

The Leader

Missing Brighton man found alive after three-day search

Silver Alert leads to massive multi-agency effort in Lake County



IN CUSTODY: Marquese Green was taken into custody Tuesday night after authorities had searched for him since early Monday morning in the Burlison area. Tipton County Sheriff Shannon Beasley said Green was wanted on a parole violation and now faces additional charges stemming from the pursuit.

Suspect sought after Munford-area pursuit taken into custody

A man sought by law enforcement following an early-morning vehicle pursuit in the Munford and Burlison areas was taken into custody Tuesday night, according to Tipton County Sheriff Shannon Beasley.

Marquese Green was apprehended at approximately 10:30 p.m. Tuesday after authorities had searched for him for more than a day.

The incident began around 2:30 a.m. Monday when Munford Police Department officers and Tipton County sheriff's deputies pursued a vehicle that crashed on Dawson Road. Beasley said the driver was able to flee from officers following the crash.

Around 7 a.m., deputies received a report of a suspicious man in the area of U.S. High-

SEE CUSTODY, PAGE A2

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"My only advice is, follow your dream and do whatever you like to do the most. I chose journalism because I wanted to be in the places where history was being made."

— Jorge Ramos

OBITUARIES

Beverly Mosley
Lucy Taylor
Robert Whitley
William Townsend

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A three-day search for an 81-year-old Tipton County man ended with a happy outcome Monday evening when Homer Billings was found alive in a dense, remote area of Lake County near the Mississippi River.

The search brought law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency responders and search-and-rescue personnel from across West Tennessee to Lake County, where crews battled extreme heat and thick vegetation before Billings was located.

Billings had left his Brighton home during the early morning hours of Saturday, Aug. 29. Because he suffers from a medical condition that raised concerns for his safety, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation issued a Silver Alert.

According to Tipton County Sheriff Shannon Beasley, automatic license plate reader technology showed Billings had traveled north and was last seen in Dyersburg at approximately 6:30 a.m. Saturday.

Information from Billings' cellphone placed the

device near Caruthersville, Missouri, while a tracking system associated with his vehicle indicated the Tiptonville area. Though separated by the Mississippi River, the two locations are relatively close geographically. Authorities in both areas began searching.

Lake County Sheriff's Office Deputy Trey Wood played an early role in the local search when he located Billings' vehicle. Wood, who has served as a Lake County deputy for seven years, has completed more than 40 hours of specialized search-and-rescue training through the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy. That training became particularly relevant as the search moved into the heavily wooded areas of Lake County.

On Sunday, surveillance video from a residence on Shepp Road in Lake County confirmed Billings had been in the area Saturday morning. Search efforts then concentrated on Lake County.

Another major break came Monday when a game camera captured an im-



Search personnel gather in Lake County on Monday night after Homer Billings was found alive and reunited with his family.

age of Billings on foot in a heavily wooded, rural area near the Mississippi River. That discovery brought an even larger response as authorities and first responders converged on Lake County.

The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and Madison County Fire/Search and Rescue established a command post and developed a methodical search plan using GPS and satellite technology. Search crews were assigned specific areas, while personnel searched on

foot, from the air and with bloodhounds.

Tipton County sent 11 deputies and six fire and rescue personnel to assist.

Lake County Sheriff's Office, Lake County EMA, Tiptonville Police Department, Ridgely Police Department, Tennessee Highway Patrol, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency and numerous other agencies also participated in the effort.

At approximately 7:20 p.m. Monday, Billings was



Homer Billings

located by a Tipton County deputy lying in dense terrain not far from the area where

SEE SEARCH, PAGE A2

Daugherty takes office as Tipton County Executive

William "Billy" Daugherty officially took office Tuesday, Sept. 1, as Tipton County Executive, beginning a four-year term leading county government.

Daugherty succeeds longtime County Executive Jeff Huffman, who did not seek another term in 2026. Daugherty won the Republican nomination earlier this year and was elected in the Aug. 6 county general election. The University of Tennessee County Technical Assistance Service now lists Daugherty as Tipton County's county executive.

His Sept. 1 start date is consistent with Tennessee's statewide transition for county officials elected this year. The Tennessee County Services Association reported that 48

SEE DAUGHERTY, PAGE A2



NEW COUNTY EXECUTIVE: Billy Daugherty officially began his term as Tipton County Executive on Sept. 1. The Covington High School graduate brings decades of local government experience to the position, including more than 22 years with the Tipton County Sheriff's Office and five years as chief financial officer for Tipton County Schools.



OVERDOSE AWARENESS: Community members, local officials, law enforcement representatives and families gathered at the Tipton County Courthouse to observe International Overdose Awareness Day. Purple ribbons and empty chairs were used to remember Tipton County residents who lost their lives to overdose in 2024.

Tipton County community gathers to remember overdose victims

Community members gathered at the Tipton County Courthouse recently to remember lives lost to drug

overdoses and offer support to families affected by substance use.

The gathering was held in

recognition of International Overdose Awareness Day, an annual observance intended

SEE OVERDOSE, PAGE A2



RIBBON CUTTING: Representatives of Covington Sharks Fish and Chicken joined members of the Covington-Tipton County Chamber of Commerce and community supporters for a ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the restaurant's grand opening. The new restaurant offers a menu featuring chicken, fish, sandwiches, wings and a variety of side dishes.

Covington Sharks Fish and Chicken celebrates grand opening

Covington Sharks Fish and Chicken officially joined the local business community with a grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony recently hosted by the Covington-Tipton County Chamber of Commerce.

Chamber representatives, community members and restaurant staff gathered for the celebration, welcoming the new eatery to Tipton County.

Covington Sharks Fish and Chicken offers a broad menu centered around fried chicken and seafood, along with wings, sandwiches, salads and a variety of sides and combination meals.

The Chamber congratulated the business on its opening and encouraged residents to give the new restaurant a try.

"We're excited to welcome this new restaurant to our community and celebrate another local business bringing delicious food and new options to Tipton County," the Chamber said in announcing the ribbon cutting.

The Chamber also thanked those who attended the ceremony and wished Covington Sharks Fish and Chicken success as it begins serving customers in the Covington community.



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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. 23 through Aug. 29, 2026. Bond amounts are listed where the report set a dollar figure.

Brittany Marie Arnold, 39, Covington — Public intoxication; disorderly conduct; assault (two counts); failure to appear (Lauderdale County warrant). Bond: \$5,000.

Anthony Thomas Bates, 45, Covington — Felony evading arrest (Tipton County warrant); possession of drug paraphernalia; manufacture/delivery/sale of a controlled substance; manufacture/delivery/sale/possession of methamphetamine. Bond: \$15,500.

Marquice D'Andre Beasley, 33, Millington — Driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license; financial responsibility (no insurance); driving an unregistered vehicle; open container. Bond: \$15,000.

Tracy Lynn Blackwell, 62, Covington — Simple possession/casual exchange (two counts, violation of probation, Schedule VI).

Chris Brown, 46, Memphis — Driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license.

Shereka Lashun Brown, 46, Memphis — Warrant arrest for another agency (Shelby County — domestic assault).

Tristan Alexander Brown, 29, Atoka — Aggravated domestic assault. Bond: \$15,000.

Larry Jay Chairs, 60, Hickory Valley — Disorderly conduct.

Schylar Steven Cook, 35, Covington — Possession of drug paraphernalia; resisting stop, frisk, halt, arrest or search; unlawful possession of a weapon; financial responsibility (no insurance); driving on roadways laned for traffic; simple possession/casual exchange (Schedule VI, marijuana). Bond: \$40,000.

Dante Lashun Craig, 37, Memphis — Driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license.

Nathan Oneal Currie, 33, Covington — Simple possession/casual exchange (violation of probation, methamphetamine); possession of drug paraphernalia; resisting stop, frisk, halt, arrest or search. Bond: \$5,000.

Shedaria Dannelle Davis, 24, Memphis — Warrant arrest for another agency (three counts — theft of merchandise over \$1,000, child restraint, domestic).

Bryan Chevelle Dawson, 32, Atoka — Driving while license cancelled, suspended or revoked (violation of probation); driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license (Shelby County).

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

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

Luke Gargarin Douglas, 32, Millington — Possession of drug paraphernalia; manufacture/delivery/sale of a controlled substance.

Cayla Rochelle Edwards, 26, Brighton — Unlawful possession of a weapon; driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license (Shelby County warrant).

Anthony Troy Engel, 58, Covington — Evading arrest (Shelby County warrant).

Brandon Raymele Fayne, 37, Covington — Manufacture/delivery/sale of a controlled substance (violation of probation warrant).

Camia Adrianna Fields, 22, Covington — DUI, 1st offense; violation of the implied consent law; driving on roadways laned for traffic. Bond: \$10,000.

Eumonze Flowers, 44,

Covington — Failure to pay child support (three counts, one for Lauderdale County); evading arrest; driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license; domestic assault.

Christopher Brian Ford, 48, Brighton — Theft; aggravated assault (with injury). Bond: \$25,000.

Kimajah S. Ford, 22, Henning — Harassment/intimidation. Bond: \$10,000.

Michael Matthew Forrest, 36, Munford — Aggravated cruelty to animals. Bond: \$15,000.

Shaquille Foster, 32, Covington — Theft under \$1,000. Bond: \$10,000.

Nicholas Fulton, 20, Memphis — Theft of merchandise/shoplifting (up to \$1,000). Bond: \$3,500.

Candise Eve Goudy, 45, Memphis — Driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license (two counts); failure to appear (Shelby County).

Jennifer Graham-Nance, 51, Millington — Aggravated domestic assault (two counts).

Larry Grandberry, 40, Covington — Tampering with evidence; resisting stop, frisk, halt, arrest or search; evading arrest; simple possession/casual exchange; financial responsibility (no insurance); violation of registration law; disregarding a stop sign. Bond: \$25,000.

Dean Thomas Grimley, 44, Brighton — Resisting stop, frisk, halt, arrest or search; assault on a first responder.

Billy Beamon Hackle, 37, Dyersburg — Driving on roadways laned for traffic; possession of drug paraphernalia; simple possession/casual exchange (fentanyl). Bond: \$7,500.

Donnie Ray Hall, 51, Memphis — Manufacture/delivery/sale/possession of methamphetamine (Shelby County warrant).

Destayne Hammond, 22, Dyersburg — Evading arrest.

Brittney Nichole Harris, 37, Covington — Shoplifting (violation of probation warrant).

