



MCHS student arrested after stolen handgun found in backpack

The Millington Star

A student at Millington Central Middle High School was arrested today after a stolen handgun was found in their backpack.

According to the Shelby County Sheriff's Office and Millington Municipal Schools Superintendent James "Bo" Griffin, the school received reports of a handgun on school grounds.

SCSO says a student took a photo of another student holding a handgun as school was letting out Monday afternoon. Griffin said the 16-year-old from the photo was

SEE GUN, PAGE A2

Covington police warn residents about rise in rental scams

The Covington Police Department is warning residents to use caution when searching for rental property as scams involving fake listings become increasingly common.

According to the department, scammers are creating convincing online advertisements using photographs of real homes and properties, often pairing them with unusually attractive rental prices and a sense of urgency designed to pressure prospective tenants into sending money quickly.

Police said renters should verify that both the property and the person claiming to rent it are legitimate

SEE SCAMS, PAGE A2

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Journalism is what we need to make democracy work."

— Walter Cronkite

OBITUARIES

Glenda Tackett Gregory Pugh Karl White Michael Smith

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Waits, Presley win contested Tipton County races

Shane Waits won the race for Tipton County Circuit Court Clerk while Stephanie A. Presley captured the Register of Deeds contest as voters decided a number of county races in the Aug. 6 general election.

Waits, the Republican candidate for Circuit Court Clerk, received 6,355 votes, or 68.87 percent, to defeat independent Connie D. Fayne, who received 2,863 votes, or 31.03 percent. Nine write-in votes were also recorded in the race.

The Register of Deeds contest produced a similar result, with Republican Stephanie A. Presley receiving 6,042 votes, or 66.37 percent. Independent Trena Jones received 3,059 votes, or 33.60 percent, while two write-in votes were cast.

The results are unofficial pending certification by the Tipton County Election Commission.

Daugherty, Beasley lead unopposed county-wide races

Several of Tipton County's major countywide of-

fices had only one candidate listed on the ballot.

County Executive William "Billy" Daugherty, a Republican, received 7,750 votes, or 98.59 percent of votes cast in that contest. Another 111 write-in votes were recorded.

Sheriff Shannon Beasley received 8,202 votes, or 99.19 percent, with 67 write-in votes cast.

County Trustee Kristie Glass Maxwell received 8,040 votes, or 99.16 percent, while 68 write-in votes were recorded.

April Fortner received 7,502 votes, or 99.06 percent, for County Clerk. Another 71 votes were cast for write-in candidates.

County Commission races

Voters also selected two commissioners from each of Tipton County's nine commission districts.

In District 1, independents Shelia G. Barlow and Rusty Wooten received 535 and 480 votes, respectively, to claim the two available seats.

The District 2 contest featured three candidates

for two seats. Republican Michael W. Naifeh led the field with 722 votes, followed by independent Justin Gangaware with 605. Republican James Hardin received 312 votes.

In District 3, Republican Richard Kelley received 676 votes and Republican John Anthony Mashburn received 521. Both were the only listed candidates for the two seats. Write-in candidates combined for more than 400 additional votes.

In District 4, Republicans Walker A. Adams and Jason R. Skinner received 758 and 619 votes, respectively.

Republicans Glenn Turner and Randy M. Roe claimed the two District 5 seats. Turner led with 768 votes, while Roe received 549.

In District 6, Republican James "Jimbo" Adkins received 574 votes and Republican Michelle Smith received 408.

Three candidates competed for the two seats in District 7. Independent Courtney Fee led with 645

votes, while Republican Charles Bradley Case received 570 to take the second seat. Independent Alvis Ferrell received 240 votes.

The District 8 contest was particularly close between the two candidates. Independent James Lamont Sneed received 466 votes, while Republican Cecil G. Watson received 456. With two seats available, both were elected.

In District 9, Republican David Copeland led with 588 votes, followed by Republican Jonathan G. Murphy with 449. Independent James Fields received 281 votes.

School Board seats decided

Four Tipton County School Board seats appeared on the ballot, with each race featuring one listed candidate.

Christopher Sage received 1,023 votes for the District 2 seat.

Republican Matt McCann received 970 votes in District 4, while Republican Audrey Eckel received 687 votes in District 6.

Republican Mike Gill

received 616 votes for the District 8 seat.

Constable races

Several constable positions were also decided. Republican Chris Fisher received 996 votes in District 2, while Republican Reuben Miller received 955 in District 3.

Independent Curtis Mayo received 971 votes in District 4, independent James "Shugs" Stroud received 680 in District 6, and independent Alex Knight received 670 in District 8.

Independent Kyle N. Smith received 731 votes in District 9, with another 54 write-in votes cast.

No candidate qualified for constable in Districts 1, 5 or 7. Those races were decided entirely by write-in votes, with 45 write-in votes recorded in District 1, 52 in District 5 and 26 in District 7.

The Aug. 6 ballot also included state and federal primary contests and judicial retention questions, but the results above reflect the principal county and local races decided by Tipton County voters.

Probation search leads to drug arrest in Covington

A month-long investigation led to the arrest of a Covington man after police and state probation officers conducted a compliance search at a Brown Street residence last week.

According to the Covington Police Department, detectives with the department's Criminal Investigation Division and officers with the Tennessee Department of Correction Probation and Parole Division conducted the search Aug. 6 at a residence in the 400 block of Brown Street.

The investigation involved probationer Octavis Bady, 30, of Covington.

Police said detectives and analysts determined during the month-long investigation that Bady was living at the Brown Street residence despite reporting a Howard Street address to probation authorities.

Investigators also said they uncovered activity they believed was consistent with the sale and distribution of illegal narcotics.

During the probation compliance search, police reported recovering approximately 14.2 grams of crack cocaine, 3.8 grams of marijuana, six MDMA, or Ecstasy, pills, two digital scales, numerous plastic



Covington police said officers recovered approximately 14.2 grams of crack cocaine, 3.8 grams of marijuana, six MDMA pills, two digital scales, cash, plastic baggies and other drug paraphernalia during an Aug. 6 probation compliance search.

baggies commonly associated with narcotics packaging, cash and other drug paraphernalia.

Bady was arrested and charged with possession of a Schedule II controlled substance with intent to manufacture, deliver or sell; possession of a Schedule I controlled substance; simple possession of a Schedule VI controlled substance; and possession of drug paraphernalia.

He was being held in the Tipton County Jail on a \$25,000 bond and was scheduled to appear in Tipton County General Sessions Court on Aug. 25 at 9 a.m.

Covington Police Chief Donna Turner credited cooperation between local police and state probation officials with assisting in the investigation.

"This investigation highlights the importance of

strong partnerships in holding offenders accountable and keeping illegal narcotics out of our community," Turner said in the department's press release.

Turner said the department is continuing to work with the Tennessee Department of Correction Probation and Parole Division on public safety efforts. She also said the case is being presented to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the West-



Octavis Bady, 30, of Covington, was arrested Aug. 6 following a probation compliance search at a residence on Brown Street. Covington police said the search was conducted in partnership with the Tennessee Department of Correction Probation and Parole Division.

ern District of Tennessee for consideration of federal prosecution.

Anyone with information related to the investigation is asked to contact the Covington Police Department Criminal Investigations Division at 901-475-1261. Tips may also be submitted through Facebook Messenger to the department or through the City of Covington website.

U.S. Olympians visit Covington City Hall

Two members of Team USA who competed in the 2026 Winter Olympics recently made a stop in Covington, sharing their experiences as Olympic athletes and helping promote interest in winter sports.

U.S. skeleton athletes Mystique Ro and Dan Barefoot were welcomed to Covington City Hall by Mayor Hensley during Ro's visit with family in West Tennessee.

Ro began her athletic career as a track-and-field heptathlete at Queens University of Charlotte before eventually transitioning to skeleton, a winter sliding sport in which competitors race headfirst down an ice track.

Her transition proved successful. Ro earned an individual silver medal and a mixed-team gold medal at the 2025 World Championships before representing

the United States at the 2026 Winter Olympics.

Barefoot, a Penn State graduate and professional landscape architect, discovered skeleton while looking for a new winter activity. He spent nine years training and competing in the sport while balancing his athletic pursuits with his professional career.

That work eventually resulted in Barefoot achieving his goal of representing the United States at the 2026 Winter Olympics.

During their Covington visit, the athletes discussed their journeys to the Olympics and offered local officials a closer look at skeleton, a sport in which athletes can reach speeds approaching 90 miles per hour while racing headfirst down an icy course.

SEE OLYMPIANS, PAGE A2



OLYMPIAN VISIT - U.S. Olympians Mystique Ro, left, and Dan Barefoot, right, visit with Covington Mayor Hensley during a stop at Covington City Hall. Ro and Barefoot represented Team USA in skeleton at the 2026 Winter Olympics and are working to raise awareness of Olympic winter sports across the country.



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TIPTON COUNTY JAIL REPORT

The following individuals appear on the Tipton County Sheriff's Office inmate intake/release report for Aug. 2 through Aug. 8, 2026. Bond amounts are listed where the report set a dollar figure.

Mary Edna Arcutt, 52, Drummonds — Simple possession/casual exchange (methamphetamine). **Lawrence Dale Aureli, 60, Brighton** — Violation of the implied consent law; DUI, 1st offense. Bond: \$3,500.

Devin Jhobe Austill, 31, Millington — Manufacture/delivery/sale/possession of methamphetamine; possession of drug paraphernalia; introduction of contraband into a penal institution; failure to pay child support; driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license. Bond: \$1,000.

Octavis Clearance Bady, 30, Covington — Simple possession/casual exchange (two counts); manufacture/delivery/sale of a controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia. Bond: \$25,000.

Tabitha Star Baskin, 39, Covington — Aggravated domestic assault. Bond: \$1,000.

Samone Lasha Brand, 19, Covington — Disorderly conduct. Bond: \$1,000.

Danielle Christine Boone, 36, Bartlett — Failure to appear (order to show cause). Bond: \$5,000.

Barry Lamont Burnett, 34, Covington — Driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license; possession of drug paraphernalia; manufacture/delivery/sale of a controlled substance (oxycodone); simple possession/casual exchange (violation of probation); convicted felon in possession of a weapon (violation of probation).

Elliot Raphael Byrd, 29, Memphis — Improper tag display; misuse of evidence of registration; financial responsibility (no insurance); driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license.

Alexander Calambas, 30, Munford — Theft of merchandise/shoplifting (\$1,000-\$2,500). Bond: \$2,500.

Stephen Blake Carter, 25, Millington — Failure to appear (state violation of probation, domestic); introduction of contraband into a penal institution.

