



Covington to mark 25th anniversary of Sept. 11 attacks Friday

Representatives from across Tipton County will gather at 7:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 11, on the east side of Historic Covington Square to remember, honor and unite in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of Sept. 11, 2001.

Organizers invite the community to come together to honor the heroes, remember the lives lost and reaffirm a commitment to unity, resilience and freedom.

REMEMBER. HONOR. UNITE.

Presented by the City of Covington.



Treon Ingram sentenced to life without parole in 2021 Covington homicide

Staff Reports

Treon Ingram was sentenced to life without parole after being convicted Sept. 4 in Tipton County Circuit Court in connection with a 2021 shooting in Covington that killed Anita Wilson and injured Darnisha Wynn-McLeod. Ingram, 27, of Memphis, was convicted of first-degree murder, attempted first-degree murder, possession of a firearm during

SEE HOMICIDE, PAGE A2

QUOTE OF THE WEEK "The newspaper is a greater treasure to the people than uncounted millions of gold." —Henry Ward Beecher

OBITUARIES

Julie Anne Rackham Barbara Coulston William "Billy" Otis Warr Jr.

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Three arrested after deputies find steroid lab at Munford home

Sheriff's office says operation had ties to Louisiana, New York and Tennessee

Tipton County authorities say they found a drug manufacturing lab in Munford and arrested three people Friday.

The Tipton County Sheriff's Office says investigators executed a search warrant at a house in the 1300 block of Walker Field Road.

Investigators believe

they found an anabolic-steroid manufacturing laboratory inside the residence, part of a multistate narcotics manufacturing and distribution operation with connections to Louisiana, New York and Tennessee.

They seized 22 pounds of steroid compounds, one pound of psilocybin mushrooms, more than 500 ille-

gally manufactured Xanax pills, more than 500 pre-loaded vials prepped for distribution, other prescription medications, marijuana and multiple firearms.

David Adam McNeil, also known as "Mad Hatter," 39, of Munford, is charged with possession of a Schedule I controlled substance with intent to manufacture, deliver or sell; possession of a Schedule III controlled substance with intent to manufacture,

deliver or sell; possession of a Schedule IV controlled substance with intent to manufacture, deliver or sell; possession of a legend drug with intent to manufacture, deliver or sell; possession of drug paraphernalia; and aggravated child abuse, neglect and endangerment. McNeil is jailed on a \$500,000 bond.

Amanda Carol McNeil, 39, of Munford, is charged with aggravated child abuse, neglect and endan-

germent. She is free on a \$5,000 bond.

David Lee McNeil, 68, of Munford, is charged with possession of a Schedule VI controlled substance with intent to manufacture, deliver or sell; possession of a firearm during the commission of a dangerous felony; and aggravated child abuse, neglect and endangerment. He is free on a \$10,000 bond.

A boy's faith, 26 years on, still fills a church hall

Hunter Dee Stafford Memorial Wildlife Supper returns to Holly Grove Church on Saturday

Hunter Dee Stafford knew his path well before many of us even begin to dream our own, and his spirit continues to inspire long after his tragic passing.

Born as the first child of Jimmy and Emma Stafford, Hunter lived with Type 1 diabetes and needed daily insulin injections. Even as a young boy, Hunter could best be described as an old soul.

"He was a sensitive, compassionate child," his mother, Emma Stafford, said. "He knew what he could and couldn't do or have, but he was always courteous. If someone gave him a candy bar, he'd say, 'I can't have that, but I'll take it just in case my sugar gets low.'"

Hunter twice became a big brother in the early 1990s, to Maddie and Katie. He and his father, Jimmy, would spend hours together as they bonded in the woods or on the water.

"He loved to hunt," Emma said. "He only took down one deer his whole life, but it was the camaraderie, the environment, the time with family and friends. That's what he really loved."

And his favorite place to be? In the church.

Hunter became a prominent part of the Holly Grove Church's children's department. He took part in every possible program and activity he could, with one exception.

While Hunter's parents trusted him and his understanding of how to maintain his health, they understood

the responsibility might be a bit much for a young boy to handle with the excitement of camp. The camp at that time lacked sufficient medical training in the event of an emergency.

Faith in God and prayer led the Staffords to decide Hunter could attend his first church camp in 1999, not long after his 11th birthday. That experience, as well as his time spent as a member of the Holly Grove Church, led Hunter to further his devotion. He chose to be saved in March 2000.

That summer would change the family's destiny.

The Staffords would regularly travel to Birdsong, Tennessee, where family-owned property brought kin together. Hours would pass as they swam, fished, played and spent time in the simple joys of togetherness.

The family returned from their own trip in the middle of July 2000, just in time for other family members to invite them up — an end-of-the-summer farewell before school bells rang again.

"We told them we'd just got back," Emma Stafford said, "but Hunter asked if he could go for just a weekend, just one more trip before school started, and we said, 'Okay.'"

Hunter rode up with his grandparents on a Saturday. During this ride, his old soul asked a question that surprised no one and amazed them at the same time:

"How much would it cost to go to school to become a pastor?"

HUNTER D STAFFORD MEMORIAL Wildlife Supper

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That old soul again showing its wisdom and forethought.

Hunter's grandfather reassured him that such a thing need not worry him, that if the Lord intended for him to help share His Word, then such would come to pass.

The rest of Hunter's family arrived in Birdsong on Sunday. The collected family joined together on that gorgeous morning for a shared breakfast before spending the rest of the day on the water — fishing, swimming and the simple pleasure of family time well spent.

Sadly, tragedy would change the trajectory of the Stafford family.

"My brother and brother-in-law were on a Jet Ski with Hunter at the back," Jimmy Stafford said. "We were out riding on the water when this boat went past us extremely fast, maybe 50, 75 yards away."

Jimmy paused, steeled

himself as Emma did, to recount what came next.

"Hunter turned left to wave at us, just as the boat took a sharp left turn and left the water.

"He never felt a thing."

The Staffords laid young Hunter to rest in August 2000. Emma and Jimmy spent the next several weeks with Emma's parents.

"We didn't want to go back home," Jimmy said.

Days went by with visitors who stopped to express their condolences; nights went by with Emma and Jimmy on the porch. Sometimes they would while away the time in conversation; other nights they would simply comfort each other as they grew into their new normal.

"We knew what we had to do," Emma said. "We had to trust in God to guide and lead us."

A month passed, and the grieving family knew they needed a way to honor

Hunter's life and his vision for how he wanted to live. A few weeks later, the answers came.

