rushing for 22 yards on nine carries. Up 14-0 at the half, Markavion McKinnie added a 13-yard TD run as part of a 19-carry, 170-yard night. Nic’Kylan Murray chipped in 95 yards on 12 carries; Steven Cunningham, 43 yards on seven carries; and Cordarius Byars, 20 yards on three carries.

“We left points on the field,” head coach JR Kirby said. “While kickoff coverage improved, the rest of special teams continued to have problems missing two extra points and a missed two-point opportunity. The offensive line played very well and the defense was dominant except for a busted play that allowed the Cardinals’ Nasir Hill to score on a 54-yard run late in the fourth period. Fumbles, one at the Brighton 2-yard line, continue to

be a problem that has to be solved.”

Penalties played a major role on both sides, as did injuries. Brighton’s top running back, Jakarion Burrell, was transported by ambulance to the ER with a reported broken collarbone. Labermeier lay motionless on the field after a particularly violent tackle before recovering and returning to the game. Overall play was sloppy. Both teams piled up offside, false start, pass interference, personal foul and holding penalties, one of which cost CHS a TD.

The non-league part of the season is over for the Chargers. Six consecutive Region 7 games remain. Next up is a road trip to Troy on Friday, Sept. 18 to take on the Obion County Central Rebels. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.

Munford tops Week 5 Power 10 rankings

Thomas Sellers

Munford remains No. 1 in the Week 5 Dynamix Power 10 Rankings presented by West 10 Media after its 34-30 victory over Woodford County, Kentucky. Covington holds the No. 7 spot after beating Brighton 26-7.

The rankings cover teams in the West 10 Media newspapers’ coverage area, along with Christian Brothers High School and Memphis University School. The Week 5 rankings, next

opponents and previous results follow:

1. Munford (3-0) — vs. Haywood Won 34-30 vs. Woodford County, Kentucky.
2. Briarcrest (4-0) — at St. Benedict Won 49-20 vs. Father Ryan.
3. St. George’s (3-1) — vs. North Panola, Mississippi Lost 32-28 vs. Jackson Christian.
4. Arlington (4-0) — at Collierville Won 55-20 vs. Ridgeway.
5. St. Benedict (4-0) — vs. Briarcrest

Won 50-6 vs. Kingsbury.

6. CBHS (3-1) — vs. Brentwood Academy Lost 22-21 vs. MBA.
7. Covington (3-1) — at Obion County Won 26-7 vs. Brighton.
8. Bartlett (3-1) — at Houston Won 49-14 vs. Overton.
9. Cordova (2-1) — vs. White Station Lost 43-6 vs. Center Hill, Mississippi.
10. Germantown (2-2) — vs. Lausanne Lost 7-6 vs. Whitehaven.



VICTORY - Tipton-Rosemark players, students, cheerleaders and coaches pose for a photo last Friday after the Rebels’ 42-6 homecoming win over First Assembly Christian School.

Tipton-Rosemark blows out FACS for first win of the season

Jeff Ireland

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Tipton-Rosemark needed a win Friday night in Week 4 at home and, thanks to a dominant rushing attack from a couple of backs, it got it.

Junior Neyland Ezell and sophomore Reggie Holmes combined for 302 rushing yards and five touchdowns as Rosemark picked up

its first win in convincing fashion with a 42-6 victory over First Assembly Christian School.

TRA (1-3) led 14-0 at the half before pulling away with four more touchdowns in the second half. Ezell racked up 172 yards and three TDs on just 13 carries. Holmes was right behind him statistically with 130 yards and two scores on nine carries. Ezell and

Holmes averaged 13.7 yards per carry, which was way too much for the Crusaders (0-3) to overcome.

Colby Funk and Duncan Hughes combined for 22 tackles and Buck Ford added three tackles for loss as the Rebels held FACS to 234 yards of offense for the game.

The Rebels return to action Friday at Evangelical Christian School.

Covington sweeps Ripley and Halls after five set loss

Covington won six consecutive sets in road victories over Ripley and Halls after opening its week with a five-set loss to Crockett County.

The sweep followed a 3–0 district win at Ripley on Thursday, Sept. 10. Covington took those sets 25–10, 25–8 and 25–12. McCalla led the Lady Chargers with eight kills, while the team recorded 29 kills and 17 aces.

Those two victories came after Covington led Crockett County two sets to one but lost the final two sets at home Tuesday, Sept. 8.

contributing 10 kills and Layton Smith adding seven. Covington finished with 31 kills and 18 aces.

The sweep followed a 3–0 district win at Ripley on Thursday, Sept. 10. Covington took those sets 25–10, 25–8 and 25–12. McCalla led the Lady Chargers with eight kills, while the team recorded 29 kills and 17 aces.

Those two victories came after Covington led Crockett County two sets to one but lost the final two sets at home Tuesday, Sept. 8.

The Lady Chargers won the first set 25–13, dropped the second 25–20 and took the third 25–23. Crockett County answered with a 25–23 fourth set and won the deciding fifth 15–13.

McCalla recorded 22 kills in the Crockett County match. Covington totaled 53 kills, 60 digs and 51 assists in the five-set contest.

Covington is scheduled to host county rival Brighton on Thursday, Sept. 17.



MOMENTUM - Tay Starks gains momentum for the Cougars with a 45-yard touchdown. Photo by Amy Smith.

Munford survives Woodford County comeback, earns 34-30 home victory

David Perry

Sports Reporter

Munford held off a second-half comeback by Woodford County of Kentucky to earn a 34-30 home victory Friday, Sept. 11. The Cougars led 27-10 at halftime before Woodford County rallied to within four points.

Amare Bell returned the opening kickoff 75 yards for a touchdown. Woodford County answered with a 33-yard field goal, leaving Munford ahead 7-3 after the first quarter.

Tay Starks scored on runs of 1 and 2 yards in the second quarter, and Jaime Smith added a 3-yard touchdown run to help build a 27-3 lead. Woodford County returned a kickoff

73 yards for a touchdown before halftime.

Woodford County cut the margin to 27-17 with a 1-yard touchdown run in the third quarter. Starks answered with a 45-yard scoring run to put Munford ahead 34-17. Woodford County added a 25-yard touchdown run and a 38-yard touchdown pass, but the Cougars held on.

Starks rushed 36 times for 204 yards and three touchdowns. He also completed his only pass attempt, a 26-yarder to Treshawn Jones. Munford finished with 327 total yards, including 301 rushing. Woodford County totaled 274 yards, with 149 passing and 125 rushing.

Qua Bell added 42 rush-

ing yards on six carries, Dixon Mooneyham had 31 yards on seven carries, and Smith finished with 19 yards and a touchdown on three attempts.

Munford had 19 first downs and converted all five fourth-down attempts. The Cougars committed 10 penalties for 37 yards and lost one fumble.

Dakota Lumm recorded eight tackles. B. Grant added four tackles, a sack and a tackle for loss.

The Cougars will host Haywood on Friday.

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