Christopher Curtis

Clark, 39, Munford — Burglary of a vehicle. Bond: \$7,500.

Larry Claybon, 75, Mason — Simple possession/casual exchange (Schedule VI); violation of the implied consent law; possession of drug paraphernalia; financial responsibility (no insurance); open container; DUI, 1st offense. Bond: \$5,000.

John Cruz, 26, Memphis — Financial responsibility (no insurance); manufacture/delivery/sale of a controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; possession of a suspended license; driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license. Bond: \$25,000.

Caderius Lacharles Davis, 26, Brownsville — DUI, 1st offense.

Michael Keith Day, 54, Atoka — Domestic assault; aggravated domestic assault.

Xavien Deshaun Deberry, 33, Ripley — DUI, 1st offense; simple possession/casual exchange; possession of drug paraphernalia; financial responsibility (no insurance); disregarding a stop sign. Bond: \$10,000.

Jeremiah Cortez Douglas, 27, Memphis — Theft of a firearm (less than \$2,500).

Brandon Antawn Dowell, 44, Covington — Failure to pay child support. Bond: \$1,200.

William Isaac Dunn III, 34, Memphis — Driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license; financial responsibility (no insurance); speeding.

Kenitha Keta Dye, 48, Ripley — Driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license; ignition interlock required.

Ernie Lynnwood Eaton, 65, Covington — Open container; DUI, 1st offense; possession of drug paraphernalia; improper tag display; violation of the implied consent law; driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license.

Aqeel Ahmed Naji Fadil, 54, Batesville, Miss. — Violation of light law; possession of drug paraphernalia; manufacture/delivery/sale of a controlled substance. Bond: \$40,000.

Jerry Featherstone, 64, Stanton — Financial responsibility (no insurance); possession of drug paraphernalia; violation of registration law; possession of a firearm during the commission of a

dangerous felony; manufacture/delivery/sale/possession of methamphetamine. Bond: \$25,000.

Aaron Dante Foster Jr., 30, Brighton — Improper tag display; ignition interlock required. Bond: \$5,000.

Jennifer Graham-Nance, 51, Millington — Aggravated domestic assault (two counts). Bond: \$25,000.

Brian Lee Griffin, 62, Millington — Driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license (warrant).

Sean Gregory Grinnell, 38, Burlison — Manufacture/delivery/sale/possession of methamphetamine; driving on roadways laned for traffic.

Richard Lee Haley IV, 25, Brighton — Leaving the scene of an accident; financial responsibility (no insurance); violation of the implied consent law; DUI, 1st offense. Bond: \$5,000.

Ashley Marie Hall, 41, Millington — Failure to pay child support. Bond: \$1,500.

Larry Noble Hall, 70, Oakland — Manufacture/delivery/sale of a controlled substance (Schedule VI); possession of drug paraphernalia; financial responsibility (no insurance); driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license. Bond: \$25,000.

Destaynee Hammond, 22, Dyersburg — Evading arrest.

Preston Corday Hennings, 38, Henning — Unlawful possession of a weapon.

Jordan Daeshun Hill, 28, Covington — Domestic assault (simple assault); child abuse/neglect. Bond: \$15,000.

Kelvin Lyrant Hines Jr., 30, Covington — Convicted felon in possession of a weapon; theft of a firearm (under \$2,500).

Christopher Hockett, 52, Tiptonville — DUI, 1st offense.

Wilson Randell Holloway, 70, Ripley — Improper tag display; financial responsibility (no insurance); driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license. Bond: \$5,000.

Demond Terrell Hughlett, 40, Covington — Simple possession/casual exchange (violation of probation); aggravated burglary (violation of probation).

Anthony Jefferson, 39, Memphis — Reckless

endangerment.

Ricky Franklin Johnson, 62, Covington — Theft under \$1,000. Bond: \$2,500.

William Elton Johnson Jr., 25, Covington — Driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license; violation of window tint laws. Bond: \$2,500.

Sharicka Deyana Jones, 26, Atoka — DUI, 1st offense; improper stopping; financial responsibility (no insurance). Bond: \$10,000.

Michael William Jordan, 35, Mason — DUI, 1st offense; assault on a first responder.

Robert Eugene Kelly, 65, Drummonds — Simple possession/casual exchange; DUI, 1st offense; driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license; driving on roadways laned for traffic; assault on a first responder. Bond: \$10,000.

Latonya Marie Kemp, 40, Memphis — Child abuse/neglect (violation of probation).

Robert James Krueger, 46, Burlison — Evading arrest; falsification of drug test results (violation of probation); burglary of a vehicle; theft of property \$2,500-\$10,000.

Alexander Elijah Lewis, 25, Covington — DUI, 1st offense.

Hailey Nicole Lindsey, 31, Covington — Driving while license cancelled, suspended or revoked.

Jamey Darell Long, 55, Henning — Possession of drug paraphernalia; violation of light law; manufacture/delivery/sale/possession of methamphetamine.

Jonathan Marques Lyons, 43, Covington — DUI, 2nd offense.

John Earl Mason, 35, Munford — Introduction of contraband into a penal institution; burglary of a building (two counts); theft of merchandise/shoplifting up to \$1,000 (two counts); shoplifting (violation of probation); theft of merchandise/shoplifting (\$1,000-\$2,500).

Katherine McCoy, 42, Jackson — Warrant arrest for another agency (Madison County — driving on a suspended license, simple possession, failure to appear); improper tag display; possession of drug paraphernalia; manufacture/delivery/sale of a controlled substance (cocaine).

Joseph Moore, 34, Covington — Failure to pay child support (hold for Lauderdale County).

Marcus Lavelle Murray, 44, Mason — Failure to appear.

Jeremy Norwood, 39, Memphis — Harassment/intimidation. Bond: \$7,500.

Ashley Nichole Oakley, 41, Covington — Simple possession/casual exchange (Schedule IV, violation of probation).

David Zachary Parker, 34, Brighton — Aggravated child abuse and neglect. Bond: \$5,000.

Jennifer Nicole Parker, 32, Brighton — Child abuse/neglect. Bond: \$5,000.

Gary Darrell Peete, 48, Brighton — Violation of light law; driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license; simple possession/casual exchange; possession of drug paraphernalia.

Demaris Antonio Prewitt, 41, Somerville — Driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license.

Ryan Neal Raible, 32, Memphis — Driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license; violation of window tint laws; financial responsibility (no insurance).

Charlie Tyrell Rogers, 20, Ripley — Simple possession/casual exchange (violation of probation).

Erin Elizabeth Sartain, 38, Covington — Violation of the implied consent law; possession of drug paraphernalia; disregarding a stop sign; violation of window tint laws; simple possession/casual exchange (Schedule VI, marijuana); resisting arrest; simple possession/casual exchange (Schedule I, kratom); DUI, 1st offense. Bond: \$30,000.

James Frank Semora, 54, Milan — Simple possession/casual exchange.

Michael Thomas Staples, 27, Brighton — Driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license.

Tiffany Renee Stover, 44, Halls — Violation of light law; misuse of evidence of registration; financial responsibility (no insurance); possession of drug paraphernalia; tampering with evidence; manufacture/delivery/sale/possession of methamphetamine. Bond: \$40,000.

Amy Leigh Tate, 58, Brighton — DUI, 1st offense; open container;

financial responsibility (no insurance); driving on roadways laned for traffic. Bond: \$10,000.

Eric Tyrone Taylor, 42, Ripley — Financial responsibility (no insurance); violation of window tint laws; driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license. Bond: \$3,500.

Mary Virginia Taylor, 62, Covington — Driving while license cancelled, suspended or revoked; public intoxication; theft; misdemeanor escape. Bond: \$5,000.

Sadie Lynn Taylor, 20, Munford — Child abuse/neglect/endangerment, child 8 or younger, imminent danger (failure to appear). Bond: \$10,000.

Montavo Deshan Terry, 30, Millington — Aggravated assault, no injury (violation of probation).

Shartavius Turnage, 36, Arlington — Failure to appear (Bartlett warrant).

Karen Marie Wakefield, 37, Brighton — DUI, 1st offense.

Kaitlyn Marie Wallace, 25, Drummonds — Resisting arrest; domestic assault.

Shaheed Wali Wansley, 32, Memphis — Convicted felon in possession of a weapon; simple possession/casual exchange; possession of drug paraphernalia. Bond: \$1,000.

Christopher Shun Wiggins, 54, Dyersburg — Driving while license cancelled, suspended or revoked (violation of probation). Bond: \$460.

Brandon Heath Williams, 44, Michie — Warrant arrest for another agency (hold for McNairy County).

Christopher Williams, 54, Henning — Tampering with evidence.

Dalphine Williams, 71, Stanton — DUI, 1st offense; improper control (reckless driving); driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license; financial responsibility (no insurance). Bond: \$5,000.

Edison Eddie Williamson, 52, Covington — Domestic assault. Bond: \$25,000.

John Michael Wood, 51, Atoka — Harassment/intimidation (warrant). Bond: \$2,500.

OLYMPIANS

From 1A

The City of Covington said Ro and Barefoot are working to build greater awareness of the Winter Olympics and

Olympic sports throughout the country.

City officials thanked the two Olympians for tak-

ing time to visit Covington, share their stories and encourage greater interest in Olympic competition.

RENTAL SCAM WARNING

How to spot fake listings before you lose money.

Charming 3BR Home
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Send deposit today to hold it.

IF IT FEELS OFF, IT PROBABLY IS.

SMART TENANTS STAY SAFE.

1. Verify the owner and address
2. See the property in person
3. Avoid gift cards, wire transfers, and cash apps
4. Don't let urgency pressure you

Safety reminder based on guidance from Covington police.

SCAMS

From 1A

before making any payment.

Prospective renters are encouraged to tour a property in person before paying a deposit or signing a lease. Residents should also research the address and the rental listing, as scammers sometimes copy photographs and information from legitimate real estate advertisements.

A reverse-image search of photographs used in a listing can sometimes reveal that the images were taken from another advertisement.

Police also cautioned residents about unusual payment requests. Gift cards, wire transfers, cash and certain payment apps can be difficult or impossible to trace or recover once the money has been sent.

Another warning sign is a supposed landlord who quickly attempts to move conversations away from a legitimate rental website or platform and onto text messages, email or other private communication.

Residents should also be wary of anyone creating unnecessary pressure

to complete a transaction immediately. Statements such as “pay today or lose the property” should be considered a major red flag, according to police.

The department encouraged residents to trust their instincts and take time to investigate an offer before turning over personal information or money.