Part of the answer involved Jimmy's work to help change the boating safety requirements in the state of Tennessee. Each rider in the boat that ended Hunter's young life had consumed enough alcohol to fail a field sobriety test except for the operator, whose blood-alcohol content remained significantly lower.

Additionally, none of the occupants possessed any significant experience or understanding of how to properly operate a craft on open water.

At that time, no boating laws existed to aid the prevention of boating under the influence or to educate boaters on the proper handling of watercraft. Jimmy spoke with local and regional game wardens, who referred him

SEE FAITH, PAGE A2

Tipton County sheriff elected to state sheriffs' association board

Beasley named a Division 4 director as Robertson County's Van Dyke takes over as president

Tipton County Sheriff Shannon Beasley has been elected to the board of directors of the Tennessee Sheriffs' Association, the association announced.

Beasley was elected a Division 4 director along with Henry County Sheriff Josh Frey. All division directors and associate directors were elected by unanimous vote.

The elections were held during the association's 55th annual conference in August in Murfreesboro, where sheriffs and public safety leaders from across the state gathered for training, association business and policy discussions.

Sheriff Michael Van Dyke of Robertson County was sworn in as president of the association at the conference by Tennessee Commissioner of Safety and Homeland Security Jeff Long. Sheriff Terry McDade of Weakley County was elected first vice president and Sheriff Casey Cox of Cumberland County second vice president. Keith Lowery was appointed executive director.

"It is a tremendous honor to be selected by my fellow sheriffs to serve as President of the Tennessee Sheriffs' Association," Van Dyke said. "Tennessee's sheriffs face increasingly



TSA BOARD 2026 — Tipton County Sheriff Shannon Beasley, seated at far right, is among the members of the 2026-27 board of directors of the Tennessee Sheriffs' Association. Front row, from left: James Harville, Grainger County; Joe Guy, McNairy County; Josh Frey, Henry County; First Vice President Terry McDade, Weakley County; President Michael Van Dyke, Robertson County; Second Vice President Casey Cox, Cumberland County; Shane Fisher, Wayne County; Bill Phillips, Sequatchie County; and Beasley. Back row, from left: Tim Fuller, Franklin County; Brandon Boone, Clay County; Russell Barker, Anderson County; Executive Director Keith Lowery; Michael Hodges, Sevier County; Jeff Casside, Sullivan County; Robert Bryan, Wilson County; and Eddie Farris, Putnam County.

complex responsibilities, and this Association has an important role in making

sure our sheriffs and their employees have the training, resources, legislative

support and professional

SEE SHERIFF, PAGE A2



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MT. CARMEL NEWS

Elaine Watkins

We are still in a major heat wave. The temperature on the car was 102 when we came home from church. But 92 tomorrow, then up and down to 89 Friday. Then back to the 90s.

This week's farm report: We are through with corn! I rode in the new-to-us combine for three hours Monday with Clint. Love riding the combine! And we got .2 of an inch of rain on one field yesterday. One. Small chances later in the week. The soybeans are really suffering. I think some have been cut in the area. Hope they made good.

We drove over to Mason and ate at Bozo's Tuesday night. It was good, as usual! Went the back roads and saw lots of crops still in the fields, but some finished up. Fun night.

We had Mississippi chicken Wednesday night at church. It was kinda hot, but the mashed potatoes under it were great, as were the other sides.

There was a big birthday cake for Leroy Finto, and we all sang to him! I made Heath Bar cookies, but they weren't as good as the ones I had in Ripley at a restaur-

rant. Need their recipe!

I decorated red, white and blue outside yesterday, on the front porch and playhouse. I may start fall decorating Tuesday when I get all that put up. Love decorating!

On our prayer list at the Covington Church of Christ is Lang Taylor, recovering from surgery, and so many friends and relatives of our members. It was good to see Bobby White back today, after another trip to the hospital last week.

And all of our servicemen and women. And our country — God Bless the USA!

Leadership Seminar at Freed-Hardeman the 11th and 12th. Transform Women's Conference this weekend, and Area Wide Gospel Meeting the 14th through the 17th at Brighton Middle School, 7 p.m. nightly.

The birthday party at Magnolia Creek is on the 19th at 2, and devotional at Covington Care is on the 20th at 3.

Happy birthday this week goes to Lauren Benjamin and Adisyn Whaley on Sept. 8; to Andy Whaley on the 9th; to Chris Maness on the 10th; to Cody

Strickland on the 11th; and to Shirley Laxton, Ken Mason and Kristie Maxwell on the 12th!

Happy anniversaries to Robert and Jacque Trimm on Sept. 9!

We welcome Dianne Scott and Glinda Hayman! So glad to have you join our congregation!

This week's Farmers' Almanac quote: "Grandparents sort of sprinkle stardust over the lives of little children." — Alex Haley, American writer, 1921-1992.

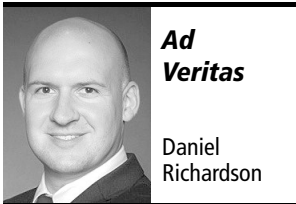
Happy National Grandparents Day on Sunday, the 13th! I had great grandparents! And great-great-grandparents!

Which leads me to a joke!

A couple got a lizard at a pet store. But when they got home, all it would do was tell dad jokes. Outdone, they returned him to the pet store and told them their problem. The pet store owner said, "He's not a lizard. He's a standup chameleon!"

Please join me in praying for rain! Thanks!

Until next week . . .



Ad Veritas

Daniel Richardson

Pretty much anyone old enough to remember Sept. 11, 2001, can tell you where they were when they first heard that something terrible was happening in New York.

I was sitting in a seventh-grade geography class. Looking back now as a parent, I can't imagine what it must have been like to be a teacher that morning. Teachers were learning the news at essentially the same time as everyone else, but they also had a classroom full of children looking to them for some explanation of what was happening.

At our school, it seems like teachers took several different approaches. Some turned on televisions in their classrooms. Others wheeled in those old TVs on carts that every school seemed to have back then. Some listened to radio reports.

Our geography teacher took a different approach. He simply told us that something had happened that morning that we would remember for the rest of our lives.

And that was about all he would tell us.

At the time, I remember being frustrated by that. Looking back, I understand it a little better. The country itself didn't yet understand what was happening, and he apparently didn't want to pass along information to a room full of seventh-graders until he knew what was true.

When the bell rang and I walked into the hallway, other students began filling in the gaps. Airplanes had hit the World Trade Center. One tower was on fire. Then both towers had been hit.

At first, many of us assumed it must have been some terrible accident.