Marivian Rashun Heaston, 22, Covington — Driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license; violation of window tint laws; resisting stop, frisk, halt, arrest or search; theft of merchandise/shoplifting (\$1,000-\$2,500, violation of probation). Bond: \$5,000.

Roland Heathington, 42, Covington — Theft of a motor vehicle; domestic assault. Bond: \$15,000.

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

Jordan Daeshun Hill, 28, Covington — Simple possession/casual exchange (Schedule II).

Justin Dean House, 38, Covington — Assault (Shelby County warrant).

Trevor Allen Hunt, 34, Covington — Domestic assault; filing a false report. Bond: \$15,000.

Treon Demarco Ingram, 27, Memphis — First-degree murder.

Anthony Jefferson, 39, Memphis — Reckless endangerment.

Kayla Jean Jones, 38, Covington — Driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license; seat belt law violation. Bond: \$2,500.

Kurtis Montroy Jones, 27, Stanton — Driving while license cancelled, suspended or revoked. Bond: \$2,500.

Lucas Lorenzo Jones, 39, Drummonds — Ignition interlock required; DUI, 1st offense (violation of probation). Bond: \$5,000.

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

Michael Garrett Kaneer, 51, Millington — Domestic assault; vandalism (\$1,000-\$2,500). Bond: \$10,000.

Clarence James Kurrus Jr., 46, Burlison — Failure to pay child support (two counts, Tipton County warrants). Bond: \$3,000.

Hailey Nicole Lindsey, 31, Covington — Driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license.

Jenifer Casey Littles, 39, Henning — Simple possession/casual exchange (Schedule IV); financial responsibility (no insurance); driving on roadways laned for traffic.

Elisa Gail Locke, 40, Millington — Driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license. Bond: \$2,500.

Tyrone Lavelle Macklin Jr., 30, Covington — DUI, 1st offense; driving on roadways laned for traffic; driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license; resisting stop, frisk, halt, arrest or search.

Bailee Elizabeth McAnulty, 29, Munford — Domestic assault. Bond: \$15,000.

Amanda Carol McNeil, 39, Munford — Child endangerment. Bond: \$5,000.

David Adam McNeil, 39, Munford — Manufacture/delivery/sale of a controlled substance. Bond: \$500,000.

David Lee McNeil, 68, Brighton — Manufacture/delivery/sale of a controlled substance (Schedule VI with intent); possession of a firearm during the commission of a dangerous felony. Bond: \$10,000.

Reginald Quave Miller, 47, Memphis — Simple possession/casual exchange (failure to appear); DUI, 1st offense.

Cedric Keith Mitchell, 59, Mason — Failure to pay child support. Bond: \$1,500.

Christina Marie Murillo, 42, Drummonds — Domestic assault (two counts); introduction of contraband into a penal institution; manufacture/delivery/sale of a controlled substance. Bond: \$20,000.

Jeremy Wayne Myers, 40, Covington — Assault; purchasing beer for a minor. Bond: \$30,000.

Johnathan Nelson, 51, Jackson — DUI, 1st offense.

Luke Perry, 71, Brighton — Driving on roadways laned for traffic; violation of the implied consent law; DUI, 1st offense. Bond: \$10,000.

Amanda Renea Pierce, 36, Covington — Driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license (violation of probation); driving without a license. Bond: \$350.

Mark Justin Prewitt, 38, Covington — Assault. Bond: \$20,000.

Brandon Connor Price, 23, Drummonds — Driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license; financial responsibility (no insurance); violation of light law; leaving the scene of an accident (property damage).

Robert Jeff Rush Jr., 44, Germantown — Failure to exercise due care; violation of the implied consent law; DUI, 1st offense. Bond: \$15,000.

Hunter Scarbrough, 28, Covington — Public intoxication; domestic assault. Bond: \$10,000.

Ke'Shun Jenerio Shelton, 22, Munford — Failure to appear (hold for Bartlett).

Hailey Nadine Sherrod, 31, Arlington — Failure to appear. Bond: \$2,500.

Leslie Keith Smith, 56, Covington — DUI, 1st offense.

Carol Somerville, 58, Munford — Aggravated domestic assault. Bond: \$15,000.

Marvin Somerville, 59, Munford — Aggravated domestic assault.

William Springfield, 48, Somerville — Failure to appear (Fayette County); financial responsibility (no insurance); driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled

SEE JAIL REPORTS, PAGE A3

CUSTODY

From 1A

way 59 West, Burlison Lane and Baskin Road. According to Beasley, the man fled into a wooded area after seeing deputies.

Authorities searched the area but were initially unable to locate him. The sheriff's office subsequently asked residents in the area to remain alert and contact law enforcement if they saw the suspect.

Beasley announced Wednesday morning that Green had been taken into custody.

Green was already wanted for a parole violation at the time of the pursuit, according to the sheriff. He now faces additional charges of felony

evading arrest by motor vehicle, evading arrest and other traffic-related charges stemming from the pursuit.

The charges are accusations, and Green is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty in court.

County Fire, Atoka Fire and Tipton County Sheriff's Office personnel.

"The extreme heat and dense vegetation was challenging to say the least," Beasley said, expressing gratitude to everyone who helped bring Billings home safely.

The large turnout, specialized search resources and coordinated work of agencies from Lake County, Tipton County and throughout West Tennessee ultimately resulted in the outcome everyone had hoped for — Billings was found alive and returned to his family.

SEARCH

From 1A

the game camera had photographed him the previous day. He was extremely dehydrated, hungry, exhausted and confused, but he was responsive.

Tennessee Highway Patrol troopers helped carry Billings through the difficult terrain to a waiting UTV. He was reunited with his family at approximately 8 p.m. before being taken by ambulance to a nearby medical facility.

Beasley described the search as a remarkable collaborative effort.

"This was truly a team effort involving many agencies, first responders, family and individuals who refused to give up,"

Beasley said in announcing that Billings had been found.

The sheriff thanked the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, Tennessee Highway Patrol, Madison County Fire/Search and Rescue, Lake County Sheriff's Office, Lake County EMA, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, Tennessee Department of Correction, Tiptonville Fire Department, Tiptonville Police Department, Lake County Fire Department, Ridgely Police Department, Weakley County Sheriff's Office, Obion County Sheriff's Office, U.S. Coast Guard, Tipton County EMA, Tipton

County Fire, Atoka Fire and Tipton County Sheriff's Office personnel.

"The extreme heat and dense vegetation was challenging to say the least," Beasley said, expressing gratitude to everyone who helped bring Billings home safely.

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DAUGHERTY

From 1A

new county mayors and executives across the state were scheduled to take office Sept. 1 following the 2026 county elections.

A 1992 graduate of Covington High School, Daugherty has spent much of his career in Tipton County public service.

He joined the Tipton County Sheriff's Office in 1998 and retired after more than 22 years of service, having risen to the position of chief deputy. He has continued serving as a reserve deputy.

Daugherty later moved into education administration, serving as chief financial officer for Tipton County Schools from 2021 until

2026. Earlier this year, he was also elected president of the Tennessee Government Finance Officers' Association, a statewide organization of public-sector finance professionals.

His education includes an associate degree in Justice Services from Dyersburg State Community College and a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Bethel University. He also completed Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command and the University of Tennessee County Officials Certificate Training Program, earning designation as a Certified Public Administrator.

Daugherty later completed

ed accounting coursework and earned his Certified County Finance Officer certification.

The transition gives Tipton County a new chief executive at a time of continued growth and development throughout the county. As county executive, Daugherty will work with the Tipton County Commission and other elected officials on county finances, operations and other matters affecting county government.

Daugherty has credited mentors throughout his career, including members of the Tipton County Schools faculty, for helping prepare him for the new role.

OVERDOSE

From 1A

to remember those who have died from overdose, reduce the stigma surrounding substance use and remind those struggling that treatment and recovery resources are available.

As part of the local observance, chairs marked with purple ribbons represented Tipton County residents who died from an overdose in 2024.

Organizers noted that official overdose statistics are typically reported approximately one year later,

making the 2024 figures the most recently confirmed numbers available. Each chair, they said, represented not simply a statistic but a person, a family and a life remembered.

Residents, local government officials, first responders and others wore purple and gathered on the courthouse steps in a visible show of support for families who have experienced the loss of a loved one.

The event also served as a reminder that resources remain available for people struggling with substance use and for their families.

Those seeking assistance can call or text the Tennessee REDLINE at 1-800-889-9789, a free and confidential referral service available 24 hours a day, seven days a week for substance-use treatment and recovery resources.

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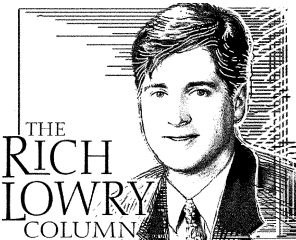
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Trump’s fondness for Kim Jong Un sends the wrong signal



It’s hard to believe that Kim Jong Un is really this charming. President Trump touted his fond relationship with the North Korean dictator in a Truth Social post calling for scaling back a long-running annual military exercise with the South Koreans.

“Based on my very good relationship with Kim Jong Un,” Trump wrote, “I am not happy with the fact that the United States has, long ago, agreed to participate in Joint Military Exercises with South Korea.” According to Trump, the exercises “send a signal that is totally inappropriate and hostile, to a Country that, as long as Donald J. Trump has been President, has been unthreatening and respectful.” Then he added that South Korea had recently declined to take a role in the Iran war, clearly irking Trump, as he subsequently explained to reporters at the White House.

The joint exercises have been a key element of the U.S.-South Korea military alliance for decades. They are meant to ensure that the two countries are prepared in the event of a North Korean assault, and perhaps now have an added importance given the experience North Korea has gained in high-intensity modern warfare by bolstering Russian forces in Ukraine.

Much more important

than the practical effect of Trump’s fusillade, though, is the signal it sends, yet again, that he is easily disenchanted with longtime allies whose friendship should be considered a strategic boon to the United States.

Whether musing about making Canada the 51st state, briefly campaigning to take control of Greenland, imposing tariffs on friend and foe alike or hammering NATO, Trump has been careless of the goodwill of our allies.

They need us more than we need them, which means they are willing to put up with a lot, but sowing dissension unnecessarily is a foolhardy game at a time of growing international threats.

South Korea has been a treaty ally since 1953, and is a wealthy, technologically advanced democracy that occupies strategically important ground in Northeast Asia. It is obviously both threatened by and a bulwark against potential North Korean adventurism.