“A great deal isn’t a great deal if the property doesn’t exist, or doesn’t belong to the person taking your money,” the department said in its warning.

GUN

From 1A

identified and located on campus on Tuesday. School officers reportedly found a stolen handgun in the student’s backpack.

“Millington Municipal Schools remains committed to the safety and security of our students and staff.

We commend the prompt reporting by our school community and the swift action of our administrative team and law enforcement partners,” Griffin said.

That student was charged with property theft and carrying a weapon on school

property. The teen was arrested at the scene and sent to the Shelby County juvenile detention facility for booking.

No injuries were reported. Officials said there were no threat to the campus.

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Not for mobile homes, not for homes listed on the market

The Coloring Book

Bill Wallace
Clopton Austin Peay
Carl Perkins and his band had finished their European tour. While the rest of his troupe remained overseas for some well-deserved rest and relaxation, Carl chose to take a “red eye” flight soon after the final performance.
On board, his seatmate was a young boy, about 5 or 6 years old. After take-off it became clear the boy was travelling alone, though he was being well cared for by the flight attendants. Carl assumed the boy was likely the child of a crew member.

Safely airborne, a flight attendant brought snacks and drinks. She introduced Carl and the boy, recognizing the two “wide awakes” could keep each other company during the long flight. Carl had already noticed the coloring book the boy was holding. When Carl showed interest, the child – Buddy – was eager to share his artwork with his new friend.
Carl admired Buddy’s careful coloring and thoughtful choice of colors, complementing him on his evident talent. As Carl flipped through the earlier pages of the coloring book,

he saw more examples of Buddy’s skill and continued to encourage him. Carl soon became an active participant, helping by holding and passing crayons as Buddy needed them.
Suddenly, a calm announcement from the cockpit warned of a strong possibility of extreme turbulence ahead, and passengers were advised to fasten their seat belts. The flight attendant quickly fastened Buddy’s belt and advised Carl to prepare for a rough ride.
The plane was buffeted in all directions. Carl, though deeply concerned by the

severity of the turbulence ahead, remained outwardly calm for Buddy’s sake. Buddy, however, seemed completely unfazed. He held his coloring book to his chest and sat quietly, showing neither fear nor anxiety.
After several minutes, the turbulence subsided. The pilot’s “all-clear” message was met with applause and excitement from the passengers. Buddy calmly unfastened his seat belt and put his coloring book beside him. He proudly turned to Carl and asked, “Know why I wasn’t scared? Cause my daddy is the pilot!”

Landing safely on American soil, Carl collected his belongings. Before leaving the plane, he had the pleasure of meeting Buddy’s dad, the pilot. Buddy stood close to his dad as he thanked Carl for his help with the coloring book and said goodbye.
Carl was moved by the strong bond he witnessed between Buddy and his father. The following Sunday he shared the details of the flight experience with his Pastor. The Pastor, with Carl’s blessing, used the story in his sermon to illustrate faith, emphasizing Buddy’s simple yet resolute

faith in his father even during turbulent times.
Carl Perkins’ legacy of love for children lives on through the center for the prevention of child abuse that bears his name. Many families have benefitted – and continue to benefit – from his dedication of time and resources. In many ways, Buddy’s heartfelt goodbye, “thanks for helping me with my coloring book” echoes the gratitude of countless children whose lives have been touched by Carl Perkins’s legacy.

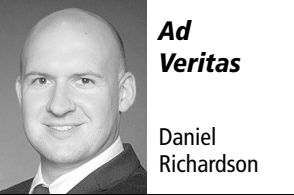
MT. CARMEL NEWS

Elaine Watkins
It’s a mostly sunny 89 degree Sunday afternoon. Mid to high 90’s all week – 100 degrees forecasted next Sunday! Come on Fall!
This Week’s Farm Report: Corn is getting ready fast and soybeans are starting to. No rain last week. The boys have been working getting the combine ready – won’t be long!
I rode to Jackson last Monday with Danielle Rogers, our Tipton County Soil and Water Conservation office secretary. We had a good meeting with others from West Tennessee and heard some good speakers. And we had donuts before the meeting! Rode home with Kirk Daniel and we talked and laughed all the way home! I’ve known him all his life!
We had Mexican Wednesday night after church and I brought home the extra chicken from the nachos. And a small cheese dip. I made us some here at home the next night and they were good!
Thursday, James got his hearing aids cleaned

at Beltone in Atoka, and we ate at Olympic while there. Our Fellowship Group at the Covington Church of Christ is meeting there Saturday night to eat!
Friday, I went to Millington with Liz and Lyla, shopping. Fun afternoon!
Saturday, I cooked burgers and fries for Clint, Derrick Burke and us. The boys were working on the combine. Got it fixed!
On our prayer list are Bill Murray, Judy and Ken McCool and Kacie Billings, Genie Renfroe’s daughter. And so many friends and relatives of our members like Joyce Scott.
And all of our servicemen and women. And our country – God Bless the USA!
Birthday Party at Magnolia Creek Saturday at 2. Devo at Covington Care at 3 Sunday.
Area-wide Gospel Meeting September 14-17! A first in the county! All the Churches of Christ in Tipton County, meeting together – Brighton Middle Gymnasium.
Happy Birthday this week goes to Tricia Speight on August 10th, to Charles Wolfe on the 11th,

to Leann Maness on the 12th, to Heather Keith and David Higgins on the 13th and to Leslie Howard on the 14th!
I asked for prayers from all of you last week about my heart test. I got a call Friday that it all looks normal! Checkup on the 21st. Thank you!
This Week’s Farmer’s Almanac Quote: “Don’t marry someone you can live with; marry someone you can’t live without”. – Traditional proverb.
That reminds me – bridal shower for Chloe Coughlan in 45 minutes!
I watched Robin Hood on TV yesterday and that reminded me of something in our family history. Dug the papers out and Robert DeVere, of Scotland, was a rebel to the king. The king ordered anyone to kill him on sight, just like in the movie.
The name DeVere was a forerunner to the name Weir. And history says he was the prototype for the Robin Hood story! Cool!
Joke – Jim Henson didn’t make all of the Muppets. But he had a hand in them!
Until next week . . .

It’s time to get those signs down



Well, for better or worse, the election is behind us.
First, congratulations to those who won. Running for public office—especially at the local level—is not easy. It takes a tremendous amount of time, energy and, often, money. Winning means the campaign is over and the much more difficult work of actually serving begins.
And to those who came up short, there is no shame in putting your name on a ballot and giving the voters a choice. Losing an election after months of work and anticipation has to be disappointing. Hopefully, after a little rest, many of those candidates will continue finding ways to serve their communities.
Now, winners and losers alike have one last campaign duty to perform.
It’s time to pick up the signs.
For months, our roadsides have been covered with them. Big signs. Little signs. Red ones. Blue ones. Homemade ones. Professionally printed ones. Signs tied to fences, driven into yards and clustered around seemingly every major intersection in the county.
That’s part of election season.
But election season is over.
Tennessee law places the responsibility on candidates to remove campaign signs that have been placed on highway rights-of-way or other publicly owned property within a reasonable amount of time after an election, with three weeks being the outside limit.
Personally, I don’t think it should take anywhere near three weeks.
I’ve heard candidates say the morning after an

election that they intended to have every sign picked up that day. That is certainly a noble goal, but I don’t think it is particularly realistic in a countywide race.
A serious campaign may have hundreds—or perhaps thousands—of signs scattered across a county. The candidate probably did not personally put every one of them out, and he or she probably has no idea where every last one ended up.
I don’t expect them all to disappear overnight.
But give it a week and make a good-faith effort.
Candidates had volunteers and supporters willing to spend evenings and weekends putting those signs out. Now is the time to send a few text messages, load up the truck and drive those same roads in reverse.
Think of it as the final campaign event.
Private property is another matter. If someone wants to keep a campaign sign in his yard long after the election, that is his business, subject, of course, to whatever local rules apply. If you want to leave it beside the Christmas decorations that are still hanging from the gutters in August, have at it.
But public property is public property.
The temporary privilege of filling our roadsides with campaign advertising comes with an equally reasonable expectation that the advertising goes away once the campaign is finished.
It is partly a matter of appearance. After several months of campaigning, it is nice to see the community return to normal. The election has been decided. The advertisements have served their purpose. Now let’s get the roadsides cleaned up.
But I also think it says something about a candidate.
Putting up signs is easy when you want something from the voters. Taking them down after the voters have made their decision—

especially when that decision did not go your way—is part of finishing what you started.
That may be an admittedly small measure of responsibility, but sometimes small things tell us something about larger habits.
I would not expect local governments to spend much time or taxpayer money chasing down every leftover political sign. There are more important things for city and county employees to do.
And I certainly would not recommend that citizens start some wild campaign-sign vigilantism, pulling up signs wherever they find them. You may not know whether a particular sign is actually on public or private property, and there is no reason to create a confrontation over a piece of corrugated plastic.
Leave the cleanup to the campaigns and the appropriate authorities.
But candidates and their supporters should take responsibility for what they put out.
If you helped put up signs, help take them down.
If someone allowed you to place one on private property, go retrieve it unless the property owner wants to keep it.
Drive the routes you drove during the campaign and look for the ones you missed.
Three weeks may be the legal outside limit for signs on public property, but hopefully we won’t need anywhere near that long.
The voters have spoken. The winners have been congratulated. The candidates who came up short can hold their heads high for having participated in the process.
Now there is just one thing left to do.
Everybody, grab a pickup truck.
It’s time to get those signs down.

Need to get something off your mind?
Send your letter to the editor to
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ALONG THE JOURNEY

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Kenneth S Usetlon

Sometimes life can seem so complicated. But “what if” you knew God had already given you a twofold guiding ethical principle that you can apply to most every situation?

In Leviticus 19 the people of Israel are told to make provision for the poor and the alien through leaving the gleanings of the field for them to harvest (...ten percent of the fruits or grain in the orchards or fields). God’s people are told not to steal, not to deceive one another, defraud or rob our neighbor. We are not to withhold wages, and we are strictly told to not take advantage of the handicapped: “Do not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block in front of the blind” (Leviticus 19:14). We are not to pervert justice, show partiality, or to do anything that endangers another’s life.

God summarized these commands in a single statement: “Love your neighbor as yourself” (Leviticus 19:18). Here, buried in the midst of this series of commands, is what rises to be the second most important

command in all the Scripture, inseparable from the first.

Jesus was asked, “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” He replied, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment” (Matthew 22:37) But he did not stop there. He immediately added the quote from Leviticus 19, “And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments” (Matthew 22:39-40).