An accident would have been horrifying enough.

The truth was much worse.

According to the official account assembled by the bipartisan 9/11 Commission, American Airlines Flight 11 struck the North Tower at 8:46 that morning. United Airlines Flight 175 struck the South Tower at 9:03. American Airlines Flight 77 hit the Pentagon at 9:37. The South Tower collapsed at 9:59, and United Airlines Flight 93 crashed near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, at 10:03 after passengers and crew fought back against the hijackers. The North Tower fell at 10:28.

By the end of the morning, America had changed.

Nineteen al-Qaeda terrorists had hijacked four commercial airliners and turned them into weapons. In all, 2,977 innocent people were killed in New York, at the Pentagon and aboard Flight 93. Among them were hundreds of firefighters, police officers and other first responders who ran toward danger while thousands of others were trying desperately to escape it.

Those numbers are important, but numbers can become strangely impersonal with time.

There were 2,977 individual people.

They had spouses ex-

We Remember

pecting them home that evening. Children waiting to see Mom or Dad. Parents, brothers, sisters and friends. Some had gone to work that morning. Some had boarded an airplane for an ordinary business trip or vacation. Firefighters and police officers responded to what they thought was an emergency and found themselves in the middle of an attack on the country.

Twenty-five years later, those are the people we should remember first.

But remembering also means trying to understand what happened, and that leads to another lesson from Sept. 11 that I think remains important today: the public needs access to information.

There are still questions surrounding 9/11, and there probably always will be. Some are legitimate questions about intelligence failures, government preparedness and what various agencies knew before the attacks. Others have developed into alternative theories that range from plausible questions worth examining to claims that have been investigated extensively and for which evidence has not been found.

For example, people often ask about World Trade Center Building 7 because no airplane struck it. That is true. The official investigation by the National Institute of Standards and Technology concluded that fires burning uncontrolled for hours led to a progressive structural collapse. NIST also specifically examined whether an explosion caused the building to fall and reported that it found no evidence of such a blast.

Likewise, theories have circulated for years that a missile rather than an airplane struck the Pentagon. The official record identifies American Airlines Flight 77, and the investigation included aircraft debris, eyewitness accounts and other physical evidence from the site.

That doesn't mean people should be discouraged from asking questions. Quite the opposite. Important events deserve scrutiny.

And there are genuine reasons to ask difficult questions about what happened before Sept. 11.

The 9/11 Commission itself reported that during the spring and summer of 2001, American intelligence agencies received a stream of warnings that al-Qaeda was preparing something major. CIA Director George Tenet famously described the system as "blinking red." An Aug. 6 presidential intelligence briefing was titled "Bin Ladin Determined to Strike in US."

The Commission ultimately found serious failures in imagination, coordination and information-sharing. Pieces of information existed in different places, but they were not assembled in time to prevent the attack.

Knowing that makes access to the historical record even more important.

There are legitimate reasons for government secrecy. Active military operations cannot be broadcast to an enemy. Intelligence sources sometimes have to be protected. The identities of minor crime victims deserve protection. Certain investigative records cannot reasonably be released

while an investigation is underway.

But secrecy should not become a reflex.

Eventually, the people deserve to know what their government knew, what decisions were made and why they were made. Government officials work on behalf of the public. Public records belong, in a very real sense, to the public.

We deal with this same principle on a much smaller scale as local journalists. Tennessee's Public Records Act begins with the principle that government records are open to citizens unless the law specifically provides otherwise. At the same time, the list of exceptions has grown considerably through the years, often for understandable reasons.

Every exception may have a good argument behind it. But collectively, we should always be cautious when the amount of information hidden from the public grows.

Lack of information creates a vacuum, and vacuums are quickly filled by rumor, speculation and distrust.

That is true when the subject is one of the greatest national tragedies in American history, and it is true when the subject is a controversy at the local courthouse or school.

Journalists have an important role in obtaining and explaining that information, but freedom of information isn't really a privilege for journalists. It belongs to everyone. The press simply uses that right on behalf of the public every day.

Still, I don't want questions about government transparency — or debates over what happened behind the scenes — to become the central story of Sept. 11.

The central story is the people.

It is the office worker who never made it home.

The firefighter climbing the stairs while everyone else was coming down.

The passengers aboard Flight 93 who learned what had happened in New York and decided they would not sit quietly while their airplane was used to kill more people.

It is the families whose lives changed forever that morning.

And it is a generation of Americans who can still close their eyes and remember exactly where they were when they first heard the news.

A quarter-century has passed now. An entire generation has grown to adulthood with no personal memory of Sept. 11 at all.

That makes our responsibility to remember even greater.

Tell your children where you were.

Tell them what happened.

Tell them about the people who died, the first responders who ran toward the buildings and the passengers who fought back.

Encourage them to learn the history and to ask questions.

Because "never forget" means more than remembering a date on the calendar.

It means preserving the truth of what happened and the memory of the people whose lives were taken that day.

Twenty-five years later, we remember.

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403 S. Main St.
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901-476-2434

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Covington, TN 38019
901-476-9694

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743 Galilee Church Road
Brighton, TN 38011
901-476-1105

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1756 Garland Dr.
Covington, TN 38019
901-476-9691

Garland Faith Community Church
1613 Garland Drive
Covington, TN 38058
901-476-9334

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1915 Rosemark Rd
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4955 Ballard Slough Rd
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Mason, TN 38049

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4538 Holly Grove Rd
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901-848-4542

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Mason, Tn 38049

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(901) 835-2886

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Mt. Lebanon Baptist
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Covington, TN 38019
901-476-3417

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mtsinaichurchhwy59@gmail.com

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Brighton, TN 38011
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Covington, TN 38019
901-476-3233

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Munford, TN 38058
901-837-9276

Munford First United Methodist
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901-837-8881

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901-412-0241

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901-835-5683

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901-828-2676

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Covington, TN 38019
901-489-0447

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Covington, TN 38019
901-476-0062

New Salem United Methodist
7803 Munford Gilt Edge
Burlison, TN 38015
901-476-8536

Oak Grove Baptist Church
4048 Highway 59 W
Covington, TN 38019
901-476-7259

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Covington, TN 38019
901-476-7016

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Covington, TN 38019
901-476-3162

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2600 Glen Springs Rd.
Drummonds, TN 38023
901-835-2611

Pleasant Hill Full Gospel
2739 Old Memphis Road
Covington, TN 38019
901-837-7687

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228 Quito Drummonds Rd.
Drummonds, TN 38023
901-835-2568