Pete Hegseth visited South Korea last year and said, “Our alliance is stronger than ever before, 72 years strong.” He described the inspiring sight of U.S. and South Korean soldiers standing “shoulder to shoulder working together.” South Korea has been committed to increasing its defense spending to 3.5% of GDP. In light of this, Hegseth subsequently averred, “Model allies that step up, like Israel, South Korea, Poland ... will receive our special favor.”

Such assurances by administration officials are

always subject to change, depending on Trump’s animosities at any given time. It’s certainly true that South Korea owes its existence to us. We fought to preserve its independence at a great cost in blood and treasure during the Korean War, and we have nearly 30,000 troops on the peninsula to deter North Korea from assaulting the South again. Seoul has lent support to recent U.S. military operations, typically in noncombat roles, but it’s understandable that it wouldn’t be enthused about taking part in an Iran war that hasn’t gone as planned and that has no clear endgame.

As for the North, it isn’t our friend. It is firmly within the China-Russia axis, and has been developing its nuclear and missile arsenal apace. There is no reason to believe that any blandishments from Trump will change its behavior, and Kim has been clear that the U.S. needs to abandon its “obsession” with denuclearization.

What we most need from South Korea is for it to be as strong as possible to deter North Korea, and we shouldn’t be lending any credence to its claim that U.S.-South Korean exercises are provocations, or sowing doubt about our commitment to allies.

Such diplomatic episodes, though, are an inherent part of Trump’s governance. To paraphrase the Roman writer Publilius Syrus: Prosperity makes friends, adversity tries them, and Trump distresses them -- unnecessarily.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

MT. CARMEL NEWS

It’s a partly sunny Sunday afternoon, 94 degrees. We just came from church and a big potluck so I hope I can stay awake typing this! Ha!

I took cucumber salad and Graham Cracker Brownies! Three ingredients – 1 sleeve of Graham Crackers, crushed into crumbs with a rolling pin, a can of Eagle Brand milk and a cup of chocolate chips! 35 minutes at 350! And you can add ½ cup of nuts.

This Week’s Farm Report: Corn harvest carries on! Great yields! But soybeans need a rain, and none tried week either. High sitting right on us for days to come! Praying that changes!

Well, the peppermints didn’t kill the racoon. He’s still out there eating all my sunflower seeds. We’ve tried a trap, but he gets the bait and gets out! Sneaky fella!

Granddaughter Lyla got her lasagna Tuesday night after helping put stuff around our shower floor to cover up the corroded caulk. She’s a worker and deserved the lasagna!

I didn’t have to take lunch to the field Wednesday because Wyatt True delivered pizzas! Yay! I did give him and John Dycus rides from the home place to the field and back, but that’s easier than fixing lunch and packing it up!

We had Deli Sandwiches and fixings Wednesday night at church. I took Peanut Butter Rice Krispies! Mississippi Chicken this week.

I got a haircut Friday from Courtney and it’s short! But cool and I’ve gotten a lot of compliments. Ran errands while I was out then James and I ate lunch at Court Square. They had the best cucumber salad a few weeks ago, an old family recipe! I like their broccoli and rice casserole!

James went back Saturday by himself while I was riding the combine with Clint and I didn’t fix him lunch! He brought home some chicken and dressing that he ate last night. I had Purple Hull Peas and cornbread left from Friday night. And tomatoes – one of my favorite summer meals!

We are invited to Mike and Bonita Rogers’ home tonight for outdoor singing and snacks. Sounds like fun!

On our prayer list at the Covington Church of Christ are Joyce Scott, Judy McCool, Judy Merritt, Bobby White, Bill Murray, Andrew Evans and so many friends and relatives of our members.

And all of our servicemen and women. Sing it – God Bless the USA!

September 14 – Area Wide Gospel Meeting at Brighton Middle School 7 p.m. nightly.

Happy Birthday this week goes to Judy Burrow, Andrew Evans, Jeff Hanks, Leah Max and David Watkins on September 1st, to LeRoy Finto and Tony Sonwineski on the 2nd, to Cindy Scott and Tim Scott on the 3rd and to Wesley Fowler on the 4th!

Happy Anniversary to Wayne and Charlene Dalrymple on August 31st and to Rusty and Denise Cartwright on September 1st!

September!!!!???

This Week’s Farmer’s Almanac Quote: “In 1965, medical researchers at the University of Florida invented Gatorade”. Whaaaaa?????

Joke – What does a peanut say when it sneezes? Ca-shew!

Until next week . . .

JAIL REPORTS

From 2A

license.

Brittany Nicole Stewart, 26, Covington — Assault; disorderly conduct. Bond: \$5,000.

Rachael Elizabeth Tatum, 34, Bartlett — DUI, 1st offense; driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license; opposing traffic; financial responsibility (no insurance); manufacture/delivery/sale/possession of methamphetamine; violation of the implied consent law. Bond: \$10,000.

Anthony Terry III, 38, Drummonds — Possession of drug paraphernalia; simple possession/casual exchange.

Derrian Lashun Tipton, 30, Covington — Manufacture/delivery/sale/possession of methamphetamine (Schedule IV drugs); failure to pay child support.

David Joseph Tolleson, 43, Brighton — Driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license (two counts, violation of probation).

Ashley Nicole Trotter, 29, Memphis — DUI, 1st offense.

Harold Wayne Twisdale, 46, Mason — Manufacture/delivery/sale of a controlled substance (hydrocodone); driving on roadways laned for traffic; possession of drug paraphernalia; simple possession/casual exchange (violation of probation).

Jeffrey Wendell Wade, 68, Burlison — Driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license.

Brandon Lee Walker, 42, Brownsville — Possession of a firearm during the commission of a dangerous felony.

Taylor Furie Weathers, 34, Cordova — Failure to appear (Bartlett warrant).

Tyler Alan-Wayne White, 20, Brighton — Manufacture/delivery/sale of a controlled substance (Schedule VI with intent to deliver, possession of a firearm during a dangerous felony, drug paraphernalia).

Shunda Maria Wilkins, 52, Covington — Aggravated domestic assault. Bond: \$50,000.

Christopher Williams, 54, Henning — Tampering with evidence.

Clifton Matrell Williams, 45, Covington — Violation of light law; driving on revoked/suspended/cancelled license; open container. Bond: \$2,500.

Kyla Lynette Williams, 20, Covington — Theft of merchandise/shoplifting (up to \$1,000). Bond: \$2,500.

Marcellous Williams, 65, Covington — Violation of the sex offender registration act (two counts); violation of conditions of community supervision for life. Bond: \$10,000.

Marquis Lawayne Williams, 39, Covington — Criminal trespass; simple possession/casual exchange (two counts, one a violation of probation); introduction of contraband into a penal institution.

Elven Tommy Williamson, 28, Covington — Failure to appear.

Destiney Monique Woods, 34, Covington — Public intoxication; disorderly conduct; assault. Bond: \$5,000.

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Kenneth S Usetlon

The shape of creation must somehow mirror and reveal the shape of the Creator. We must have a God at least as big as the universe. Otherwise, our view of God becomes irrelevant, constricted and more harmful than helpful. The Christian image of a torturous hell and God as a petty tyrant has not helped us to know, trust or love God — or anything or anyone else. If we understand God as Trinity — the fountain fullness of overflowing love, and relationship itself — there is no theological possibility of any hatred or vengeance in God.

Divinity, which is revealed as Love Itself, will eventually overcome all things. God does not fall short (see John 6:37-39). We are all saved by mercy. This is an orthodox

opinion!

As we recite the Apostles' Creed (traditional version), we find the curious phrase: "[Jesus] descended into hell." Scholars believe that since Christ went into hell, that means hell "is hell no longer ... because love dwells in it." Jesus the Christ and hell cannot coexist; once Jesus got there, the whole game of punishment was over, as it were. A basic principle of nonviolence is that we cannot achieve good by doing bad.

If this is true, any notion of an actual "geographic" hell is unnecessary and, in my opinion, destructive of the very restorative notion of the whole Gospel. Many theologians and scholars, both conservative and liberal, remind listeners that heaven and hell are not physical places at all. They

are states of being in which we dwell either in loving relationship with God or in separation from the source of all life and joy. If that is true, there are plenty of people on earth who are in both heaven and hell right now.

Heaven is not about belonging to the right group or following the correct rituals. It is about having the right attitude toward existence. There are just as many people of other religions who live in love — serving their neighbor and the poor — as there are Christians. Jesus says there will be deep regret — "wailing and grinding of teeth" (Luke 13:28) — when we realize how wrong we were. Be prepared to be surprised about who is living a life of love and service and who is not.

This should keep us all humble and recognizing that it is not even any of our business who is going to heaven. What makes us think that our little minds and hearts could discern the mind and heart of anyone else?

Further, Jesus never really taught "the immortality of the soul" as we understand it. That was Plato. Jesus taught the immortality of love. If we have never really loved anyone or anything, I doubt we are at all capable of eternity. We simply die. A torture chamber was an unfortunate metaphor meant to keep people from never loving, trusting or hoping. I am not sure it ever really worked, because you cannot threaten people into love.

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by Rick Huffman, Elder

The End of Time

One of the most misunderstood subjects in the Bible is the end of time. The subject intrigues the masses. Some have made millions exploiting the subject by writing books supposedly giving the "signs" of the end of time and predicting the date the world would/will end. Over the years, several religious leaders have incorrectly guessed the end time. Some new denominations have emerged despite the fact the aforementioned leaders (obviously) missed the date.

A favorite text is Matthew 24 for those seeking to pinpoint the time of the end. The disciples were enamored by the temple in Jerusalem and anxious to point out its magnificence and splendor to Jesus. "And Jesus went out, and departed from the temple: and his disciples came to him for to shew him the buildings of the temple. And Jesus said unto them, See ye not all these things? verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down. And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?" (Matthew 24:1-3).

In the minds of the disciples, when Jesus said that there would come a time when there would not be one stone of the temple left upon another, they assumed that would not be possible unless it was the end of the world. They failed to remember that the first temple, Solomon's temple, which was much more magnificent (Ezra 3:12; Haggai 2:2-3) than this one was destroyed when the Israelites were taken into

Babylonian captivity. So the three part question they asked Jesus, they presumed would happen at the same time, simultaneously. They were only partly correct. The destruction of the temple would occur first in the same century as the time they asked, "when shall these things be?" The other two events, which will occur at the same time and actually describe different components of the same event-the end of time, we are still awaiting.