While Scripture does not address every given situation in any place and time, Jesus does give us a twofold guiding ethical principle that can be applied in every situation. Love God with abandonment, and love your neighbor as you love yourself. That central principle is the very heart and soul of Scripture, so much so that all the rest of the Bible is said to orbit around it and be subordinate to it.

Jesus concurred with the statement that loving God

with all your heart and loving your neighbor as yourself “is more important than all the burnt offerings and sacrifices” (Mark 12:33). The law required offerings and sacrifices. Yet God places the law of love even above obeying other important commands.

What does it mean to love our neighbor as yourself? It means to show the same care for others as we show for ourselves. A spouse is to love their spouse as they would love the self and wished for the self to be loved. How do we love ourselves? Not by looking in a mirror and admiring our body! Nor by making public statements about how wonderful we are ... We are to care for our health, feed oneself in meaningful ways ... physically, emotionally and spiritually. To love ourselves is to take actions for our self-preservation. Because we love ourselves we jump out of the way of a speeding car. If we love our neighbor as ourselves, we will also pull our neighbor out of the way of a speeding care.

Jesus called this “the royal law” (James 2:8) It is

the law that reigns over all laws. The golden rule is an extension of the same principle. It says, “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you” (Luke 6:31). Do for others the same you would do for yourself in their circumstances, and do for others the same you would wish them to do for you and yours if in those same circumstance.

When we focus on this overriding ethical imperative, seemingly complex dilemmas suddenly become much more clear. “Should I ...?” Then answer would I wish this to be made know to or done for me? The answer is “of course!” Thus the answer to our dilemma is surprisingly simple ... It is no longer gray, but black or white. The law of love cuts through the fog and shows “me/us” the right action to take.

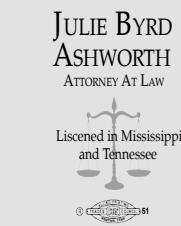
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P. S. Should those who have property beyond their needs share it with those who are in need? The Scripture invites us to allow persons of need to glean from the fields and orchards of our fruitfulness ...



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Gilt Edge church of Christ
10726 Highay 59 W., Burlison, TN
901-609-4748

by Rick Huffman, Elder

Make Hay While the Sun Shines

In agriculture, timing is everything. If you plant too early, a late frost may get you- killing the tender plants. If you plant too late, the “latter rains” (James 5:7) may not come or be too sparse to make the plants produce to their potential. Raising hay is particularly susceptible to the weather. A farmer must try to catch a window of time so that he can cut the hay, let the hay cure, bale the hay and get the hay protected before the rain comes. A rain on the hay after it is cut can ruin it or at a minimum possibly affect the quality and quantity of the hay. An expression or figure of speech is often used to describe the situation: “Make hay while the sun shines!”

The above expression has been applied to many circumstances. The expression means to take advantage of opportunities while you can before they disappear. Opportunity never knocks twice. When a set of circumstances present themselves, they only last for a time and then are forever passed. Other opportunities may come along that are similar but that specific opportunity never reoccurs. One expressed it this way on the need of spending time with one’s dad, “you can always take him fishing until you can’t”.

Jesus knew all too well that He had to make hay while the sun shone. Jesus’ lifetime was short, approximately 33 years. His active ministry was approximately three years (Luke 3:23). Jesus lived less than a third of the typical lifetime of a man (Psalms 90:10), yet he did so much (John 17:4) and gave hope to all men of all

times. Realizing the brevity of his life and the urgency of His mission, Jesus said, “I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work” (John 9:4). When Jesus spoke of the “day”, He was not speaking of the daylight hours when work was typically done but using it as a metaphor for “lifetime”. Similarly “night” is not the hours of darkness in a day, but the time when one dies, when no more work can be done. Jesus vividly remind us of the untimeliness of death in the parable of the rich farmer (Luke 12:16-21). “But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided” (Luke 12:20)?

If Jesus was so cognizant and vigilant concerning time and opportunities, should not we also be, given we are His followers? Both Paul and Peter warned that Jesus will come back as a thief in the night (I Thessalonians 5:2; II Peter 3:10). The five foolish virgins were denied access to the wedding feast because they were not prepared, squandered the opportunity to be prepared in time (Matthew 25:1-12). Jesus gives the following application to us, “Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh” (Matthew 25:13). Jesus warns us to use the time we have however long or short that may be to be ready for His coming (or our death). “Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if

the Goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh” (Matthew 24:42-44).

David, after giving the expected lifespan of a man in Psalms 90:10, gave the following advice, “So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom” (Psalms 90:12). He had earlier warned us to realize the frailty and uncertainty of life so that we are not lulled into a sense of complacency and caught off-guard. “LORD, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am” (Psalms 39:4).

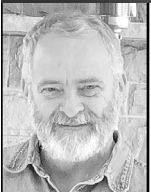
There is a day when Jesus will come again, a day the world will end. He may not be alive on that day but we will all see that day because we will be resurrected (John 5:28-29; I Thessalonians 4:13-17). Because God keeps His promise (II Peter 3:8-12), we should live each day as if it is our last. Paul issues this solemn reminder: “The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light” (Romans 13:12).

James also has something to say about making hay while the sun shines and not depending on tomorrow. “Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: Whereas ye know

not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away” (James 4:13-14). We have no promise of tomorrow. Yesterday is gone. We have only today (now). “(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.) [2Corinthians 6:2].”

We cannot let our past (good or bad) define us, Paul says. “Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:13-14). Opportunities past are just that, opportunities past. If our lives are not right, we must get them right by becoming a Christian (Acts 2:14-38) or if a wayward Christian, confessing our sin (James 5:16; I John 1:9), repenting of our sin and praying to God to forgive us of our sin (Acts 8:13, 18-24). Then we can make the most of the times and opportunities we have today and the ones God may be so gracious to give us in the future if our lives continue. Paul expresses it this way, “See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil” (Ephesians 5:15-16). Make hay while the sun is still shining!

Is Religion Ancient Myth?



IS GOD DEAD?

Dr. Ty B. Kerley

Sure enough, Christians unequivocally believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was cruci-

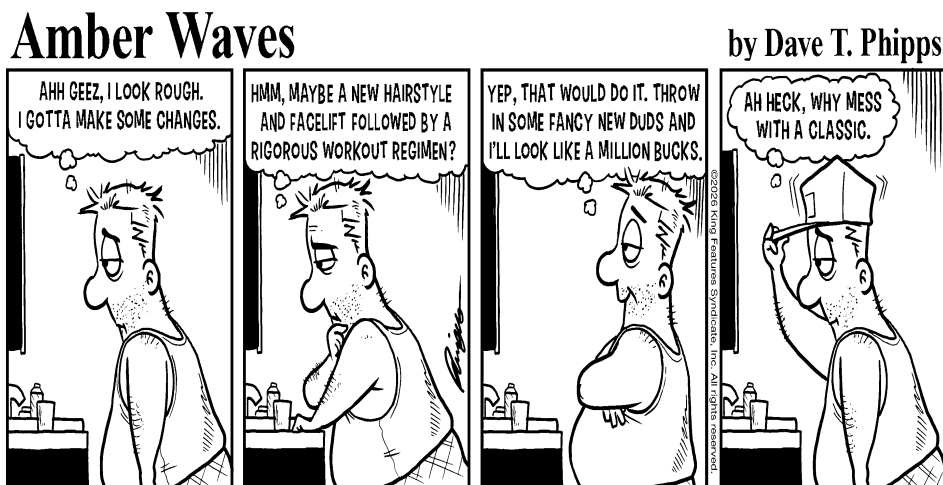
fied, died, and was buried; He descended; on the third day, he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

And we could say that, in light of the evidence presented here, over the last several months, Christians are rationally warranted to believe in such things based upon the considerable, compelling evidence that exists. Nevertheless, the Bible skeptic Michael may still be unmoved by

the arguments presented thus far. To the Michaels of the world, I say, “Okay, fair enough.” After all, most naturalists and atheists consider religious belief in general, and those beliefs mentioned above in particular, to have *evolved* as part of human evolution itself. I find nothing shocking in that. If one holds to evolution, then one sees evolution as the *necessary* answer to everything. If a person’s worldview is grounded in Darwinian evolutionary processes,

then the phenomenon of religious belief must itself have an evolutionary grounding; it cannot be another way.

In the 19th century, scientist and naturalist Edward Tylor put forward a compelling theory about how religion evolved “out of nothing” in human society. It turns out Edwards observed four progressive stages of religious belief, beginning with the idea of human beings possessing

[illegible]

STICKELERS [sic]

by Terry Stickels

From west to east, which U.S. states touch Canada land to land (that is, with no lake or river separating the two borders)?

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"Bad news, Dad — my grades are pretty awful, but at least that shows that I'm not

_____."

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!

Avoid	EGHED	EATS	SCIENCE	ALERT
Quench	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lovely	_____	_____	_____	_____
Follow	_____	_____	_____	_____

TODAY'S WORD

Stickelers Answer

The answer is b) tidal strat.

Word Spiral Answer

OBSESSIVE

SCRAMBLERS

solution
 1. Snoop; 2. Leach
 3. Clone; 4. Heap
Today's Word

CHEAP

Cryptquip

answer

What might you call the insolent answers that are given by misbehaving children? Brattitude.

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Karl R. White
August 9, 2026

Karl R. White, 81, of Memphis, Tennessee, passed away peacefully on August 9, 2026.

Born in Nashville, Tennessee, Karl was a proud United States Navy veteran who served his country with honor. He was also a member of the Masonic Lodge in Munford and the Order of the Eastern Star. Karl was truly a jack of all trades. There was little he couldn't fix, figure out, or find a way to make work. He was a hardworking man who took pride in helping others and in the many things he could do with his own two hands. A lover of NASCAR, Karl had a Sunday routine that was all his own. You could often find him settled in with his favorite snacks, NASCAR playing on the television, and enjoying the races. Of course, there was a good chance he would be napping by lap five but somehow, he was always awake and ready for those final laps!

Karl will be remembered for his strong spirit, his willingness to lend a helping hand, his love for his family, and the many memories he created throughout his life.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Toni E. White; his son, Robert Swickard; and his mother, Lillian Spain.

He leaves behind a loving family who will cherish his memory, including his children, Billie Bridges and husband Donald, Kathy Davenport and husband Darryl, Karla White, and David White and wife Hannah; his grandchildren, Kaydence, Kaydrienne, Emily, John, Jordan, Vinita, Destiny, Anna, Rocky, Chrissy, Dallen, and Lainey; his great-grandchildren, Bo, Colton, Lillian, Jayce, Leah, Olivia, Natalie, Charlie, Weston, and Eli; and his siblings, Polly Kendall and husband Ronnie, Connie Clark and husband Johnny, Eddie Spain and wife June, Christine Curtis, and Cathy Belote.