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Covington, Tennessee 38019

Quito United Methodist
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901-835-2318

Randolph Assembly of God Church
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Randolph United Methodist Church
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901-837-6721

River of Life
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901-837-8781

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901-829-2059

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Mason, Tennessee 38049
901-476-0961

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3400 Atoka-Idaville Road
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901-837-8210

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Covington, TN 38019
731-450-0100

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901-476-0081

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4100 Munford Gilt Edge
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901-837-2168

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681 Smith Grove Road
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901-476-7863

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7512 Hwy 59 W
Burlison, TN 38015
901-476-6178

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837-2140

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901-476-8140

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Covington, TN 38019
901-476-9746

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Covington, TN 38019
901-476-6577

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Stanton, TN 38069
901-476-5935

St John Missionary Church
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Atoka, TN 38004
901-837-2474

St. John Missionary Baptist Church
1602 Highway 59 West
Covington, TN 38019
901-4767645

ST. Paul Episcopal Church
2406 Hwy 70 East
Mason, TN 38049
901-294-2641

St. Stephens M.B. Church
3827 Hwy 51 North
Covington, TN 38019
901-476-1559

Tabernacle United Methodist
Church
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Covington
901-553-9598

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8323 Richardson Landing
Drummonds, TN 38023
901-835-3462

The Church at Shiloh
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Covington, TN 38019
901-476-3467

The Rock Church
1861 Hwy 51 South
Covington, TN 38019
901-476-9592

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470 Watson Rd
Munford, TN 38058
901-837-8356

Trinity Baptist Church
5954 Brighton Clopton Rd.
Brighton, TN 38011
901-476-8889

Trinity Episcopal Church
11886 Main St.
Mason, TN 38049

Victory Baptist Church
5422 Drummonds Rd
Drummonds, TN 38023
901-835-2280

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836 Church Rd.
Covington, TN 38019
901-475-1255

Westside Assembly
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Willow Grove M.B. Church
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Faith

ALONG THE JOURNEY

THE LEADER • THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2026 • A5

Kenneth S. Uselton

Welcome to September, a time of transition on our calendars each year. Schools have begun their classes, the energy of football season has arrived, the fall harvest is beginning, and summer (hopefully) is giving way to Indian summer — warm days and cooler nights. I do believe it is my favorite season of the year. But it has become a time of reflection, a time of somberness and melancholy for me, also. This time frame brings the anniversary of the loss of my eldest son — a spouse, a father, a brother, a son and an uncle; a teacher, a writer, a thinker, a humorist, a person of deep faith, a musician, a food and chef junkie; and, last but not least, a friend across all age levels from elderly to infant. In many ways he was a “renaissance man” for the ages who danced the dance of faith and doubt, for he was always thinking, questioning. He was a tinkerer of thoughts.

As a father, pastor, life coach and a bouncer of thoughts for my son, our relationship contained an array of tentacles that would not often be present for others. For instance, very intense and long discussions or debates around

religious issues, beliefs and understandings were a norm for our conversations, as well as the normal father-son chats of current day. He shared his writings of poetry and short story; he shared a desire to pen a novel at some point; and when preaching on laity Sunday he would bounce his thoughts and the focus of his message off me. As you can sense, there are some dark holes within my space.

I have shared this because I want to focus us today on the dance of faith and doubt which he and I often shared. If one believes, they will also have doubts. Even in our most confident moments, there are doubts. Basic religious faith is a vote for some coherence, purpose, benevolence and direction in the universe. Unfortunately, the notion of faith that emerged in the West was a much more rational assent to the truth of certain mental beliefs rather than a calm and hopeful trust that God is inherent in all things, and that this whole thing is going somewhere good.

I worry about “true believers” who cannot carry any doubt or anxiety at all. People who are so certain always seem, like Hamlet’s queen, to “protest too much” and try too hard. To

hold the full mystery of life is always to endure its other half, which is the equal mystery of death and doubt. To know anything fully is always to hold that part of it which is still mysterious and unknowable.

Doubt and faith are actually correlative terms. People of great faith often suffer bouts of great doubt because they continue to grow. Mother Teresa of Calcutta experienced decades of this kind of doubt, as was revealed after her death. In a letter to a trusted spiritual director she wrote, “Darkness is such that I really do not see ... neither with my mind nor my reason. The place of God in my soul is blank. I feel there is no God in me.” The very fact that people were scandalized by this demonstrates how limited our understanding is of the nature of biblical faith.

It seems a movement from certitude to doubt, and through doubt to acceptance of life’s mystery, is necessary in all encounters, intellectual breakthroughs and relationships — not just the divine. Human faith and religious faith are much the same except in their object or goal. What set us on the wrong path was making the object of religious faith “ideas” or doctrines instead of a spiritual creator being. Our faith is not

to be a faith that dogmas or moral opinions are true, but a faith that the Creator, the Ultimate Reality, the Spirit of the Universe, God, is accessible to us and journeys with us.

Our youthful demand for certainty eliminates most anxiety on the conscious level, so I can see why many are tempted to remain in such a control tower. We do not have enough experience of wholeness to include all its parts yet. The first-half-of-life naïveté includes a kind of excitement and happiness that is hard to let go of unless we know there is an even deeper and tested kind of happiness ahead of us. But we do not know that yet in the early years, which is why those in the second half of life must tell us about it. Without elders, a society perishes socially and spiritually.

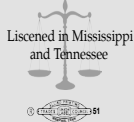
It is probably necessary to eliminate most doubt when we are young; doing so is a good survival technique. But such world-views are not true, and they are not wisdom. Wisdom happily lives with mystery, doubt and unknowing and, in such living, ironically resolves that very mystery to some degree in our journey. ... in the journey with you!



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by Rick Huffman, Elder

I Saw God Today

No man has seen God face to face (Exodus 33:20). When God appeared to Moses in the burning bush to call him to Egypt to deliver the Israelites, Moses “was afraid to look upon God” (Exodus 3:6). When Moses was on Mt. Sinai receiving the Law, Moses said to God, “I beseech thee, shew me thy glory” (Exodus 33:18). God agreed to “make all my goodness pass before thee” (Exodus 33:19). God told Moses, “Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live” (Exodus 33:20). God told Moses to “stand upon a rock” in a place by God, and that His “glory” would pass by him (Exodus 33:21). God would place him in a “clift,” or crevice, in the rock, and God would cover Moses with His hand as He passed by (Exodus 33:22). God said, “And I will take away mine hand, and thou shalt see my back parts: but my face shall not be seen” (Exodus 33:23).