Jesus answers the first question about the destruction of the temple in the first part of Matthew 24 in Matthew 24:4-33. In these verses, He does give signs that His audience can know when the temple of Jerusalem is destroyed. The temple was destroyed in AD 70 by the Romans who besieged the city. Josephus, the noted Jewish historian, notes that Christians escaped the siege of Jerusalem. They knew and took to heart the warnings of Jesus and the signs He gave. Matthew 24:34 is a clear break point in this chapter and precedes a change of subject. The rest of the chapter deals with the second coming of Jesus and the end of the world. "Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled" (Matthew 24:34). Everything said before this verse including the signs many incorrectly suppose to refer to the end of time were fulfilled before the present generation passed (died).

In Matthew 24:36, Jesus clearly affirms that there will be no sign of His second coming, the end of time. He compares it to the previous destruction of the world by the flood in the days of Noah. Everyone then was going about

their daily affairs; it was business as usual. Then the floods came without warning. Jesus said that is exactly how it will be when He comes at world's end. "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be" (Matthew 24:36-39).

The book of Revelation, a highly symbolic book, whose message those of the late first and early second century understood, is also used to support theories regarding the end times. {With the current persecution (Revelation 2:10), John had to speak in veiled terms, not naming names. Jesus employed the same strategy with His parables. "And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables? He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given" (Matthew 13:10-11) [See also Matthew 11:25; Mark 4:11-12].} In interpreting Revelation, we conveniently overlook what John said in the opening verse of Revelation. "The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John." (Revelation 1:1). The key phrase here is "shortly come to pass". We are now 1900

+ years removed from this statement and the end has not come. For us to conclude that the message of Revelation is about the end times is a stretch. Those claiming it is would remind us that 1,000 years is but a day to God and vice versa (II Peter 3:8). I would remind the reader that "shortly come to pass" in Revelation 1:1 is not said in reference to God's point of view but written toward the point of view of his audience (the readers).

Paul says it is pointless for him to write about the time and date of the second coming. "But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night" (I Thessalonians 5:1-2). Peter reaffirms what Paul said. "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up" (2 Peter 3:10).

The conclusion is no one knows when Jesus is coming again. Jesus Himself said it (Mark 13:32). The Bible does not say and it cannot be found out. So we need to do what Jesus advises. "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. Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come" (Mt 24:42-44).

The Science of Babel

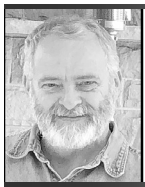
Plains of Shinar in ancient Mesopotamia. There, rather than multiply and spread throughout the entire earth as God had commanded, this remnant of humanity collectively built a city and a great tower that "reached up to the heavens" and attempted to compete with God. It was there and then that the entire human race was gathered as one race, one people, speaking one

language, all the while disobeying God's command to disperse. "Then God said, 'Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech.' So, the Lord dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. Therefore, its name was called Babel, because there the

Lord confused the language of all the earth. And from there the Lord dispersed them over the face of all the earth" (Gen 11:7-9).

What an incredible story! But is it true? Can it be true? Today there are some 6,000 languages spoken around the world. Can it be that all of these languages

SEE BABEL,
PAGE A7

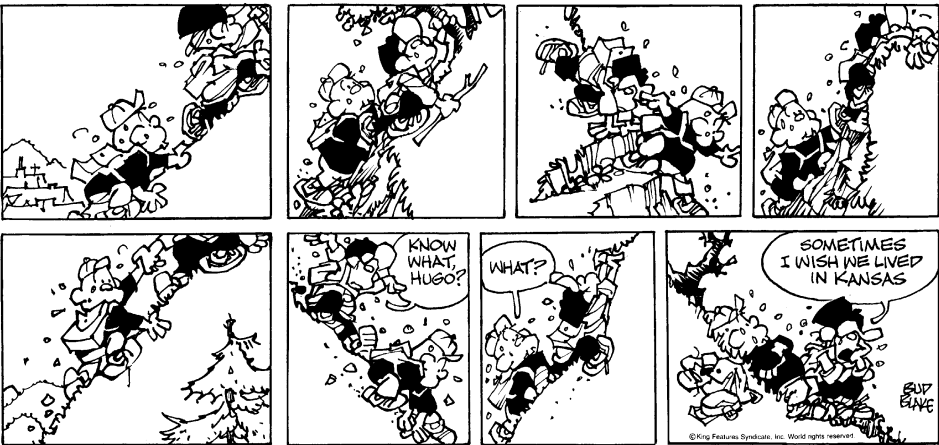


IS GOD
DEAD?

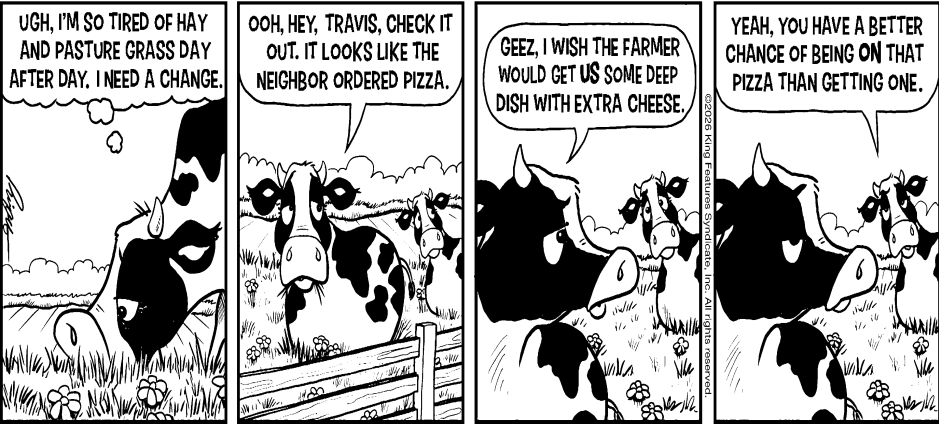
Dr. Ty B.
Kerley

Christians hold that the eight survivors of The Great Flood (Noah and his wife, their three sons, and their wives) disembarked the Ark on Mount Ararat and then migrated to the

TIGER



Amber Waves



Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

1. Tasteless	___ L ___	Trademark	___ R ___
2. Offer evidence	___ V ___	Investigation	___ B ___
3. Curious George	M ___	Pack animal	D ___
4. Stretch	___ H ___	Respond	___ T ___
5. Shudder	___ H ___	Wood splinter	___ L ___
6. Greek capital	___ S ___	Goddess of wisdom	___ A ___
7. Hunky dory	___ W ___	Use one's nose	___ M ___
8. Commuter boat	F ___	Seinfeld or Springer	J ___
9. Hooting primate	___ B ___	Actor Mel	___ S ___
10. Out of funds	___ O ___	Decelerate	___ A ___

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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See This Week's Answers In Next Week's Edition

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

Answer
Weekly SUDOKU

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 22 mins.

Even Exchange

Answers

1. After, After
2. Remote, Remove
3. Floor, Flood
4. Lodge, Logger
5. Barney, Barley
6. Chase, Chase
7. Frable, Table
8. Packer, Pucker
9. Scroll, Scroll
10. Stroll, Scroll

Jigsaw

Answers

1. After, After
2. Remote, Remove
3. Floor, Flood
4. Lodge, Logger
5. Barney, Barley
6. Chase, Chase
7. Frable, Table
8. Packer, Pucker
9. Scroll, Scroll
10. Stroll, Scroll

FEAR KNIGHT

By: rj johnson

DOUBT? ... OR DARE!

GEG
UGFARL
OLAFO
♥ETNR
♥GWOLBE
♥ELE
♥REOG
AGDEL
OEF
DACLER
♥RECTU
♥LBGO

Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

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King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Doves' home
5 Coach
8 Parseghian
12 Beach crawler
13 Pizza cooker
14 Greyhound vehicle
15 — Martin (cognac)
17 Bread sellers
18 Sheltered
19 Hogwash
21 Thespians
24 Sheriff's star
25 Hold sway
26 Jealousy
30 Stalks for soups
31 Finale
32 Give it a go
33 Man-mouse link
35 Sets of prayer beads
36 Big gulp
37 Eyeglass frames
38 Lake flock
41 Hoi —
42 Enjoy Aspen
43 Mayberry
44 young 'un
45 Officials with seals
48 Ivy in Philly
49 Literary collection
50 Corporate symbol

DOWN

1 Corn core
2 Eggs
3 Shatner's "— War"
4 Vigor
5 Slightly
6 Regret
7 Military attacks
8 Moon cavity

9 Move, in
10 Realtor lingo
11 Pt. of U.S.A.
16 Tournament passes
16 Caviar base
20 "Pinocchio" fish
21 "Cheers" order
22 Part of A.D.
23 Film formats
24 Point —
26 Peninsula
27 Record holder?
28 "The Music Man" setting

28 Ireland
29 Droops
31 Small combo
34 Dahl of films
35 Marble cake patterns
37 Reggae relative
38 Vatican leader
39 Pundit's piece
40 TV journalist Lisa
41 Remain
44 Lennon's partner
45 Charged bit
46 Conceit
47 Plant seeds

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STICKELERS by Terry Stickels

Match the country on the left with its former name on the right:

1. Myanmar
2. Sri Lanka
3. Bangladesh
4. Thailand
5. Iran

a. East Pakistan
b. Siam
c. Persia
d. Burma
e. Ceylon

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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!

Speck
ARING
Date
ROMANT
Taut
ENSET
First
DIEMAN

TODAY'S WORD

... and does Stanley's affect your sleep, Mrs. Feeny? Mrs. Feeny...

WORD SPIRAL

Fill in the missing letters to reveal the nine-letter word that starts at one of the four corners and moves clockwise around the perimeter before ending in the center.

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HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the upper left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left to right. Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

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Word Spiral Answer

ILLEGIBLY

SCRAMBLERS

Solution

1. Mature
2. Gossip
3. Scion
4. Scion

LISTENS

Today's Word

Cryptoquip

Answer

Margarine or mayo that's toward its expiration date: middle-age spread.

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Beverly Kay Mosley
August 28, 2026

Beverly Kay Mosley, 84, went to be with the Lord on August 28, 2026. The family will receive friends on Wednesday, September 2, 2026, at Munford Funeral Home – Munford Chapel from 1:00 p.m. until the service time at 2:00 p.m. with the graveside service to follow at Helen Crigger Cemetery. Beverly has been a Member of Munford Baptist Church for over 30 years and working in the church. She loved gardening and listening to gospel music like Gaither’s. Beverly also enjoyed watching good wholesome movies. She is preceded in death by her parents, George and Bessie Edwards. Beverly is survived by her husband of 58 years, Howard Mosley; her children, Lee Edward Mosley and Karen Jane Gray (Kevin); her granddaughter, Gabrielle Ann Mosley; and her sister, Betty Dozier (Bill). The family kindly ask that any memorial contributions be made to Munford Baptist Church.