Though he will be deeply missed, Karl's memory will live on in the stories shared, the lives he touched, and the family he loved so dearly.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Monday, August 17, 2026, at 3:00 p.m., with visitation beginning one hour before at the Munford Chapel.

Gregory Dunn Pugh
September 27, 1948 - July 28, 2026

Funeral Services were Saturday, August 8, 2026, at 11:00am at Hopewell M B Church with burial in the church Cemetery both in Mason, TN.



Michael K. Smith
September 22, 1964 - August 7, 2026

Michael K. Smith, 61, passed away peacefully at home under hospice care after a brief illness on Friday, August 7, 2026. He was born in Memphis, TN on September 22, 1964, to Carl S. and JoAnn Smith. He was raised in Vermillion, OH, graduating from Vermillion High School in 1982. Mike excelled in basketball and baseball. He loved golfing with family and friends.

Mike is survived by his mother, JoAnn Smith of Brighton; his brother, Carl J. (Joyce) Smith of Vermillion, OH; one niece, Renee Case of Port Clinton, OH; one nephew, Ryan (Cassie) Smith of Amherst, OH; three great nieces, Rylie and Raegan Case of Port Clinton, OH and Taelyn Nida of Amherst, OH; one great nephew, Trey Nida of Amherst, OH, and several uncles, aunts and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his father, Carl S. Smith. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, August 13 at the Covington Funeral Home with interment to follow in Morrison Memorial Cemetery in Brighton.

The family will receive friends two hours prior to the service at the funeral home. Friends may sign an online guestbook at www.covingtonfuneralhome.com.

Glenda Fay Tackett
July 20, 1943 - August 3, 2026

Glenda Fay Tackett, 83, went to be with the Lord on August 3, 2026. The family received friends on Saturday, August 8, 2026, at Munford Funeral Home in Munford, Tennessee, from noon until the service time at 1:00 p.m., with the interment following at Helen Crigger Cemetery. Glenda was an amazing cook and loved to eat; she loved her family dearly, and her boys meant the world to her. She attended Atoka Methodist Church for numerous years, and she was a dedicated Booster member for Munford High School for the band and football. She was also involved with Dixie Youth Sports. Glenda was born July 20, 1943, to the late Katie Mae and Fredrick Franklin Woodward. She is preceded in death by her son, Gregory Alan Tackett; and her brother, Gene Woodward. Glenda is survived by her loving husband of 62 years, Richard Tackett; and her son, Keith Marcus Tackett (Mark Davis Peterson). In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the Arthritis Foundation.

What happened to me



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.

Late on Thursday, July 23, I took a bad line on our property riding a 700lb Honda 500 swamper four-wheeler and it flipped forward. I came down on my right shoulder crushing it; the atv continued rotation and my knee was well hind me when it hit and shoved my femoral head through the front of my dislocated hip. My son was right behind me and got to work



fast, stabilizing my leg and getting the paramedics to me. My grandson, thankfully, had already turned back toward the house minutes before — he wasn't there to see any of it.

From there it was one blessing after another: the first responders who got me out fast, a great surgical team, traction to hold things steady, then surgery to clear the loose fragments of the fractured acetabulum.

Hurt Thursday night, home with my family Tuesday evening. My shoulder's too torn up for a walker or crutches, so I'm in a wheelchair for now — good friends made sure I had a power chair, and it's

been a lifeline.

Lying still in traction reminded me of a traffic jam I sat in over thirty years ago, next to a young man in a Porsche who was furious, beating the wheel like he meant to break it — same delay I had, same powerlessness, but I'd made my peace with it and had a sermon of Dr Rogers playing. Your character isn't built by what happens to you. It's revealed by what you do with it. As the old saying goes, every man is either in a storm, coming out of one, or headed into the next.

Even from this chair, I've already been out handing out settlement checks to my clients, and I'm praising God that with



time I'll be out of this wheelchair and back on my feet for good.

What's been hardest is being served so lovingly by my wife, my kids, my grandson, my staff, when I can do so little for them.

But I praise God for surrounding me with such a wonderful support system, and for His grace.

New novel explores human stories behind Reelfoot Lake

Cooter, Missouri, author Andrea Forsythe has released "Shattered Land," a historical fiction novel that connects the New Madrid earthquakes of 1811-1812 with a present-day story centered on Reelfoot Lake.

The novel follows environmental scientist Clara Mercer, who returns to Reelfoot Lake to study its changing shoreline. As the water recedes, she discovers a hand-bound journal preserved beneath the mud for more than 200 years.

The journal belonged to Evelyn Mercer, who witnessed the New Madrid earthquakes and recorded the experiences of her family and community as the disaster unfolded.

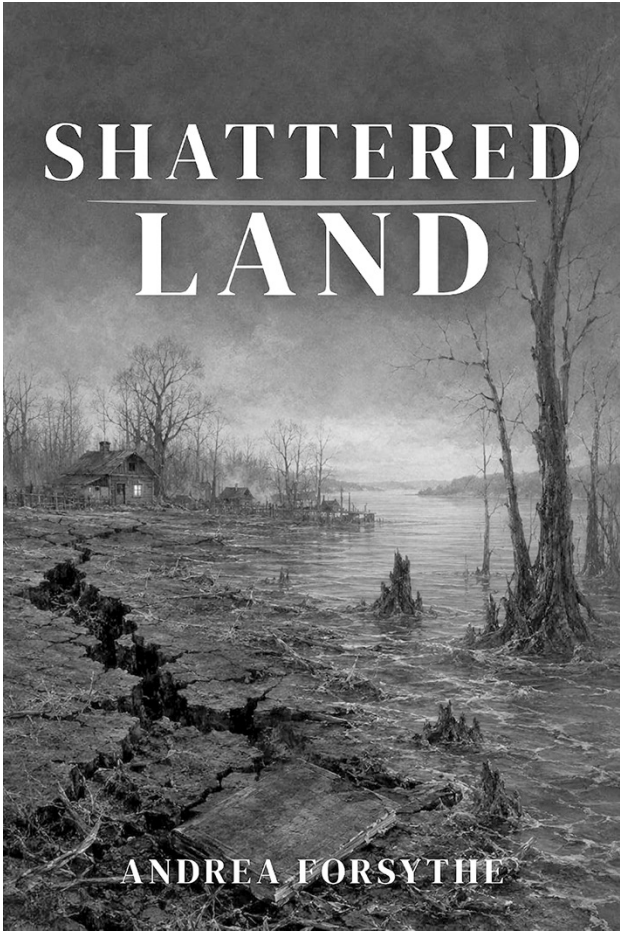
As Clara follows landmarks described in the journal, she uncovers

forgotten roads, family symbols and traditions still carried by local residents. With the help of river captain James DePree, she also confronts questions about who has the right to uncover and possess the stories of the past.

Told across two centuries, "Shattered Land" focuses on memory, resilience, belonging and the ways communities preserve their histories.

Forsythe is from the Missouri Bootheel and is also the author of "The Church Pew on the Porch," a memoir about healing and resilience, and "Spiders Go to Space," a children's book centered on curiosity and imagination.

"Shattered Land" is Forsythe's newest book.



NOVEL - "Shattered Land" by Andrea Forsythe is a historical fiction novel inspired by the New Madrid earthquakes of 1811-1812 and the formation of Reelfoot Lake.

MYTH

an immaterial soul. Tylor suggested that primitive man imagined they possessed a "soul," and from this idea of a human soul, all other religious beliefs then evolved. "Proof" of the soul, according to Tylor, was found in primitive man recognizing that in dreaming, they saw themselves in places, and in doing things upon waking, they knew had not happened. Tylor hypothesizes further that primitive man noticed their reflection in the water as a nonphysical extension of their own bodies. From there, man began to consider that other aspects of their world may be similarly endowed. Tylor said this was the first form of religion he termed "animism."

Later, as the evolution of man and his religious beliefs continued, society progressed toward social stratification based on a class system. Aristocrats ruling over the peasant class indicated that gods ruled over the souls of men. Thus, polytheism (the worship of many gods) became the next in the evolution of religion. Still later, religious belief continued to parallel human society in that, eventually, one aris-

tocrat became elevated above the rest in society as a monarchical king. This evolutionary advance, then, represented the singular and supreme God of monotheism.

It was 1871, and Tylor's theory of the evolution of religion became all the rage in scientific circles. Finally, they say, a scientific theory that explained the religious impulse common to all men. Not only that, but Tylor's theory and Darwin's *On the Origin of Species* (1859), were complementary and synergistic. Anthropologist Don Richardson writes: "At least four notions were implicit in Tylor's evolutionary model. First, science fully explained the religious impulse in man, and therefore, religion lost all of its mystery. Second, since monotheism marked the final maturity of religion's evolution, religion was now to face natural extinction. Third, the next evolution of religion in society was to recognize that God and the spiritual world were nothing more than myths (later prompting German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche to proclaim "God is dead."). Finally, Tylor's

theory was testable in the field, making it a true scientific theory. If Tylor were correct, the most primitive societies would be animists, polytheists, and monotheists. Therefore, there would be no monotheism in primitive societies.

It was reported that Tylor had so clearly laid the groundwork and thoroughly researched the topic that his theory "left no room for opposition." Indeed, Tylor's theory ran uncontested for the next three decades and gained a firm foothold that is still very much present today. That is, the theory that religious belief "evolved" as human society evolved. Now, this is all well and good except for one thing: Tylor's theory is not true. The rest of the story tells a different tale.

It turns out a researcher and student of Tylor named Andrew Lange eventually ran upon some information that would change everything. Over the next few years, Lange collected extensive information concerning the religious beliefs of several ancient southeast Australian tribes who were *not* polytheist as Tylor's theory suggested, but they

believed in one Supreme Being. But it wasn't just the Southeast Australians; the same evidence appeared over and over again from primitive people groups like the Bushmen, Hotentots, Zulu, Yao, West African peoples, as well as North American Indians.

The conclusion was clear: religion did not evolve as Tylor had argued. On the contrary, the idea of a monotheistic Supreme Being is an ancient concept; it is as old as man himself. In fact, Richardson argues that there is "startling evidence of belief in the One True God in hundreds of cultures throughout the world." Unsurprisingly, this is exactly what Christians have argued all along, and this is exactly what is observed in the cultures of the world. So, religion is not an ancient myth that evolved as men evolved. Join us next time as we look into why there are so many ancient flood stories from around the world. Or is Christianity just a copycat religion? Until then, *is God dead?*

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

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LEGALS

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 August 24, 2026 at the TiptonCounty 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:

TN Dept. Safety & Homeland Security: Is requesting a Variance to Section 4.150.B.2 (fall zone) for a proposed tower to be constructed on the TWRA Glenn Springs property, new tower is for the TACN (TN Advanced Communications Network) State Public Safety Radio system expanded coverage. The property is located on Grimes Road, Drummonds, TN 38023, on Tax Map 083,

Parcel 023.00 on 759-acres, Zoned: FAR.