When Stephen was stoned by the angry mob, it is said, “But he (Stephen), being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God” (Acts 7:55). Notice it said that Stephen saw Jesus. It does not say he saw God; it says he “saw the glory of God.”

John states two different times that no man has seen the Father (John 1:18; 1 John 4:12). John says we have not seen the Father,

but that the Son was seen by men and that His Son has made God known. “No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him” (John 1:18). Jesus reaffirmed this when He said if you have seen me, you have seen the Father, after Philip asked Jesus to show them the Father. “Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?” (John 14:8-9).

In the other place where John says we cannot see God, John reveals a fact that should comfort and encourage us. That fact is that if we as brothers in Christ love one another, God dwells in us (1 Corinthians 6:19-20; 2 Corinthians 6:16). “No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us” (1 John 4:12). Even though we cannot see God, He is abiding in us if we are His children and love one another.

Maybe this is what prompted Paul on Mars’ Hill, when explaining to them about the one true God, to make the statement that God wants us to find Him and that He is close by. “That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find

him, though he be not far from every one of us” (Acts 17:27). In fact, there is no place we can go where God is not present — the omnipresence of God. “Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee” (Psalms 139:7-12).

We cannot see God or come into His presence because we are physical — earthy, terrestrial — and He is spiritual — heavenly, celestial. Paul tells us the time is coming when we will be changed so that we can see Him (1 Corinthians 15), and that is at the resurrection. The deceased shall be raised incorruptible; those alive will be changed (1 Corinthians 15:52). The corruptible must put on incorruption and the mortal must put on immortality (1 Corinthians 15:53) in order to be in God’s presence. John explains that we must become like Him to see Him. “Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know

that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is” (1 John 3:2).

Yet, there is a sense in which we do see God now. George Strait sang of the flower growing in the middle of a concrete sidewalk, the sunset where shades of amber melted into shades of red, and the birth of his daughter. His reaction was, “I saw God today.” When we sing “America the Beautiful,” we see God in the “purple mountain majesties,” “the fruited plain” and “the amber waves of grain.” The Psalmist says that we see God when we view the skies and clouds and see the moon, stars and planets. “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork” (Psalms 19:1). “The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory” (Psalms 97:6). Paul says those who do not believe in God and acknowledge Him as God are without excuse (Romans 1:18-21), because God is clearly seen in His creation. “For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse” (Romans 1:20).

I look forward to seeing Jesus and God as they are. But, for now, I am content because I saw God today. I hope you did, too!

We’re looking for people interested in sharing their messages of faith and spirituality with our readers! Submit your columns to us for possible publication (at no charge!) via email at adrianna@magicvalleypublishing.com Call 901-476-7116 for more information.

Area wide gospel meeting set for Sept. 14-17 at Brighton Middle School

The Area Wide Gospel Meeting will be held Sept. 14-17 at Brighton Middle School, with services at 7 p.m. each evening. Singing precedes the meeting each night from 6:30 to 7 p.m.

This year’s theme is “Give me the Bible.”

Sept. 14 — “For Unity in a World of Chaos,” Jermal Blanchard, Hatchie church of Christ, Covington

Sept. 15 — “For Love in

a World of Hate,” Daniel Dalton, Gilt Edge church of Christ

Sept. 16 — “For Joy in a World of Sorrow,” Mike Rogers, Covington church of Christ

Sept. 17 — “For Peace in a World of Despair,” John Somerville, Mason church of Christ

News tip or story idea? Call 901-476-7116

TIGER

YOU GOT ANY BRAKES ON THIS THING?

WHAT? I CAN'T HEAR YOU!

I SAID: ANY BRAKES ON THIS CART?

HUH? BRAKES! BRAKES!

by BUD BLAKE

Amber Waves

WOW, WHAT A GREAT DAY! FIRST, THE FARMER SERVED UP EXTRA CORN COBS AND GRAIN.

THEN I WAS ABLE TO GET A NICE SHADY SPOT IN THE MUD FOR AN AFTERNOON NAP.

AT THIS POINT I DON'T THINK ANYTHING COULD WRECK A PERFECT DAY LIKE THIS.

DID YOU WATCH THE NEWS TODAY? I WAS WRONG.

by Dave T. Phipps

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. Poker hand	F _ _ _ _ _	Redden in the face	B _ _ _ _ _
2. Unmarried	S _ _ _ _ _	Socialize	M _ _ _ _ _
3. Talisman	_ _ _ _ _ M	Graph	_ _ _ _ _ T
4. Sell abroad	_ _ _ _ _ O _ _	Specialist	_ _ _ _ _ E _ _
5. Goliath, e.g.	_ _ I _ _ _	Civil War general	_ _ R _ _ _
6. Actress Elizabeth	_ _ _ Y _ _ _	Clothes maker	_ _ _ I _ _ _
7. Arms and legs	_ _ _ _ _ S	Caribbean dance	_ _ _ _ _ O
8. President Johnson	_ _ Y _ _ _ _	Thames city	_ _ O _ _ _ _
9. Round map	_ _ _ _ _ B _ _	Hand warmer	_ _ _ _ _ V _
10. Pebble	S _ _ _ _ _	Make amends	A _ _ _ _ _

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

Weekly SUDOKU

Solution time: 23 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Even Exchange

Answers

FEAR KNIGHT

By: rj johnson

DOUBT? ... OR DARE!

TSE
RADBUS
♥RSVEE
♥EVNA
VIRTEN
♥ABR
ATBI
DEENU
♥NBA
♥BALUNE
♥AIRLV
♥ESRU

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.

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Actor Sharif
5 "Humbug!"
8 JFK guesses
12 Cape — Portugal
13 In the style of
14 Seniors' gp.
15 Manhattan, for one
17 China (Pref.)
18 "The Sopranos" restaurateur
19 Brunch fare
21 Thick chunk
24 TV spots
25 Ancient invader
28 Uber competitor
30 Mas' mates
33 Chef Garten
34 Bo of "10"
35 Pen filler
36 — chi
37 Location
38 — B'rith
39 Young fellow
41 "Absolutely!"
43 Texas city
46 Caravan stops
50 Big rackets
51 Pulled-back hairdo
54 Icelandic epic
55 Chang's brother
56 "Andor" actor Diego —

DOWN

1 Sea predator
2 Heath
3 Ad agcy. client
4 Debonair
5 Sheep call
6 Boxer Laila
7 Angelic light
8 Allayed
9 Severe decline
10 "Rule, Britannia!" composer
11 Espy
16 Aviv preceder
20 Mardi Gras wear
22 Computer brand
23 Exposés
25 "Shool"
26 — tear (rag-ing)
27 Hindmost parts
29 Boyfriend
31 Comic Gasteyer

32 Enjoy Aspen
34 June honorees
38 Ringo, for one
40 Analyze
42 Trigger's rider
43 Baltic feeder
44 Queen of Carthage
45 Pinnacle
47 Biblical king
48 Aachen article
49 Serb or Croat
52 Musician Yoko
53 Private aid gp.