Lucy Ann Taylor
August 23, 1947 - August 27, 2026

Funeral Service Sunday, September 6, 2026, Prospect M B Church at 1:00 pm with burial in the church cemetery all in Gallaway, TN.



Pastor Robert Earl Whitley, Sr.
September 8, 1955 - August 26, 2026

The Family will receive friends at Wray’s Chapel M B Church in Somerville, TN on Friday September 4, 2026 from 4-7. Funeral Service Saturday, September 5, 2026 at Good Hope M B Church at 11:00 am with burial in the church cemetery both in Stanton, TN.



William “Bill” G. Townsend

William “Bill” G. Townsend was born November 12, 1937, on his dad’s birthday. He was the oldest of four children, and grew up in the small town of Ripley, in Lauderdale County, Tennessee. Growing up, “W. G.” was taught to love God, family and country. He worked in the family grocery store, played in the school band, and graduated in 1954. He attended the University of Memphis for 2 years. In 1956, he married the love of his life, Betty Strickland, and they started their life together in Memphis, welcoming 3 children - Alicia, Bill, Jr. and Teri. Bill worked in sales - insurance, real estate, vacuum cleaners, and fire alarms - and built tires at Firestone. His goal was to own a used car lot, so along with his regular jobs, he would buy and re-sell used cars. In 1981, he opened Townsend Auto Mart in Millington, Tennessee, and was blessed to work until March of 2024. It was a family business with Bill, Teri, and Alicia, eventually adding his grandson William Keith to the payroll, too! Family was a very important part of Mr. Townsend’s life. It was his faith in the Lord and dedication to his family that ultimately led to fulfilling his dream of recording gospel music. Over the years, he produced six gospel albums and was widely known as

“The Gospel Cowboy.” An award-winning Christian country singer and songwriter, he always said “remember to always pray for wisdom, strength, and guidance.” To cherish his memory, Bill leaves his beloved wife of 70 years, Betty Townsend; his children, Alicia (Tony) Gutowski, William “Bill Jr.” (Susie) Townsend, and Teri (Mark) Manning; his five grandchildren, Kimberly (Justin) Collver, William Keith Townsend, Anthony Gutowski, Lexi Gutowski, and McKenzie (Grant) Towns; three great-grandchildren, Carson Collver, Addie Collver, and Haven Gutowski; his siblings, Ronald Townsend, Madelyn Townsend, and Pam Forsythe, and a host of nieces, nephews, friends, and extended family members. A celebration of life service will be held on Saturday, September 5, 2026 at 1pm in the chapel of Covington Funeral Home. Visitation for friends and family will begin at 12 noon. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to your favorite charity to honor Bill’s memory. Cremation is under the direction of Covington Funeral Home.





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



rare thing and many of us feel a real sense of loss. I think this is especially true in Tennessee.

Dolly seemed to be able to rise above politics, celebrity, and scandal to really just try to do good. Many of us have been to Dollywood with our kids or grandkids and had a great time.

If you’ve raised Kids in Tennessee in the last few years you know that she mailed more than 300 million free books through the Imagination Library. There are stories abounding about how people who lost everything in a fire would get checks from her privately. She legitimately used her amazing business acumen and celebrity it appears mostly for Good.

But the out pouring of love for Dolly Parton is a

wing blue haired liberals mourning her passing just like I’ve seen the most buttoned up conservative, red tie folks be sad to see her leaving us. Even atheists say that effectively she lived out the Christian Faith, the way that the rest of us are supposed to—even not be believing themselves that it’s even necessarily real.

Dolly Parton sold more than 100 million records, wrote more than 3,000 songs, scored 25 No. 1s on Billboard Hot Country Songs (the most by any woman), took two Hot 100 No. 1s with “9 to 5” and “Islands in the Stream,” and was named Billboard’s No. 1 country artist of all time, while her own “I Will Always Love You” later spent 14 weeks at No. 1 in Whitney Houston’s hands. She collected 10 competitive Grammys plus a Lifetime Achievement Grammy, about 10 CMA awards including 1978 Entertainer of the Year, about 13 ACM awards, an Emmy, two Oscar nominations and the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award, a Tony nomination,

and induction into the Country Music Hall of Fame, Songwriters Hall of Fame, Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, Grand Ole Opry, and Kennedy Center Honors, along with the National Medal of Arts.

Imagine all that, and being on a Hollywood walk of fame and a multimillionaire, and all anybody can talk about is how much good you did for people.

This loss is sad. But I’ll tell you her view right now is beautiful. She is seeing streets made of gold but so pure that they’re clear. Think about what that must be like. We see a very limited range of colors with our naked eyes. Even our basic machines can see more colors than us.

But imagine a perfect remade body in the place it was always supposed to be—walking around in the presence of God. Go rest high on that mountain; your work on earth is done; Go to heaven a-shoutin’.... Goodbye, Dolly.

Tennessee dove season underway; other fall hunts open

NASHVILLE — Tennessee’s 2026-27 mourning dove season opened at noon Tuesday, Sept. 1, continuing one of the state’s longest-standing hunting traditions. The opener is the start of three hunting segments for the popular game bird.

Doves are found throughout various regions in the state, with the highest concentration in farming areas. The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency manages dove hunting fields in each of the four regions.

Hunters must have a valid state hunting license and a Tennessee Migratory Bird Permit while hunting. Before hunting on private lands, hunters are required to ask for permission. In Tennessee, an estimated 28,000 hunters harvest approximately 399,000 mourning doves each year.

The daily bag limit for mourning doves is 15, and there is no limit on collared doves. Doves not readily identifiable as collared doves will be considered mourning doves and will count toward the mourning dove daily bag limit. No person shall take migratory game birds by the aid of baiting, or on any baited area. Any auto-loading or repeating shotgun must

be incapable of holding more than three shells while being used for dove hunting.

The first segment of dove season closes Sept. 28. The second segment is Oct. 10-Nov. 1, and the final segment runs Dec. 8-Jan. 15, 2027.

In addition to the start of dove season, the early season for Canada geese, brant, blue, snow and Ross’s geese — collectively, light geese — also began Sept. 1 and runs through Sept. 20. Other hunting seasons that opened Sept. 1 are moorhens, gallinules and rails, both Virginia and sora, which close Nov. 9.

The Tennessee Migratory Bird Permit is also required to hunt these species.

A short crow hunting season overlaps with the opening week of dove season, Sept. 1-7. It resumes Sept. 11 through Dec. 20, and hunting is allowed only on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays during that segment.

Hunters should refer to the 2026-27 Tennessee Fishing, Hunting and Trapping Guide, available at tn.gov/twra, for daily bag limits and more information.

Tipton county visitor spending fell to \$18.4 million in 2025

Visitor spending in Tipton County fell 8.4 percent to \$18.4 million in 2025, a drop of about \$1.7 million from the year before that was driven largely by what travelers spent on lodging. The total, released by the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development in its annual economic impact report, compares with \$20.1 million in 2024 and is 12.2 percent above the county’s 2018 figure. Tipton County slipped 2 spots to No. 60 among the state’s 95 counties. The report credits travel with supporting 165 jobs in Tipton County, down from 166 a year earlier, and with generating

\$4.1 million in labor income, up 2.9 percent. Visitor spending generated an estimated \$1,111,985 in state taxes and \$887,953 in local taxes during the year. The department calculates that without those visitor-generated collections, each household in Tipton County would have to pay about \$88 more a year to maintain the same level of state and local services. That figure was \$97 in the 2024 report. The largest share of the county’s visitor spending, \$5.3 million, went to food and beverages. Among the report’s five spending categories, recreation

showed the largest percentage increase, up 1.5 percent, while lodging showed the largest decrease, down 19.1 percent. Among neighboring counties, the report lists Shelby County at \$4.2 billion, Haywood County at \$22.9 million and Lauderdale County at \$8.7 million. Shelby County, home to Memphis, dwarfs the rest of the g r o u p . Statewide, visitors spent a record \$32.5 billion in Tennessee in 2025, up 2.7 percent from 2024. The Memphis Delta region, which includes Tipton

County, accounted for \$4.2 billion of that total, down 1.4 percent from the previous year. The figures come from an annual analysis prepared for the U.S. Travel Association by Tourism Economics and released by the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development. They are modeled estimates of direct visitor spending — money spent by travelers inside a defined group of tourism-related businesses — and not a count of tax dollars actually collected. County snapshots and the full statewide report are posted at industry.tnvacation.com.

BABEL

came from a common single language, a first language? Linguists (scholars who study languages) tell us that languages evolve and change over time due to migration, mixing, and cultural considerations. These language changes can act as a road map leading back to the language family from which it evolved. Linguist John McWhorter writes, “Typically, speakers leave footprints from their old language in their version of the new one.” Here is an example. If we look at the word father, we begin to understand that some words in various languages have striking similarities. The English word father, is vater in German, padre in Spanish, and padre in Italian. From this simple comparison, it is easy to see that English and German are very similar to each other, as are the Spanish and Italian. Similarities between

English and German are seen not only in the word “father” but also in many other words. For these reasons, linguists classify both English and German as members of the Germanic family. Likewise, Italian and Spanish are considered members of the Latin family. Based upon these and other comparison criteria, the 6,000 languages spoken around the world are grouped into approximately 400 language families. Much like a family tree, the world language tree becomes more condensed and compacted, moving from the leaves to the branches to the main trunk. Similarly, linguists further classify and group these 400 language families into proto-languages. For example, English falls into the Germanic family, and the Germanic family falls into the Indo-European proto-language family. Other

proto-language families include Afro-Asiatic, Mia-Yao, Turkic, and Sematic, among many others. Using the analogy of a language tree, we could say that 6,000 languages (leaves) condense into 400 language families (branches), which further condense into 50 or so proto-language families (major branches).

From this perspective, looking at the world’s languages raises the ultimate question: “Is there evidence that the 50 or so proto-languages are further condensed into a single language? Looking at it from the other direction: “Is there evidence that a single language (trunk) later branches to 50 or so proto languages which later further branch into 400 language families, which eventually branch into the 6,000 languages spoken today? It is an important question because, accord-

ing to Christianity, all languages should go back to a single language, the Noahic language spoken by the eight survivors of The Great Flood. In other words, the Noahic language is the singular trunk of the language tree.