Christina Humphrey: Is requesting a Use Permitted as A Special Exception for a Major Home Occupation to operate a Timeless Serenity Massage, LLC. The property is located at 384 Phillips Road, Brighton, TN 38011 on Tax Map 079M, Group A, Parcel 31.00 on 1.00-acre, Zoned: R-1.

TIPTON COUNTY CHANCERY COURT

1801 South College Street Covington, TN 38019- 0087 (901)476-0209

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

As Required by TCA §30-2-306

Case Number PR-5071
Estate of GLENN ALAN MARTIN, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that on July 29 of 2026 Letters Testamentary (or of Administration as the case may be) in respect of the estate of GLENN ALAN MARTIN, who died 7/9/2026, 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.

Date: 7/29/2026
Date: 7/29/2026
Date: 7/29/2026
RICHARD MARTIN AND SUZANNE MARTIN
Executer, Administrator, Personal Representative
W. Clark Washington
Attorney
GINA SMITH
Clerk & Master/ Deputy Clerk

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. 6Aug2wp

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

STATE OF TENNESSEE, TIPTON COUNTY

WHEREAS, Chelsea Elizabeth Bompreszi and Emily Elizabeth Redditt executed a Deed of Trust to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as beneficiary, as nominee for CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC, Lender and Staci Blackwell, Trustee(s), which was dated June 25, 2025, and recorded on June 30, 2025, in Book 2085, at Page 837 in Tipton County, Tennessee Register of Deeds.

WHEREAS, default having been made in the payment of the debt(s) and obligation(s) thereby secured by the said Deed of Trust and the current holder of said Deed of Trust, Tennessee Housing Development Agency, (the "Holder"), appointed the undersigned, Brock & Scott, PLLC, as Substitute Trustee, with all the rights, powers and privileges of the original Trustee named in said Deed of Trust; and NOW, THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that the entire indebtedness has been declared due and payable as provided in said Deed of Trust by the Holder, and that as agent for the undersigned, Brock & Scott, PLLC, Substitute Trustee, by virtue of the power and authority vested in it, will on September 17, 2026, at 10:00 AM at the usual and customary location at the Tipton County Courthouse, Covington, Tennessee, proceed to sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash, the following described property situated in Tipton County, Tennessee, to wit:

THE FOLLOWING PROPERTY SITUATED IN THE COUNTY OF TIPTON, STATE OF TENNESSEE, AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A STAKE IN THE CENTER OF THE STRONG ROAD, THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF LOT DESCRIBED, SAID STAKE BEING 5.85 DEG. WEST 179 FEET FROM THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF THE JAMES WILSON 6.8 ACRE TRACT OF WHICH THIS TRACT IS A PART. THENCE WITH SAID ROAD SOUTH 85 DEG WEST 24 FEET TO AN IRON PIN. SAID PIN BEING THE INTERSECTION OF THE STRONG ROAD AND MCCULLEY LANE TO THE SOUTH, THE CENTERLINE OF SAID LANE WAS DETERMINED BY THE LOCATION OF THE PRESENT ROAD, AND BEING ACCEPTABLE TO MR. PATTERSON ON THE WEST AND JAMES WILSON ON THE EAST; THENCE WITH THE CENTER OF MCCULLEY LANE, SOUTH 16 DEG WEST 114 FEET TO AN IRON STAKE; THENCE SOUTH 8-1/2 DEG EAST 190.5 FEET TO A STAKE IN SAID LANE; THENCE NORTH 71-3/4 DEG. EAST 114 FEET TO A STAKE; THENCE NORTH 17-1/4 DEG WEST 277 FEET TO THE

BEGINNING, CONTAINING .56 OF AN ACRE.

THERE IS EXCEPTED OUT OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED LOT A 10 FOOT STRIP ALONG THE WEST LINE OF THE LOT CONTAINING .06 OF AN ACRE, THIS AREA BEING ONE HALF OF A LANE DESIGNATED IN THE ORIGINAL DEED AS A 20 FOOT LANE LEAVING A NET AREA OF .5 OF AN ACRE.

Being the same property conveyed to Borrower herein by Warranty Deed being recorded simultaneously herewith.

Parcel ID Number: 110 001.13

Address/Description: 1029 Faulkner Rd, Atoka, TN 38004

Current Owner(s): Chelsea Bompreszi and Emily Redditt

Other Interested Party(ies): CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC

The sale of the property described above shall be subject to all matters shown on any recorded plat; any and all liens against said property for unpaid property taxes; any restrictive covenants, easements or set-back lines that may be applicable; any prior liens or encumbrances as well as any priority created by a fixture filing; a deed of trust; and any matter than an accurate survey of the premises might disclose; and All right and equity of redemption, statutory or otherwise, homestead, and dower are expressly waived in said Deed of Trust, and the title is believed to be good, but the undersigned will sell and convey only as Substitute Trustee. The right is reserved to adjourn the day of the sale to another day, time, and place certain without further publication, upon announcement at the time and place for the sale set forth above.

The website of the third-party internet posting company that is posting this advertisement pursuant to §35- 5-101(a)(2) is: WWW.BetterChoiceNotices.com

This office is attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Brock & Scott, PLLC, Substitute Trustee
c/o Tennessee Foreclosure Department
4360 Chamblee Dunwoody Road, Suite 310
Atlanta, GA 30341
PH: 404-789-2661 FX: 404-294-0919
File No.: 26-18936
FC01 –08-06/08-13

TIPTON COUNTY CHANCERY COURT

1801 South College Street Covington, TN 38019- 0087 (901)476-0209

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

As Required by TCA §30-2-306

Case Number PR-5056
Estate of JAMES W. HAYDEN, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that on June 23 of 2026 Letters Testamentary (or of Administration as the case may be) in respect of the estate of JAMES W. HAYDEN, who died 5/20/2026, 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 date of the decedent's date of death.

JO ANNA HAYDEN-GARBER

Executer, Administrator, Personal Representative
JOHN ROBERT WHITE
Attorney

Gina Smith, Clerk & Master

Clerk & Master/ Deputy Clerk 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 Leader, a newspaper published in Tipton County, Tennessee on and. 13Aug2wp

TIPTON COUNTY CHANCERY COURT

1801 South College Street Covington, TN 38019- 0087 (901)476-0209

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

As Required by TCA §30-2-306

Case Number PR-5068
Estate of LARRY KEITH KINNEY, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that on July 16 of 2026 Letters Testamentary (or of Administration as the case may be) in respect of the estate of LARRY KEITH KINNEY, who died 4/16/2026, 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.

HALEY KELLY

Executer, Administrator, Personal Representative
WILLIAM WOOTEN
Attorney
GINA SMITH, CLERK & MASTER

Clerk & Master/ Deputy Clerk

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 Leader, a newspaper published in Tipton County, Tennessee on and. 13Aug2wp

TIPTON COUNTY CHANCERY COURT

1801 South College Street Covington, TN 38019- 0087 (901)476-0209

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

As Required by TCA §30-2-306

Case Number PR-5054

Estate of Josephine Dixon, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that on June 16 of 2026 Letters Testamentary (or of Administration as the case may be) in respect of the estate of Josephine Dixon, who died 5/10/2026, 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.

Tina Grosnick
Executer, Administrator, Personal Representative
WILLIAM A. WOOTEN
Attorney

Gina Smith, Clerk and

Master

Clerk & Master/ Deputy Clerk

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. 13Aug2wp

TIPTON COUNTY CHANCERY COURT

1801 South College Street Covington, TN 38019- 0087 (901)476-0209

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

As Required by TCA §30-2-306

Case Number PR-5070
Estate of DEBBIE DARLENE TRAVIS, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that on July 27 of 2026 Letters Testamentary (or of Administration as the case may be) in respect of the estate of DEBBIE DARLENE TRAVIS, who died 5/5/2026, 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

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.

SCOTTY MCDIVITT
Executer, Administrator, Personal Representative
WILLIAM WOOTEN
Attorney

GINA SMITH
Clerk & Master/ Deputy Clerk

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. 13aug2wp

Notice for Intent to Apply for Title for Motor Vehicle

2729 Dolan RD, Drummonds, TN 38023

intends to apply for a title for the following vehicle:

2000 Ford Ranger IFTYR14V 6YPB71276

Any and all parties claiming to hold interest in said vehicle shall contact the above address by certified mail, return receipt requested, within fourteen (14) business days of the date of this publication.

NOTICE TO FURNISHERS OF LABOR AND MATERIALS TO: Harper Construction, LLC PROJECT NO.: R4BVAR-M3-062 CONTRACT NO.: CNY266 COUNTY: Tipton

The Tennessee Department of Transportation is about to make final settlement with the contractor for construction of the above numbered project. All persons wishing to file claims pursuant to Section 54-5-122, T.C.A. must file same with the Director of Construction, Tennessee Department of Transportation, Suite 700 James K. Polk Bldg., Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0326, on or before 9/18/2026.

NOTICE TO FURNISHERS OF LABOR AND MATERIALS TO: Superior Traffic Control, LLC PROJECT NO.: R4BVAR-M3-053 CONTRACT NO.: CNY143 COUNTY: Tipton

The Tennessee Department of Transportation is about to make final settlement with the contractor for construction of the above numbered project. All persons wishing to file claims pursuant to Section 54-5-122, T.C.A. must file same with the Director of Construction, Tennessee Department of Transportation, Suite 700 James K. Polk Bldg., Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0326, on or before 9/25/2026.

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Three Millington restaurants improve on follow-up inspections; El Toro Taco scores 85

MILLINGTON — Three Millington restaurants cited in late July improved their scores in follow-up inspections August 10, though several of the original problems remained, among nine Millington inspections during the week of August 4 through 11.

Sonic, 8097 Hwy 51 N., rose to 93 from the 83 it received July 29. The hot dog and corn dog cooler was again recorded reading 55 degrees, and the report repeated citations for ice buildup in the hamburger freezer, a leaking three-compartment sink in the ice cream area with an inoperable cold water faucet handle, a missing dumpster lid with trash on the ground, and a ceiling tile leaking water in three areas of the food prep area.