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STICKELERS

by Terry Stickels

The words below share an interesting feature not often found in the English language. What is it?

Buckle, left, strike, weather, sanction, oversight, bolt

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SCRAMBLERS

Restore

PRARIE

Virtue

REMIT

Rancor

RUGGED

Tether

SHALE

TODAY'S WORD

WORD SPIRAL

G T

T A

L

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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4 6 8 4 7 3 6 4 3 8 4 3 4
P Y P R K C O O H A F E I
6 4 6 4 3 8 7 4 7 6 7 5 3
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2 6 3 8 7 5 6 2 8 4 6 8 4
B E F C Y G E E H L S E E
2 3 4 3 2 8 7 2 7 4 2 4 6
A U C L U C O T U O Y N T
3 6 7 4 5 4 8 3 2 3 4 7 4
D E R T O A K A E Y C D T
2 8 6 2 7 8 7 8 6 5 6 8 2
N G E D R R E O M O E W U
5 8 7 6 5 2 5 7 5 7 2 5 2
D S A D M R O M V S E E S

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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Sticklers Answer

1-d, 2-e, 3-a, 4-b, 5-c

Word Spiral Answer

SCRAMBLERS

1. Grain; 2. Matron
3. Tense; 4. Malden

Solution

SNORING

Today's Word

Cryptoquip

Automobile fuel pumped at a station on an official line between two countries; border petrol.

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Julie Anne Rackham
Sept. 13, 1960 —
Sept. 2, 2026

Julie Anne Rackham, 65, passed away peacefully on Sept. 2, 2026, at Regional One Health in Memphis. She was born Sept. 13, 1960, in Springfield, Ohio, to the late Leonard and Mary Dillahunt.

Julie was truly a people person. She had a warm, welcoming spirit and a heart that always seemed to have room for one more. She was known for opening her home and her heart to anyone who needed a little extra love, especially during the holidays. Julie never met a stranger and had a gift for making everyone around her feel like family.

One of Julie's favorite places to be was the aquatic center, where she spent countless hours taking classes and enjoying the friendships she made there. She rarely missed a class and, over time, created a special circle of friends affectionately known as the "Pool Ladies."

Julie was incredibly talented and creative. She loved to paint and had an amazing ability to look at almost anything and recreate it freehand. She shared that same natural gift with music. Julie could sit down at the piano, hear a song just once and play it from memory.

Throughout her career, Julie worked as a taekwondo instructor and as a professional greenskeeper for various golf courses. She took pride in everything she did, but there was one title she cherished above all others, and that was being a professional grandmother. Her grandchildren were her pride and joy, and she treasured every moment she spent loving, spoiling and making memories with them.

Julie leaves behind a beautiful legacy of love and family. She is survived by her husband of 45 years, Robert "Bob" Rackham; her daughters,

Minister William "Billy"
Otis Warr Jr.
June 5, 1953 —
Sept. 2, 2026

Minister William "Billy" Otis Warr Jr. departed this life on Sept. 2, 2026, in Covington.

Visitation will take place Saturday, Sept. 12, at St. Luke M.B. Church from 10 to 10:55 a.m., with the homegoing service beginning at 11 a.m. Cotton Cemetery in Covington will be his final place of rest.

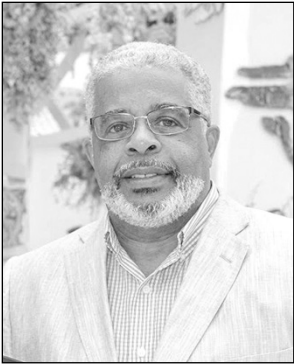


Mindy Rackham and Misty Brumett (Ben); her grandchildren, Noah Yarbrough, Zoey Yarbrough, Tristen Hedrick, Ellie Brumett and Charlie Brumett; her sister, Karen Warwick; her brothers, Tyler Dillahunt, Brian Dillahunt and Mark Dillahunt; and her beloved dog, Daisy. She was preceded in death by her brother, Jim Dillahunt.

Together, Julie and her husband, Bob, built a beautiful life filled with love, family, laughter and countless memories. For many years, they shared their home and their hearts at Possum Ridge Farms, a special place that became the backdrop for some of the family's greatest memories. The farm was a place where the grandchildren could run and play, goats and cows were milked, chickens were always roaming, and beautiful sunrises began each day. It was more than a farm — it was home, and it was a place where Julie and Bob created a lifetime of memories with the people they loved most.

Julie will be remembered for her generous heart, her welcoming home, her incredible talents, her love of people and, most of all, the way she made those around her feel loved and accepted. Her family and friends will carry her memory with them and cherish the countless moments she gave them.

A celebration of Julie's life was held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 8, at Maley Yarbrough Funeral Home, with visitation beginning at 10 a.m.



Barbara Coulston
June 24, 1937-
September 5, 2026

Barbara Coulston, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, passed away peacefully on September 5, 2026, surrounded by the family she loved so dearly. She was born in Memphis, Tennessee, on June 24, 1937, to the late Malcolm and Marie Woods.

Barbara was a graduate of Haywood County High School in Brownsville, Tennessee. She was a talented seamstress who could make just about anything, creating clothes for herself, her daughter LaDonna, her husband, and her boys. Her creations ranged from coats and everyday clothing to beautiful horse show outfits. She also enjoyed crocheting, crafts, woodworking, gardening, and spending quiet days watching the hummingbirds in her yard. She loved preserving vegetables to enjoy throughout the winter and took great pride in the traditions that came with caring for her family. One special tradition she shared with her husband, Lawrence Dennis Coulston was making homemade sweet pickles. Over the years, those pickles became much more than something they made together. They became a gift of love that was shared with family and friends. She was also a lifelong Elvis Presley fan and enjoyed his music throughout the years. On August 16, 1955, Barbara married the love of her life, Lawrence Dennis Coulston. Together, they built a life centered around family, hard work, and countless memories. Barbara often went with L.D. to construction sites, where she was more than happy to help paint and lend a hand. She also had a keen eye for detail and was quick to notice anything that needed a little fixing or anything that wasn't perfectly level. Barbara worked for Rosemark Academy for many years as a secretary, where she became a familiar and valued part of the school community. She and L.D. also spent many years coaching baseball and supporting their children and grandchildren. Summers were often filled with baseball games and horse shows, and Barbara was there cheering them on. In later years, she continued that tradition, making every effort to attend the sporting events and activities of her grandchildren and even her great-grandchildren. Faith was another important part