The problem is that linguists do not see a linkage between the proto-languages, which indicates they all derive from one singular ancient language. McWhorter argues that those attempts at reconstructing the Noahic proto-language are not considered valid in the field of linguistics and that these reconstructions are horribly biased and, in the end, are “hopelessly untenable.” But why would this be the case? Why do linguists find it impossible to back-track along the language family tree from the major branches to the main truck? Christianity holds that there was only one language af-

ter The Great Flood: the Noahic language. If true, there should be a clear path back to Noah’s language, but there isn’t.

Why?

While there are currently 50 proto-language families that linguists have discovered, there is the expectation that more families will be discovered. Perhaps it is that when all is said and done, linguists will discover and recognize approximately 78 proto-language families, one language family for each of the families that were given new languages and dispersed from Babel (cf Gen 10-11). Perhaps this is why linguists can only trace language families back so far and then run into a roadblock. If all the people on earth were gathered after The Flood, and all shared one common language, then each of the approximate 78 families were dispersed in different

directions, each with a new language, then what we see is exactly what we would expect. At one point in ancient history, the language of Noah suddenly ceased, and perhaps some 70 new proto-languages suddenly appeared.

Once again, we see “all things merge into one.” Join us next week as we look at the bottlenecking of human history after The Great Flood. Until then, is God really dead?

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Ty B. Kerley, DMin., is an ordained minister who teaches Christian apologetics and relief preaches in Southern Oklahoma. Dr. Kerley and his wife, Vicki, are members of the Waurika church of Christ, and live in Ardmore, OK. You can contact him at dr.kerley@isGoddead.

LEGALS

TOWN OF GILT EDGE
BEER BOARD HEARING
AND COUNCIL MEETING

The Gilt Edge Town Council which also serves as the Town of Gilt Edge Beer Board will hold a meeting Monday September 14 at 7:00 PM at the Gilt Edge Fire Station Annex 9149 Munford Gilt Edge Road. The purpose of the meeting is to consider an application for an off premises beer permit to Martin J. McCain. The business, Bent-N-Dent Food & Pizza, is located at 9121 Munford Gilt Edge Road Burlison TN 38015. Due to the Labor Day holiday, the regular September meeting of the Gilt Edge Town Council will also be held at the same time and location. Steve Fletcher, Mayor / Chairman

STATE & FEDERAL
GENERAL ELECTION &
MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

NOVEMBER 3, 2026

TO THE VOTERS OF TIPTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE: You are hereby notified that a GENERAL ELECTION, various MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT 7 UNEXPIRED TERM & CONSTABLE DISTRICT 7 will be held in voting precincts in Tipton County, TN on: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2026

A General Election for the following offices:
Governor (4 yr. Term)

U.S. SENATE, U.S. House of Representatives, 8 th & 5 th . Congressional Districts (2 yr. Term)

Tennessee House of Representatives 81 st . District (2 yr. Term)

County Vacancy School Board District 7 Unexpired Term & Constable District 7 - Independent Petitions are being issued starting August 20, 2026 with a Qualifying Deadline on September 9, 2026 @ Noon. These petitions can be picked up at the Tipton County Election Commission Office.

A Municipal Election, for each of the following municipalities:
Town of Atoka, TN: (1) Mayor &(3) Aldermen, each for a four year term. No person shall be eligible for the office of Mayor or Alderman unless such person has resided within the Town for at least one (1) year preceding the election.

Town of Burlison, TN: (1) Councilmen for a four year term. All applicants must reside within the Town for at least one (1) year preceding an election.
City of Covington, TN: (1) Mayor & 3 Aldermen, (1) in Ward 5, (1) in Ward 6 and (1) in Ward 7, each for a four year term. No person shall be eligible unless a resident of the State of Tennessee for more than one (1) year, a resident within the boundaries of Covington for not less than twelve (12) months preceding the election and shall continue to reside within the limits of their district.
Town of Garland, TN: (1) Mayor, (6) Alderman &(1) Recorder for a 4 year term. No person shall be eligible for the office of Mayor, Alderman or Recorder unless they are a resident of the State of Tennessee for one year or more, a resident within the boundaries of Garland for not less than six months immediately preceding the election, and shall continue to reside within the town of Garland during

their term of office.
Town of Gilt Edge, TN: (3) Councilman for a 4-year term. Applicants must have been a bona fide resident of the Town for six months preceding the election.
Town of Mason, TN: (1) Mayor & (3) Aldermen each for a 4 year term. No person shall be eligible for the office of Alderman unless they are a qualified voter and have been a bona fide resident of the Town for six (6) months preceding the election.
City of Munford, TN: (3) Aldermen for a 4 year term. All applicants shall have been a resident of the state of Tennessee for at least one (1) year and a resident of the city for not less than six (6) months immediately preceding the election, and shall continue to reside within the city for the term of office.
Candidates for all municipal offices must file nominating petitions with the Tipton County Election Commission Office.
The first day to pick up a petition is June 22, 2026 and the qualifying deadline is August 20, 2026 by 12 Noon. A candidate who qualifies must file any request to withdraw no later than 12:00 Noon Thursday, August 27, 2026. TCA§ 2-5-204(b)(1)

Tipton County Election Commission
* Jimmy Vandergrift, Chairman
* Letitia Wilson, Secretary
* Chris Brent, Member
* Kerry Williams, Member
* Jena Hackett, Member

NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING

Pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 13-3-403, notice is hereby given for a public hearing to be held by the Tipton County Legislative Commission, Monday October 26, 2026 at 6:15 p.m. in the Tipton County Justice Center, 1801 South College Street. All interested parties are encouraged to attend. The hearing is to receive input in the following items:
1. Amend Subdivision Regulations of Tipton County, Tennessee (APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS) in ARTICLE II, SECTIONS 2-102.1.2 & 2-103.1.5.

A copy of the text amendments can be viewed at the Tipton County Building Inspector's Office during regular business hours.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

As Required by TCA §30-2-306
Case Number PR-5091
Estate of WILLIE B WILSON, Deceased
Notice is hereby given that on August 31 of 2026 Letters Testamentary (or of Administration as the case may be) in respect of the estate of WILLIE B WILSON, who died 12/14/2025, 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.
Debbie Bailey
DEBBIE BAILEY
Executor, Administrator, Personal Representative
Nathan Spencer
Attorney
Gina Smith/ Heather Bentley
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. 10sep2wp

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

Case Number 84CH1-2026-PR-5089
Estate of SANDRA MAE NELSON KIRK, Deceased
Notice is hereby given that on August 28 of 2026 Letters Testamentary (or of Administration as the case may be) in respect of the estate of SANDRA MAE NELSON KIRK, who died 7/5/2026, 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.

LISA DAWN COX
Executor, Administrator, Personal Representative
David Owen
Attorney
Gina Smith Heather Bentay
Clerk & Master/ Deputy Clerk
Lisa Dawn Cox 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. 3sep2wp

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

Case Number 84CH1-2026-PR- 5088
Estate of SAMUEL E

DOYLE, Deceased
Notice is hereby given that on August 28 of 2026 Letters Testamentary (or of Administration as the case may be) in respect of the estate of SAMUEL E DOYLE, who died 6/21/2026, 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.
AMANDA CLAIRE DOYLE MEREDITH
Executor, Administrator, Personal Representative
David Owen
Attorney
Gina Smith |Heather Bentley
Clerk & Master/ Deputy Clerk
Amanda Claire Doyle Meredith 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. 3sep2wp

CITY OF MUNFORD
PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF MEETING TIME FOR ALL FUTURE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN MEETINGS

The City of Munford Board of Mayor and Alderman meetings will now be held at 5:30pm on the fourth Monday of each month beginning with the September meeting. The meetings are being held in the City Boardroom, 70 College Street.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC
HEARING

Pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 13-7-105, notice is hereby given for a public hearing to be held by the Tipton County Legislative Commission, Monday October 12, 2026 at 5:45 p.m. in the Tipton County Justice Center, 1801 South College Street. All interested parties are encouraged to attend. The hearing is to receive input in the following items:
1. Amend The Zoning Resolution of Tipton County, Tennessee by Amending Section 2.020 (Definitions) in Article II, Section 4.320 (Data Storage Center Or Cryptocurrency "Mining" Operations Development Standards) in Article IV and Section 5.058.C.11 (Uses Permitted As Special Exception) in Article V.
A copy of the text amendments can be viewed at the Tipton County Building In-

spector's Office during regular business hours.
Tipton County Community Development Council meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, September 9, 2026 at Tipton County Government Office, 103 East Pleasant Avenue, Covington, TN.

Tipton County Finance Meeting
Tuesday, Sept. 8th
4:30pm
At the Tipton County Admin Building

Tipton County Commission Meeting
Monday, Sept. 14th
General Welfare at 5pm
County Commission at 6pm
At the Tipton County Justice Center

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
As Required by TCA §30-2-306
Case Number PR-5083 + Estate of OLEAN FIELDS ANDERSON, Deceased
Notice is hereby given that on August 21 of 2026 Letters Testamentary (or of Administration as the case may be) in respect of the estate of OLEAN FIELDS ANDERSON, who died 5/23/2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Tipton County Chancery Court of Tipton County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the above-named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1) (A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this 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.

TARA BURNETT
Executor, Administrator, Personal Representative
RIKKI HERBERT
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. 27aug2wp

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF TIPTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE
D YOUNG MANAGEMENT GROUP LLC, VS. PLAINTIFF, GAULT FINANCIAL, LLC, AND UNIFUND CCR PARTNERS. DEFENDANT. No. 40186

NOTICE FOR
PUBLICATION

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

appearing that the Defendants, Gault Financial, LLC and Unifund CCR Partners, are not to be found at their last known address, and that the present whereabouts and address of Gault Financial, LLC and Unifund CCR Partners are unknown and cannot be ascertained after diligent search and inquiry.
That said Defendants, Gault Financial, LLC and Unifund CCR Partners, file a response in the Chancery Court of Tipton County, at Covington, Tennessee, and with Plaintiff's attorney, Rikki Herbert, 125 E. Pleasant Ave., Covington, Tennessee, 38019, on or before October 19, 2026, or Judgment by Default may be entered and the cause set for hearing ex parte. 28aug-4wp
Rikki Herbert (#39475)
Owen and Witherington Law Group, LLC 125 E. Pleasant Ave. Covington, TN 38019
Phone: (901) 476-6066
rikki@owtnlaw.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
As Required by TCA §30-2-306
Case Number PR-5082
Estate of JAMES DAVID WOODARD, Deceased
Notice is hereby given that on August 21 of 2026 Letters Testamentary (or of Administration as the case may be) in respect of the estate of JAMES DAVID WOODARD, who died 12/12/2025, 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.
LAURIE HOBSON
Executor, Administrator, Personal Representative
SHELBY COMBS
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. 27aug2wp

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
As Required by TCA §30-2-306
Case Number PR-5077
Estate of WILLIAM LOUIS MILES, Deceased
Notice is hereby given that on August 10 of 2026 Letters Testamentary (or of Administration as the case may be) in respect of the estate of WILLIAM LOUIS MILES, who died 5/30/2026, were

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We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition.