Mandarin Wok II, 8023 Hwy 51 N., improved to 94 from 89, though the report again cited unlabeled foods in the prep and walk-in coolers, employees without hair restraints, wiping cloths on prep tables, single-use to-go bowls stored in flour and sugar containers, an unclean men’s restroom toilet, trash near the dumpster and no current permit posted. Subway, 7956 Austin Peay Hwy., also improved to 94 from 89, with flies and other insects again observed and food boxes again stored on the floor.

El Toro Taco, 8067 Hwy 51 N., posted the week’s lowest score at 85 in a routine inspection August 4. The inspector found temperature-controlled foods not maintained at 41 degrees or below, which the person in charge discarded, along with brown buildup inside the ice machine and pink buildup in the drink machine ice dispenser. The report also cited a worn microwave interior, Daisy sour cream containers reused to store salsa and other foods, stained and heavily damaged ceiling tile throughout the establishment, missing light bulbs in a heating unit and personal items stored in food prep and dry storage areas.

VFW Post #7175, 4681 Cuba Millington Rd., scored 89 in a routine inspection August 4, with brown buildup inside two ice machines, a can opener with heavy buildup, a worn cutting board with deep grooves, unlabeled condiment bottles, a large opening at the rear door, ice buildup in a deep freezer, a missing dumpster drain plug and non-smooth ceiling tile throughout the food prep area. The post’s main bar, inspected the same day, scored 99, cited only for the non-smooth ceiling tile.

Burger King, 4663 Navy Rd., and Lenny’s Sub Shop #28, 8265 Hwy. 51 N., each scored 91 on August 6. At Burger King the inspector found green and black buildup on the lobby ice machine dispenser and black buildup on a panel inside the ice machine, directing that ice be discarded and the machine washed, rinsed and sanitized. At Lenny’s, an excessively worn cutting board with deep grooves and black buildup on the ice machine dispenser were cited.

Firehouse Subs, 8701 US-51, scored 95 on August 5, with drain flies observed near the hand sink, prep cooler station and drink station; the inspector directed the operator to clean routinely and contact pest control for treatment.

Inspection reports are public record. Complete reports are available at inspections.myhealthdepartment.com/tennessee.

This Week’s Inspections at a Glance
Millington health inspections, August 4-11, 2026. Source: Tennessee Department of Health / Shelby County Health Department.

Subway (Shreena Inc.) — 7956 Austin Peay Hwy.
Food service, follow-up, August 10 — Score: 94 (up from 89 on July 30)
Thermometers not observed in walk-in cooler and walk-in freezer.
Flies and other insects observed during the inspection.
Boxes of soda and sliced pickles stored on floor.
Employees prepping without proper hair restraint.
Dumpster side doors open during the inspection.
Most recent inspection not posted.
Provide no-smoking sign at entrance door.

Sonic — 8097 Hwy 51 N.
Food service, follow-up, August 10 — Score: 93 (up from 83 on July 29)
Hot dog/corn dog cooler reading 55 degrees.

Employees prepping food without proper hair restraints.
Ice buildup inside hamburger freezer.
Three-compartment sink in ice cream area leaking; cold water faucet handle inoperable.
Dumpster lid missing and trash on the ground inside the dumpster enclosure.
Ceiling tile leaking water in three areas of the food prep area.

Mandarin Wok II — 8023 Hwy 51 N.
Food service, follow-up, August 10 — Score: 94 (up from 89 on July 30)
Temperature-controlled foods not labeled in prep cooler and walk-in cooler.
Employees not wearing proper hair restraints while prepping food.
Several wiping cloths stored on prep tables.
Single-use to-go bowls stored in flour and sugar containers.
Men’s restroom toilet not clean.
Trash on the ground near dumpster.
Current permit not posted.

Burger King — 4663 Navy Rd.
Food service, routine, August 6 — Score: 91
Green and black buildup on the ice machine dispenser in lobby area; discard ice and sanitize.
Black buildup on white panel inside the ice machine; discard ice and sanitize.
Breaded food items in containers not covered inside Turbo Air freezer.
Coffee filters uncovered on rack with cups, coffee and tea bags.
Hand sink next to ice cream machine has heavy black buildup.
Ice buildup inside hamburger patty freezer.
Heavy buildup observed in oven.
Dumpster side door open during the inspection.

Lenny’s Sub Shop #28 — 8265 Hwy. 51 N.
Food service, routine, August 6 — Score: 91
Cutting board on prep cooler excessively worn with deep grooves.
Black buildup on ice machine dispenser; discard ice and sanitize.
Bottles in food prep area not labeled.
Employee not wearing proper hair restraint.
Heavy food buildup inside microwave.
Personal items stored on rack in food prep area.
Provide no-smoking sign at entrance.

Covington Post Acute

COVINGTON, Tenn. Covington Post Acute continues to set the standard for compassionate, high-quality healthcare by providing skilled nursing, rehabilitation, and long-term care in an environment where residents are treated like family. Guided by its philosophy, “Home Is Here... Because You’re Family,” the facility is dedicated to helping every resident achieve the highest possible level of health, independence, and quality of life while receiving personalized care in a warm and welcoming setting.

Whether recovering from surgery, illness, injury, or managing a chronic medical condition, residents benefit from individualized treatment plans developed by an experienced interdisciplinary team. Covington Post Acute offers a full continuum of healthcare services designed to meet each person’s unique needs while promoting recovery, comfort, and dignity.

Services include short term rehabilitation, skilled nursing care, long term care, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, respiratory care, wound care, IV therapy, pet therapy, nutritional services, and assistance with Veterans Affairs benefits. Every member of the care team is committed to delivering exceptional clinical care while building meaningful relationships with residents and their families.

At Covington Post Acute, healing extends beyond medical treatment. The facility recognizes that emotional well-being plays a vital role in recovery and overall health. Residents enjoy a full calendar of engaging activities that encourage social interaction, physical wellness, creativity, and cognitive stimulation. Daily programs include exercise classes, arts and crafts, Bible study, music, games, trivia, coffee socials, and family events that create opportunities for connection and friendship while enriching the lives of residents.

Family involvement is an important part of the care experience. Covington Post Acute encourages loved ones to visit frequently, participate in activities, and even share home style meals with residents. Open communication and personalized care planning help families stay informed and involved throughout every stage of their loved one’s healthcare journey.

The facility also maintains strong relationships with local hospitals, physicians, rehabilitation providers, hospice organizations, veterans’ organizations, and other healthcare professionals throughout West Tennessee. These partnerships help ensure smooth transitions of care and allow patients to receive the services they need while remaining close to home and surrounded by those who matter most.

“Our mission is simple,” said the team at Covington Post Acute. “We are committed to providing compassionate, personalized care that treats every resident with dignity, respect, and kindness. When families choose Covington Post Acute, they become part of our family, and we are honored to serve them every step of the way.”

Community members who are exploring rehabilitation following a hospital stay or seeking long term skilled nursing care are invited to schedule a personal tour, meet the dedicated care team, and experience the welcoming atmosphere that makes Covington Post Acute a trusted healthcare provider.

Covington Post Acute proudly continues its commitment to serving West Tennessee by helping residents recover, regain independence, and enjoy the comfort of a place where Home Is Here... Because You’re Family.

Contact Information
Covington Post Acute
Contact: Dr. Tamekia Dancy
Phone: 901-475-0027/
Cell: 731-882-0334
Email: tamekiadancy@linkshealth.com
Address: 765 Bert Johnson Covington, TN 38019



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Munford handles Houston in preseason scrimmage

Munford High School continued its preseason preparation with a strong 48-10 victory over Houston High School in a scrimmage on Friday. The Cougars used an explosive rushing attack and a strong defensive performance to control the game from start to finish.

Munford established its offensive rhythm early, finding success on the ground against the Houston defense. The Cougars consistently created running lanes and turned several of their opportunities into

long gains and touchdowns throughout the scrimmage.

Tay Starks led the way for Munford with 137 rushing yards on 10 carries and two touchdowns. His biggest play of the night came on a 71-yard touchdown run that showcased the speed and explosiveness the Cougars can bring to the field.

Qua Bell also had a productive night, rushing eight times for 78 yards and a touchdown. Bell provided another big-play threat for the Munford offense, including a 40-yard touch-

down run.

Germarione Turner added 75 rushing yards on six carries and scored on a 44-yard touchdown run. D. Mooneyham contributed 57 rushing yards on six attempts, while Tay Starks added 43 yards on seven carries.

Munford also received touchdown contributions from Jaheim Smith, Amare Bell and Jr. Cunningham. Smith scored on a 10-yard run, Bell found the end zone on a two-yard run and Cunningham added a three-yard touchdown run.

The Cougars finished the night with 48 points while Houston managed 10 points against the Munford defense. Houston scored on a four-yard touchdown run and added a 39-yard field goal, but the Mustangs were unable to consistently move the ball against Munford.

Munford's defense also showed signs of progress as the Cougars recorded multiple tackles for loss and sacks. The defense also forced a Houston fumble, giving the Cougars another positive takeaway from the

preseason matchup.

While the final score was impressive, the primary goal of the scrimmage was to give Munford an opportunity to evaluate its players and continue preparing for the regular season. The Cougars will now have another opportunity to sharpen their execution before the games begin to count.

Munford's next preseason test will come Friday at the Dyersburg Jamboree against Dyer County. The matchup will give the Cougars one final opportunity to work through

adjustments and build momentum before opening the regular season.

The Cougars will officially begin their 2026 season on Thursday, Aug. 20, when they travel into the regular-season schedule against Memphis Business Academy. After a strong showing against Houston, Munford will look to carry its offensive explosiveness and defensive intensity into the final preseason tune-up and eventually into the regular season.

TWRA SEEKING PUBLIC INPUT ON BLACK BASS MANAGEMENT PLAN

NASHVILLE --- The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) is finalizing a process to develop a statewide Black Bass Management Plan and is inviting the public to provide input on the Tennessee Black Bass Management Plan. This plan builds on the work of previous plans and incorporates all stakeholders' values. The Tennessee Black Bass Management Plan is designed to provide broad guidance on policies for addressing the complex management challenges and issues related to producing desirable bass fishing experiences in Tennessee.

The plan is the result of the joint work of TWRA and a stakeholder advisory committee (citizen volunteers who represent a cross-section of bass fishing interests). It includes management goals that reflect stakeholder values, specific objectives designed to attain each goal, as well as potential general strategies for meeting objectives. The plan provides broad guidance for the TWRA commissioners and TWRA staff for managing black bass in

Tennessee. Informative, but it does not replace the existing process for setting fishing regulations.

The public can provide comments in several ways. First, the plan is now available on the Fishing Section of the TWRA website. Stakeholders can read the plan and/or watch a short video summarizing the process of developing the plan and details on the seven key areas. Also online is a survey where stakeholders can submit their comments anonymously. The public comment period will be open until Sept. 4, 2026.