of Barbara's life. She was a faithful member of Stanton Church of Christ for more than 60 years. Her faith was reflected not only in her attendance but in the way she continually supported causes close to her heart, including missionaries in India, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and the Memphis School of Preaching. Barbara was also an active member of the Mason Volunteer Fire Department, giving her time and support to her community. Above all else, Barbara loved her family. She held tightly to family traditions and especially cherished gathering everyone together for the Fourth of July. Her home was a place where memories were made, traditions were passed down, and family was always welcome. She leaves behind a legacy of love, hard work, creativity, faith, and devotion to family that will continue through the generations.

Barbara was preceded in death by her parents, Malcolm and Marie Woods; her beloved husband, Lawrence D. "L.D." Coulston; her son, Kenneth Lynn Coulston; and her siblings, Elaine Naifeh and Ronald Woods. She leaves to cherish her memory her children, LaDonna (David) Nance, Lawrence Jr. (Terri), Malcolm (Renee), and daughter-in-law Laurie Coulston; nine grandchildren; a host of great-grandchildren; and many other family members and friends who were blessed to know and love her.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Visitation will be held on Friday, September 11, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at Maley-Yarbrough Funeral Home. Funeral services will follow at 1:00 p.m. Burial will follow at Cedar Hill Cemetery.

So when is thirty
years not thirty years?



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.



Now do the same jump from where we sit in 2026. Thirty years back only lands you in 1996. And here's the part that stopped me: 1996 doesn't feel thirty years gone. It feels like ten.

Think about why. The cars look a little older, sure, but they don't look like they came from another world — they look like last decade's cars. The music from '96 isn't a relic; if anything it's harder to pin down than the music of today, not easier. Fashion hasn't swung wildly in some new direction. And by 1996, the television — while much heavier — was already in color, the computer screen was already in color, the cell phone already existed. It was just a brick instead of a slab of glass in your pocket. You can tell 1996 from 2026 the way you tell an old photograph from a sharp one. You can't tell it the way you tell a different world from this one.

So when is thirty years not thirty years? When the world underneath it quit remaking itself every decade. If you actually want Marty's experience — the fins on the cars, the different rules on the wall, the sense that you've landed somewhere foreign — thirty years won't get you there anymore. You'd have to go all the way back to 1955 itself. That's seventy-one years now, not thirty.

The DeLorean still time travels. But the road behind us has gotten a lot longer. Mr. Peel seeks justice for those injured in tractor-trailer and car accidents, medical malpractice and disability. He often addresses churches, clubs and groups without charge. Mr. Peel may be reached through PeelLawFirm.com, where other articles may be accessed.

And it wasn't just thirty years back. It was back before the yuppies of the early eighties, before the gas and hostage crises of 1979, back before the hippies of Woodstock, and even before the Vietnam-era disaffection of the sixties — four generations of upheaval stacked on top of each other before you even got to 1955. No wonder it felt like a different planet. It was.

And it wasn't just thirty years back. It was back before the yuppies of the early eighties, before the gas and hostage crises of 1979, back before the hippies of Woodstock, and even before the Vietnam-era disaffection of the sixties — four generations of upheaval stacked on top of each other before you even got to 1955. No wonder it felt like a different planet. It was.

Salvation is a choice

Ralph Kelly

Acts 13:46-52: "Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, it was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles. For so the Lord has commanded us: I have set you as a light to the Gentiles, that you should be for salvation to the ends of the earth."

"Now when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and glorified the word of the Lord. And as many as had been appointed to eternal life believed."

"And the word of the Lord was being spread throughout all the region. But the Jews stirred up the devout and prominent women and the chief men of the city, raised up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from their region. But they shook off the dust from their feet against them, and came to Iconium. And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit."

How did Paul and Barnabas respond to their Jewish opposition? They grew bold

and spoke outright to the religious rulers, saying, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles. For so the Lord has commanded us: I have set you as a light to the Gentiles, that you should be for salvation to the ends of the earth."

When the Gentiles heard the words of Paul and Barnabas, they were joyful and they glorified the word of the Lord. But the Jewish religious rulers stirred up the pious and wealthy, well-known women and the important, wealthy businessmen of the city, and these people raised up persecution against Paul and Barnabas and made an attempt to drive them out of their district. I can imagine the same type of rhetoric we hear today when one group of people — whether religious, political or business — takes offense at another group of people.

But Paul and Barnabas were bold in their preaching, and they refused to let this challenge go unanswered. So Paul and Barnabas told the religious rulers that they

had judged themselves unworthy of eternal life, and Paul said that because of their choice, they would go to the Gentiles, who would listen. Paul and Barnabas rebuked those who had rejected Jesus, and they let the religious rulers know that it was a privilege and a fulfillment of a promise that this message should come to Israel first — a privilege which they had knowingly and willingly rejected.

We need to understand that the word "judge" here is used in its full legal sense. It does not mean just to consider, for these religious rulers by no means thought that they were unworthy of eternal life. What it actually means is that these religious rulers judged themselves and passed sentence on themselves. The religious rulers believed that they "deserved" eternal life because of their position, yet their rejection of the message by Paul and Barnabas was a self-pronounced sentence. What their judgment did, by their words and actions, was to prove them to be the scoffers and despisers that Habakkuk spoke of, and made them to be unworthy of eternal life. Habakkuk 1:5: "Look among the na-

tions and watch, be utterly astounded! For I will work a work in your days which you would not believe, though it were told you."

The opposite reaction of the Jewish religious rulers came from the Gentiles, who rejoiced and glorified the word of God. And there were many who believed.

"And as many as were ordained to eternal life believed." If we take this at face value, then it can only mean that God's initiation to eternal life is the cause, not the effect, of any man's believing. If we believe this explanation, then we believe as the Calvinists do. They believe either all were not appointed to everlasting life, or all believed; but because all did not believe, Calvinists say that certain ones were chosen and others were rejected, and therefore God did not only foreknow, but He also foreordained. That means that neither our faith nor the effects of our faith is the cause of God's choosing, but His choosing is the cause of faith.