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MAY 2026 MARRIAGE LICENSES

The following marriage licenses were recorded in the office of Tipton County Clerk Mary Gaither in May 2026.

Julian Curtis Nirvana Ancell and Savanah Rose Rimmer, issued May 4, married May 4 by Chast Hurst, notary public.

Tracy Lynn Bennett and Alexandre Andre Evangelista, issued May 15, married May 23 by Brandy J. Flynn, notary.

Matthew Aaron Bentley and Addison Lynsey Polk, issued May 18, married May 30 by Dakota Tucker, college minister.

Jesse Robert Breault and Nicole Michele Frantz Ellis, issued May 13, married May 15 by Delwin S. Berryman, pastor.

Alexis Wray Collins and Ian Anthony Smith, issued May 5, married May 17 by the Rev. Mark Robert A. Sutton, rector of St. George Orthodox.

Benjamin Lee Dunlap and Audrey Michelle Parimore, issued May 13, married June 5 by Dustin Kitchens, pastor.

Peyton McKinnis Glore and Kenley Brooke Mitchell, issued May 8, married May 16 by Edward Hawkins, reverend.

Jesse Charles Garyson III and Maria Asuncion Rueda, issued May 27, married May 31 by Vinvecca B. Gray, senior pastor.

Jennifer Elizabeth Gregorie and Jason Whitney Ridings, issued May 6, married May 9 by Robert D. Clary, pastor.

Laura Ellen Grooms and Matthew Jay Franklin Field, issued May 7, married May 9 by Mark D. Grooms, minister.

Vanessa Lynn Gutierrez and James Patrick Pool, issued May 8, married May 23 by Shirley A. Bledsoe, minister.

Cedric Alexander Harding and Keyona Michelle Wright, issued May 8, married May 10 by Cutriss Rucker, reverend.

Annemarie Joy Hawkins and Ashton Blake Rogers, issued May 26, married May 29 by the Rev. Terry Tieman, pastor.

Amari Makayla Hayes and Clayton Ade Dancey, issued May 11, married May 16 by Mario Hayslett, pastor.

Jarred Lynn Holloway and Paola Teresa Palazzo, issued May 18, married May 30 by the Rev. Gregory J. Temke, pastor.

Randall Eugene Jackson Jr. and Jessica Leanne Thurmond, issued May 1, married May 1 by Elisa Stephens, notary.

James Tyson Jenkins Jr. and Jaylen McKenzie Billings, issued May 28, married May 30 by Ronald Drew McLillie, minister.

Kimberley Dawn Millican and Derek Thomas Filipczak, issued May 11, married May 16 by Tim Lonon, pastor.

Charles Leatrice Mooney Jr. and Rose Ann York, issued May 4, married May 16 by C.L. Mooney, minister.

Madison Paige Naylor and Collin Andrew Clark, issued May 18, married May 30 by Jeffery A. Clark, notary.

Payton Kenneth Owen and Jacie Lynn Sewell, issued May 26, married May 30 by Ty Rhymes, minister.

Armon Parang and Jenna Nicole Crotts, issued May 12, married May 12 by Jillian S. Sandifer, notary.

Leland Michael Rodgers and Christina Dianne Teal, issued May 14, married May 23 by Michael Ursery, minister.

Calibyana Cylsyce Rudicil and Sarah Evalyn Kahn, issued May 8, married May 9 by James Kennedy, minister.

Zachery Spencer Sarten and Rylie Amber Russell, issued May 1, married May 16 by Horace Allen Mincey, minister.

Lucky Jose Serrano and Isabella Rose Dever, issued May 5, married May 9 by the Rev. John D. Carver.

Jerry Tyler Smith and Kayl Nicole Price, issued May 20, married May 23 by Jerry L. Boylan, pastor.

Catherine Jane Sutphin and Peyton Kenyon Day, issued May 15, married June 5 by Kristina Dickson, minister.

Tanner Nealey Tate and John Tyler Lessenberry, issued May 5, married May 10 by Tim Lonon, pastor.

Barbara Ann Thornton and John Edward Mocon, issued May 26, married May 30 by Jody Johnson, pastor.

Kauren Nicole Ward and Michael Lynn Pilkington, issued May 1, married May 3 by Mike Lewis, minister.

Landon Cole White and Kylie Alyssa Delong, issued May 29, married May 29 by Alan Glenn Turner, county commissioner.

Lillie Hope Witham and Jimmie Dakota Steadman, issued May 26, married June 7 by Clay Gilbreath, director of missions.

Venus Amelia Young and Travis Dalton Windham, issued May 22, married June 4 by Kara Jolly Bell, notary.

Project announcement sparks data center debate

An announcement of an \$11.3 billion industrial campus in southeast Tennessee’s Bradley County renewed the debate about data centers, even though no data center has committed to building on the site.

What is included in Project River, a private 850-acre development by the owners and developers of Wright Brothers Construction, is a power plant that will use a combination of biomass from the forest and natural gas, according to information provided by the developers. It will provide up to 1,500 megawatts of power and will only need electricity from the Tennessee Valley Authority as a backup.

“By producing our own power and recycling our own water on-site, Project River will rebuild our local forestry industry without raising anyone’s power or water bills,” said property owner Steve Wright. “We live, work, and raise our families in this community, which is why we made sure to hire the best energy experts in America to ensure Project River would protect what makes Cleveland and Bradley County great while ensuring private investment would make our schools and public services better funded than ever.”

The company touted the possible addition of 2,600 jobs to the local economy. An estimated 1,700 would be in the forestry division, 125 in biomass handling and processing, 525 in data center jobs and 250 in power generation positions. Along with the jobs, the project would bring in additional tax revenue for Cleveland and Bradley County, according to information provided by Project River.

Groundbreaking for the project is not expected until the end of 2027, a spokesman for the company told The Center Square.

But the data center proposal generated the most speculation on social media shortly after the announcement on Wednesday. However, the company does not have a deal to build a data center on the property, despite a news release that mentions one, the spokesman said. But there have been discussions with companies, he said.

A data center would be powered by the on-site power plant and use water from the biomass-drying project, according to a fact sheet from Project River. The property is in a valley, and trees would create a natural sound barrier, according to the spokesman.

Wright Brothers has several hurdles to overcome before a data center can be considered. The company filed an application with the City of Cleveland to have the land annexed into the city, according to a news release.

The land is currently in Bradley County, which enacted data center regulations in April. Those regulations ban data centers within 3,000 feet of residences, schools or churches.

Bradley County Mayor Gary Davis said resident concerns should be heard, but this project is different than a traditional data center project.

“If it ultimately performs the way it is being presented, there could be significant benefits to our community, including jobs, investment and potentially new opportunities for our regional logging and timber industry,” Davis said in a social media post. “But those benefits, including the financial projections, need to be verified as the process moves forward.”

From tiny St. Joseph, with a population of less than 1,000, to Tennessee’s largest city, Nashville, residents and state and local officials are taking note of the influx of data centers into the state. Amid pictures of kids’ lemonade stands and employee accolades on its Facebook page, St. Joseph touts the city council’s vote to make it one of the first cities in Tennessee to ban data centers outright.

The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County placed a temporary moratorium on data center development after Atlanta-based D.C. Blox announced a facility near the Nashville Zoo.

D.C. Blox is suing the government, saying Metro officials are refusing to process the company’s permits in what it calls in court documents a “targeted attack” that violates federal constitutional protections. The case is still pending.

State lawmakers addressed data center electricity costs by passing House Bill 1847, which requires data centers that use more than 50 megawatts of power to pay their own electricity costs. The bill was signed into law by Gov. Bill Lee.

The Tennessee Valley Authority passed a resolution on Aug. 20 setting a special rate for data centers that is about 10% higher than their normal rate.

“Maintaining low rates and high reliability for customers is our first priority,” said TVA Chair Mitch Graves in a statement made after the meeting approving the rate. “As AI and advanced industries consume more electricity, TVA’s Board is making sure that hardworking American families and small businesses aren’t left carrying the cost.”

LEGALS

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) (2)

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

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

MARK MILES
Executor, Administrator,
Personal Representative
SARA CARTER
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.

27aug2wp

Notice of Public Auction

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

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

Whaley's Auto Repair & Towing

837 Whaley Rd. • Covington, TN. 38019

Phone: (901) 734-7910 •

Fax: (901) 476-6582

Vehicle auction on September 16, 2026 at Daily Automotive, 375 Bass St, Munford, TN 38053.

2018 Ford

Vin # 1FAHP2F80JG102307. Owner: Robert C Clark, Lienholder: Santander Consumer, USA.

2015 GMC

Yukon Vin # 1GK2SCKJ6FR688315. Owner: Tomas Godula.

2001 Chevrolet Vin # 1GCCK14T21Z269995. Owner: Robert Cayton.

2005 Toyota Vin # j=JTDK-B22U757056773. Owner: Peyton Sing.

Notice of Sale by Auction:

The following vehicle was owned and/or operated by:

Betty Hawkins, Credit Acceptance Corporation,

2010 Dodge Charger, 2B3CA3CV5AH214158

Jasmin Combs, Brittany Worley, 2014 Ford Fusion,

1FA6P0HD0E5358292

will be sold at auction September 21, 2026 at 10:30a.m. at 96 Quinton Drive in Munford TN.

Sealed bids will be taken. All bids can be rejected.

For information call 901-837-7735

TIPTON COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS MEETING

Due to the Labor Day holiday, the Tipton County Public Works Committee meeting for September has been rescheduled for Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Tipton County EMA Building.

News tip or story idea?

Call 901-476-7116

Brighton football wins another thriller, moves to 2-0

Jeff Ireland
jeff@magicvalleypublishing.com

According to Brighton head coach Keith Setler, his team did not need a motivational speech before Friday night's week two home game vs. Dyersburg. In fact, giving rah-rah speeches before games is not really his style.