The public is also invited to a series of public meetings where they can learn more information and interact with TWRA staff. These public meetings will be an open-house format so individuals can attend if they wish (there is no formal presentation).

Five public meetings will be held across Tennessee on the following dates, all times local:

August 11: Paris, 6-7:30 p.m., Henry County Fairgrounds, 517 Royal Oak Drive, Paris, TN 38242

August 18: Birchwood, 6-7:30 p.m., Birchwood Elementary School, 5623 Highway 60, Birchwood, TN 37308

August 20: Kodak, 6-7:30 p.m., Bass Pro Shops, 3629 Outdoor Sportsman Pl, Kodak, TN 37764

August 25: Nashville, 6-7:30 p.m., Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency Region 2 Office, 5105 Edmondson Pike, Nashville, TN 37211

August 27: Johnson City, 6-7:30 p.m., Johnson City Public Library, 100 West Millard Street, Johnson City, TN 37604

For more information, please contact Vic DiCenzo (vic.dicenzo@tn.gov).

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency is responsible for protecting, managing, and conserving fish and wildlife species for the benefit of Tennesseans and visitors. The Agency also maintains public safety through law enforcement and safety education on waterways.

—TWRA—

Tennessee gas prices fall 12 cents over past week

Tennessee motorists saw some relief at the pump over the past week, with the statewide average price of gasoline dropping more than 12 cents per gallon, according to fuel price tracking service GasBuddy.

Gasoline prices in Tennessee averaged \$3.52 per gallon Monday, down 12.2 cents from a week earlier. Despite the recent decline, prices remain 2.7 cents higher than a month ago and 77 cents higher than at the same time last year.

GasBuddy reported a wide range of prices across the state Sunday, with the lowest reported price at \$3.02 per gallon and the highest at \$5.60, a difference of \$2.58 per gallon.

The decline in Tennessee reflected a broader drop in fuel prices across much of the country. The national average fell 10.7 cents during the past week to \$3.94 per gallon.

National gasoline prices remain 9.5 cents higher than a month ago and 85.6 cents higher than a year ago.

Diesel prices also declined, although not as sharply. The

national average price for diesel fell 5.1 cents during the past week to \$5.275 per gallon.

Among nearby markets, Chattanooga had one of the sharper weekly declines, with prices falling 21 cents to an average of \$3.35 per gallon. Nashville prices declined 11.3 cents to \$3.56, while Huntsville, Alabama, prices fell 9.8 cents to \$3.58.

The current Tennessee average is considerably higher than it was one year ago. On Aug. 10, 2025, Tennessee gasoline averaged \$2.75 per gallon, compared with a national average of \$3.08.

Five years ago, on Aug. 10, 2021, Tennessee motorists were paying an average of \$2.86 per gallon.

Recent prices are closer to levels seen during 2022 and 2023. Tennessee gasoline averaged \$3.53 per gallon on Aug. 10, 2022, and \$3.42 on the same date in 2023.

Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy, said gasoline prices declined during the past week in 47 states, while diesel prices

fell in 39.

De Haan cautioned, however, that the decline may not continue.

He said instability in global petroleum markets, including Ukrainian attacks on Russian oil refineries and uncertainty surrounding Iran and the Strait of Hormuz, could again place upward pressure on fuel prices.

Oil prices moved modestly higher Sunday night, according to De Haan, as uncertainty continued over when the Strait of Hormuz could reopen.

"For now, enjoy the dip," De Haan said, while cautioning motorists to watch developments involving the strait in the coming days.

GasBuddy compiles its national figures from more than 11 million weekly price reports covering more than 150,000 gas stations. Its Tennessee average is based on a survey of 3,821 stations across the state.



Covington, shown here last year against Obion Central, will host Millington on Friday in a jamboree before beginning the regular season Aug. 21 at Lakeland Prep.

Brighton, Covington, Munford to play in jamborees Friday

Jeff Ireland
jeff@magicvalleypublishing.com

It's only early August, but football is upon us.

All three Tipton County high school football teams — Brighton, Covington and Munford — will play in jamborees this Friday, Aug. 14.

Brighton and Munford will play in the STAR Physical Therapy/West Tennessee Bone and Joint Institute Jamboree at J.C. Sawyers Stadium in Dyersburg. The event starts at 6 p.m. Brighton will take on Obion County in the opener and Munford plays Dyer County immediately after. Dyersburg plays Lake County in the finale. Admission is \$10.

Covington will host Millington in a two-team jamboree on Friday that starts at 7 p.m.

The Chargers are coming off a 2025 season in which they went 12-2 and made the state semifinals, where they

lost to Westview, the Class 3A state champs. Covington opens the season Aug. 22 on the road vs. Lakeland Prep.

Munford went 10-2 last season, falling in the second round of the playoffs to Beech. The Cougars open the season on Thursday, Aug. 20, at home against Memphis Business Academy.

The Cardinals, who went 3-8 last season, open the season at home on Friday, Aug. 21, against PURE Academy.

TWRA'S SUMMER WILD TURKEY SURVEY ENTERS FINAL MONTH

NASHVILLE --- The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) is reminding Tennesseans and visitors to take part in the 2026 wild turkey summer observation survey. The survey is open to the public and continues through Aug 31.

"As we begin to wind down another summer, please remember to report your sightings of wild turkeys to TWRA via the annual summer turkey survey," said Roger Shields, TWRA Wild Turkey Program Coordinator. "Whether you see gobblers, jakes, hens with poults, or hens without poults, they are all important observations for the survey. So please take time to report any turkeys you see this month."

The Agency had set a goal of having at least 30 observa-

tions from each of the state's 95 counties. TWRA received reports of sightings from all but Crockett County last summer.

Agency staff have conducted this survey annually since the 1980s, with public participation now in its fifth year. The main purpose of the summer survey is to obtain wild turkey reproduction and population data that can be compared with results from previous years to evaluate population trends. Survey participants help the TWRA monitor the state's wild turkey population by reporting wild turkey sightings. For more information on the survey and how to participate, visit www.tn.gov/twra/turkeyjobs.

For those interested in participating in the survey for

the first time, the website will explain why TWRA conducts the survey, provide an ID tutorial with a quiz to test one's knowledge of turkey ID, and provide links to the actual forms to submit observations.

The public can read the TWRA's wild turkey status reports and summaries of past years' survey results by visiting <https://www.tn.gov/content/tn/twra/hunting/big-game/turkey.html#biology>.

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency is responsible for protecting, managing, and conserving fish and wildlife species for the benefit of Tennesseans and visitors. The Agency also maintains public safety through law enforcement and safety education on waterways.

—TWRA—

VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves

Let's hear it for whistleblowers, especially when big money is involved, and most especially when some of that money should have gone into the pockets of veterans.

Specifically, starting in 2001, non-VA medical providers and veterans had 90 days to file for reimbursement for veterans who had sought emergency care. Then in 2022 the Cleland-Dole Act added the requirement that non-VA providers submit payment requests within 180 days for providing nonemergency care. However, there was no mention of veterans having that same 180-day time limit

to file for reimbursement, or any time limit at all.

The VA continued, however, to apply the original 90-day payment limit.

Enter the VA Office of Inspector General because of the whistleblower. When asked, the VA identified 78,000 claims -- to the tune of \$373 million -- that had been denied because they didn't meet the 90-day limit. And no, they hadn't reviewed those 78,000 denied claims. Apparently there was confusion due to the fact that the law was written to give non-VA providers that 180 days, but not veterans.

Further confusion (or so it was said) arose because it wasn't clear whether the 90-day filing period should begin on the date of discharge, the date of a veteran's death during emergency treatment or the date it became clear that a third-party payer would

not cover the claim. The VA sought clarification from the policy department ... and promptly dropped the ball, not pursuing answers.

The VA began processing those claims, leaving it to the individual claims processors to decide whether they would use the 90- or 180-day limitation.

If you need to get emergency care at a non-VA medical facility, there are some rules you need to know so it will be paid for. You can read the info at www.va.gov/resources/getting-emergency-care-at-non-va-facilities so you'll know what you should do in an emergency. For example, going to urgent care doesn't count. And someone needs to tell the VA within 72 hours that you've had a medical emergency. You can notify the VA at 844-724-7842.

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\$3,000
ADDED MONEY

ENTRY FEES Classes 1-17: \$10.00 per class Classes 18-21: \$15.00 per class	PAYBACK 70/30 of Entry Fees 100% of Added Money Paid Back	DRESS CODE FULL DRESS REQUIRED <i>English or Western attire required</i>	GATE FEE \$5.00 PER VEHICLE	CONTACT Prudy Jackett 731-612-2359 Heather Wolfe 901-825-7478
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★ RIDE AT YOUR OWN RISK ★

★ CURRENT COGGINS REQUIRED ★

★ CLASS SCHEDULE ★

- Youth Halter - 17 and under
- Adult Halter - 18 and older
- Lead In - 8 years and under
- Country Pleasure Barefoot or Keg shod only (walk and favorite gait)
- Men's Saddle Horse 18 years and older (flatshod, walk and favorite gait)
- Spotted Saddle Horse (FlatShod, Show Walk, Favorite Gait)
- Flat Shod Saddle Horse Open (Flatshod, walk and favorite gait)
- Youth FlatShod Saddle Horse 17 and under (flatshod, walk and favorite gait)
- Open Gaited (padded or flatshod, walk and favorite gait)
- Singlefooting mares and geldings (kegshod - slow single foot - fast single foot)
- Style Racking (Open Shod, Show Walk and Style Rack)
- Ladies Saddle horse 18 and Over (FlatShod, Walk and Favorite Gait)
- Youth Speed Racking 17 and under (walk, slow Rack and fast rack)
- Speed Racking Open
- Best Gaited Singlefooting (kegshod - slow single foot - fast single foot)
- Padded Saddle Horse
- Country Speed Racking (1 1/2" by 1" max shoe, Brisk walk, slow Rack and extended Rack)
- Championship singlefooting Open (kegshod - slow single foot - fast single foot)
- Championship Flat shod (flatshod, walk and favorite gait)
- Championship Gaited horse (OpenShod, walk and favorite gait)
- Championship Open Speed Racking

★ 20 MINUTE INTERMISSION ★
(Between Class 6 and Class 7)

★ 20 MINUTE INTERMISSION ★
(After Class 17)

★ 20 MINUTE INTERMISSION ★
Nitty Gritty to perform!

Come spend an evening with some of the best

RACKING HORSES
★ IN THE SOUTH! ★