"I tell the kids I'm not a big pep talker. You've got to be self-motivated. The motivation for tonight was real simple. Do you want to be 2-0? Do you want to win for your brothers? Do you want to win for Jonathan? Do you want to win for Mr. Matthews? If you don't have that self-motivation, there's nothing I can say to get you there. You've got it all in front of you."

Jonathan is junior Jonathan Matthews, who was expected to be a key contributor at running back this year before an injury sidelined him. Earlier in the week, his father, Dennis Matthews, died unexpectedly. Moments after Brighton beat Dyersburg 32-28, Jonathan was in tears as he hugged Setler.

It was an emotional night for various reasons. Brighton won one for their brothers, the Cardinals moved to 2-0 for the first time in five seasons and, for the second straight week, the win came in dramatic fashion.

With 2:20 left in the fourth quarter and Brighton trailing 28-26, senior Nasir Hill broke a 49-yard TD run to go up by four.

The ensuing possession for Dyersburg (0-2) started at its own 45. The Trojans moved to the Brighton 39 with 1:26 left. Then the Brighton defense, which had forced three fumbles at this point, produced a fourth.

"I thought he was fixing to go down," senior cornerback Timon Wiggins said about Dyersburg's final offensive play, "but Keyshawn, (Nakaylen Whitmore) came through and laid a hard hit. The ball came out. The ball was in the middle and everybody was going after so I just scooped it up."

That play effectively ended the game and the celebration was on. When the clock expired and a brief post-game speech was over, Brighton's players ran toward the band as students, football players and



Brighton senior Nasir Hill scores one of his three TDs against Dyersburg while assistant coach Danny Potter embraces Jonathan Matthews following the BHS win. Photos by Devin Littles

band members celebrated another dramatic win.

Brighton's offense was impressive. Senior Jakarion Burrell racked up 241 yards and two scores on 23 carries. Hill chipped with three TD runs and 154 yards on just 10 carries. The defense had a goal line stand and kept forcing turnovers.

"Even when a bad play happens, we keep each other up. I feel like we're really together as a team this year," Wiggins said.

Said Hill: "We have different goals this year. We just want to win."

Setler said the defense kept his team in the game after Dyersburg went ahead early and threatened to win it and the offensive came alive when the game was on the line.

"We talk about creating chaos, Cardinal chaos, fumbles, sacks tackles for loss. We did our job defen-

sively to be able to stay in the game and we were able to do the job on offense to win the game."

Brighton hosts Jackson Central-Merry this week with a chance to go 3-0 before a trip to Covington in Week 4.

"I'm going to enjoy this for a day and then it's on to JCM," Setler said. "We found the grit last week to pull out a win and we've never done that. We found the grit this week to go down the field and get a win. We're finding the grit to make plays. I've been saying that about our team all summer. It's a different mentality team. We lost some kids and we got better by subtraction. I'm proud of my kids ... Last week we made some memories I didn't want to remember. This week we made some memories I never want to forget."

Haywood hands Covington first home loss since 2022

Tomcats pull away from Chargers 36-14 in 40th meeting of storied rivalry

Steve Holt

As rivalry games go, Haywood versus Byars-Hall/CHS may well be the oldest for both teams. According to Haywood football historian Robert Rooks, Friday's contest played on Covington Athletic Field, the oldest continuously football field in West Tennessee, was the 40th in a series begun in 1921. A rubber game of sorts, going in the series record stood at 19-19-1. The Tomcats took it to the Chargers surging ahead with a 36-14 win.

Haywood (1-1) took a lead on the opening kickoff on a 74 yard run by Braden Harvey. Covington's Quindaris Alexander countered with a 95 yard kick return for a touchdown making the score 8-7. It was as close as CHS would come to the lead.

"We just made too many mistakes," said head coach JR Kirby. "We put the ball on the ground too much. Add to that, a pair of interceptions and poor kickoff coverage led to losing our first home game since the 2022 season."

After the Tomcats increased their lead to 16-7 on a 35 yard run by Jameson Hines, the Chargers' cut the margin to 16-14 on Makario McKinnie's 2nd period 38 yard TD run. It was the last time that Covington would find the end zone.

"They big played us all night," Kirby said. "UTK commitment, Jaden Butler, was as advertised scoring Haywood's final three TDs on runs of 1 and 24 yards and a 48 yard pass. Our defense played well at times, but were hampered by Heywood's superior size and speed. I think the turning

point in the game was our inability to capitalize on a 1st and goal from the 9 in the 2nd period. A TD or the missed field goal attempt would have given us the lead and would have been a game changer."

CHS (1-1) played hard, matching the Tomcats on the ground with 254 yards on 43 carries compared to 246 yards on 35 carries. The passing game was another matter. Haywood won the battle completing 4 of 4 attempts for 99 yards and a TD. Covington connected on 3 of 6 pass attempts for 36 yards with 2 interceptions. McKinnie had 99 yards on 8 carries and Cordarius Byars added 88 yards on 13 carries.

"We are very young and inexperienced," according to Kirby. "We have a lot to clean up and a big learning curve to negotiate." The season continues on September 4 at Home against Douglass with kickoff at 7:00 pm.

Brighton completes reverse sweep to defeat Millington in five sets

David Perry

The Brighton Lady Cardinals showed plenty of resilience and determination as they rallied from a two-set deficit to defeat the Millington Central Lady Trojans in five sets.

Millington Central came out strong and took control early in the match. The Lady Trojans captured the opening set 25-22 before continuing their momentum with a 25-17 victory in the second set.

Facing a 2-0 deficit, Brighton needed a response, and the Lady Cardinals delivered. Brighton completely turned the momentum around in the third set, dominating Millington Central 25-10 to get back into the match.

The fourth set was much more competitive, but Brighton continued to build on its newfound momentum. The Lady Cardinals earned a 25-21 victory to even the match at two sets apiece and force a decisive fifth set.

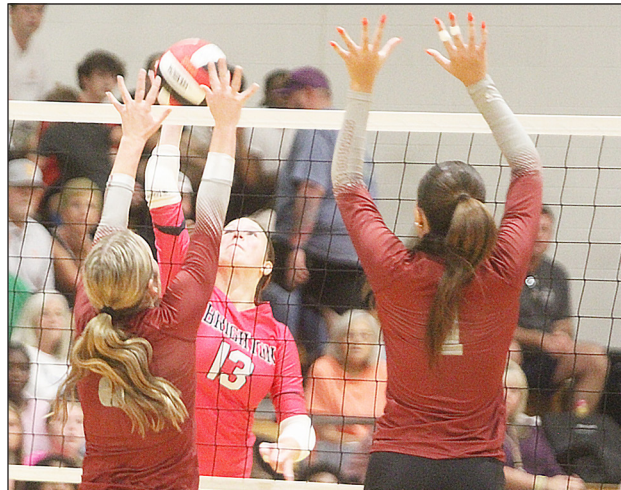
Brighton carried that energy into the final set and finished the comeback in convincing fashion. The Lady Cardinals defeated Millington Central 15-6 in the fifth set to secure the 3-2 victory.

Aeryl Potter played a major role in Brighton's win, leading the Lady Cardinals with 16 kills while also contributing 19 digs. Her ability to make plays at the net and help defensively was a key part of Brighton's effort throughout the match.

Briley Bennett also turned in an impressive all-around performance for the Lady Cardinals. Bennett finished with 13 kills, three aces and 23 digs, making an impact in every phase of the match.

Molly Quirarte was another defensive standout for Brighton, recording 23 digs as the Lady Cardinals worked to keep rallies alive and battle back after falling behind early.

Greta Garrett added to



Brighton's success with a strong serving performance, finishing with 36 aces.

After struggling to find its rhythm in the first two sets, Brighton made the necessary adjustments and completely changed the direction of the match. The Lady Cardinals' defense, serving and offensive attack all came together during the final three sets.

The victory showed Brighton's ability to battle through adversity and refuse to give up. After dropping the first two sets, the Lady Cardinals outscored Millington Central 65-37 over the final three sets to complete one of their most impressive comebacks of the season.

Munford dominates Millington 61-0 in rivalry rout

David Perry

MUNFORD — The Munford Cougars put together a dominant performance on both sides of the football Friday night, overwhelming the Millington Trojans 61-0 in a one-sided rivalry matchup.

Munford controlled the game from the opening whistle, piling up 414 yards of total offense while holding Millington to just 18 total yards. The Cougars did most of their damage on the ground, rushing for 397 yards as several ball carriers found the end zone.

Quarterback Dixon Mooneyham helped lead the explosive rushing attack, carrying the ball six times for 97 yards and a touchdown. Mooneyham also completed his only pass attempt of the night for 17 yards, giving the Cougars another efficient performance under center.

Qua Bell was another major contributor for Munford, rushing five times for 81 yards and a touchdown. Bell also added a two-point conversion as the Cougars continued to build their lead throughout the game.

Jaheim Smith made his presence felt in all phases of the game. Smith carried

the ball three times for 81 yards and a touchdown while adding two two-point conversions. On defense and special teams, Smith recorded three tackles, blocked a punt and recovered a fumble.

Tay Starks led the Cougars in touchdowns, finding the end zone three times on just five carries. Starks finished the night with 62 rushing yards as Munford's deep backfield continued to create big plays.

Trevor Starks added 54 yards on four carries, while Germanione Turner scored on his lone rushing attempt of the game. Turner finished with 13 yards and a touchdown.

The Cougars' ability to spread the football among multiple playmakers proved difficult for Millington to slow down. Munford averaged big gains on the ground and consistently gave its ball carriers room to make plays in the open field.

While the offense was nearly unstoppable, the Munford defense was equally impressive. The Cougars held Millington to only eight rushing yards and 18 total yards for the entire game, never allowing the Trojans to establish

any offensive momentum.

Emery King led Munford with four tackles, while Amare Bell added three tackles and a tackle for loss. Smith finished with three tackles in addition to his blocked punt and fumble recovery.

The shutout was a complete team effort, with the defense controlling the line of scrimmage and the special teams unit creating additional opportunities for the offense.

By the end of the night, Munford had turned the rivalry contest into a statement victory. The Cougars' 61 points came behind a balanced collection of rushing touchdowns and explosive plays, while the defense ensured Millington never had an opportunity to get back into the game.

Munford will have an opportunity to rest and prepare this week as the Cougars enter their bye week. The team will return to action the following week at home when it hosts Woodford County out of Kentucky.

After a dominant 61-0 victory over Millington, the Cougars will look to carry their momentum into the next challenge in front of their home crowd.

Got Some News?

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