But, thank God, this is not the meaning. "And as many as were ordained to eternal life believed" is not the true translation. The literal translation is "as many as were

disposed for." The meaning of "disposed" is "inclined or willing," which gives us a whole new understanding. Against Calvinists' belief, it is the person who chooses to believe in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus who determines who is truly saved.

Paul and Barnabas responded with more evangelism to open hearts, but now they were directing their efforts to the Gentiles in obedience to God's command. Romans 1:16: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek."

And Paul and Barnabas were also fulfilling prophecy. Isaiah 49:6: "Indeed He says, it is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, that You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth."

And the Gentiles responded to Paul's preaching with whole-hearted belief, as they learned with joy that God did not hate the Gentiles, as the Jewish religious

rulers had said, and that a Gentile did not have to become a Jew first through Judaism; the truth is that He offers to the Gentiles life and salvation in Jesus, as He offers to anyone who truly believes.

I believe that Paul shows us wisdom and a lesson in not spending all his time trying to persuade people whose hearts have hardened. We know that even after he made Gentiles the focus of his evangelistic efforts, he still prayed earnestly for the salvation of Israel. Romans 10:1: "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved." But apart from his prayer for Israel, Paul spent his missionary time preaching to those who would listen to the word of God.

The word of the Lord was being spread, and it was being spread through the work of Paul and Barnabas, but especially through the lives of those people who were believing in Jesus.

But the jealousy, lies and hatred of the religious rulers stirred up the devout and leading women and the foremost men of the city, and the religious rul-

LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

As Required by TCA §30-2-306 Case Number, PR-5094

Estate of LONNIE WAYNE BOWLING, Deceased

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

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

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

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

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

SHARON HARVEY
E x e c u t o r ,
Administrator, Personal Representative

JULIE BYRD
ASHWORTH
Attorney
GINA SMITH
Clerk & Master/ Deputy Clerk

'SHARON HARVEY personally appeared before me, the undersigned Clerk of Tipton County Chancery Court of Tipton County, Tennessee, and made oath that the attached notice, being in the form required by Tennessee Code Annotated §30-2-306 shall be published in the The Leader, a newspaper published in Tipton County, Tennessee on and.

09/10,09/17

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

Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.
Debbie Bailey
DEBBIE BAILEY
E x e c u t o r ,
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.

09/3-09/10

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

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

LISA DAWN COX
E x e c u t o r ,
Administrator, Personal Representative
David Owen
Attorney
Gina Smith Heather Bentley
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.

09/3-09/10

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.

09/3-09/10

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Hearing on Proposed Sale of Munford Cemetery and Townsend Cemetery

The City of Covington Board of Mayor and Alderman will hold a public hearing on the proposed sale of Munford Cemetery and Townsend Cemetery to Broylman Memorial Group.

Date: Tuesday, September 22, 2026

Time: 5:30 PM

Location: Covington City Hall, 200 W Washington, Covington, TN

All interested parties may appear and present comments during the Regular Scheduled Board Meeting. 9/10-9/17

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 Regional Planning 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.

09/10

PUBLIC NOTICE - CITY OF COVINGTON PRETREATMENT PROGRAM MODIFICATION

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the City of Covington is proposing a substantial

modification to its approved Industrial Pretreatment Program, in accordance with

Tennessee Rule 0400-40-14-.18. The Division of Water Resources granted preliminary approval for these revisions on August 27, 2026.

Proposed Changes:

The proposed modifications alter the industrial monitoring requirements detailed in Activity 7 of the approved program. Specifically, these changes include a decrease in the frequency of self-monitoring or reporting required of industrial users, while continuing to meet all minimum State and Federal monitoring requirements.

Public Review and Comment Period:

The public is invited to review the proposed modifications and submit written

comments. The public review period will remain open for thirty (30) days from the

date of this publication. Comments or requests for additional information regarding the pretreatment

program amendments should be directed to the City of Covington Pretreatment Coordinator Calvin Johnson. 09/10

Tipton County, TN Government Request for Proposals Digital Orthoimagery

The Tipton County Purchasing Committee is soliciting sealed proposals for 'Digital Orthoimagery'. Any qualified and licensed

company is invited to obtain a copy of the specifications from the GIS Office by emailing sanderson@tiptonco.com.

All proposals are to be returned in a sealed package marked in the lower left-hand corner 'Digital Orthoimagery' on or before 12PM October 5, 2026 to:

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

or in person at the Administration Building located at 103 E Pleasant Ave, Covington TN, 38019 during normal business hours, Monday thru Friday, 8AM-5PM.

The Tipton County Purchasing Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids, and to waive any informality or irregularity in any bid received.09/10

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF TIPTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

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

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

A case has been filed in the Chancery Court of Tipton County, Tennessee, it appearing that the Defendants, Gault Financial, LLC and Unifund CCR Partners, are not to be found at their last

known address, and that the present whereabouts and address of Gault Financial, LLC and Unifund

CCR Partners are unknown and cannot be ascertained after diligent search and inquiry.

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

Rikki Herbert, 125 E. Pleasant Ave., Covington, Tennessee, 38019, on or before October 19, 2026, or Judgment by Default may be entered and the cause set for hearing ex parte.

Rikki Herbert (#39475) Owen and Witherington Law Group, LLC 125 E. Pleasant Ave.

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

08/27,09/3,09/10,09/17
SEE LEGALS, PAGE A9

From A7

SALVATION

ers provoked a persecution against Paul and Barnabas and barred them from their region. Jewish opposition was strong enough to force Paul and Barnabas to leave the area.

But following the command of Jesus, they shook off the dust from their feet against them and came to

Iconium. And all of the new disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

When Paul and Barnabas shook off the dust from their feet against them, they treated the city as a God-rejecting Gentile city.

If Israelites had to go in or through a Gentile city, when they left the city they would

shake the dust off their feet as a gesture meaning that they did not want to take anything from the Gentile city with them. In this sense, Paul and Barnabas were saying that they did not want to take anything with them from a Jewish city — or, for that matter, any city that had rejected Jesus. There were

many common people who had accepted Jesus, but it was the leaders of the city who rejected Him.

This rejection did not make Paul and Barnabas think there was something wrong with them. They knew the problem was with their enemies, and not with them.

All too often, rejection and opposition for the sake of the gospel makes us want to give up. But Paul and Barnabas responded with appropriate determination. They went to Iconium.

Both Paul and Barnabas were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit. Being filled with joy and being

filled with the Holy Spirit go together, and their joy canceled out their circumstances.

The joy of a true and sincere believer lies far beyond the reach of any earthly disturbance, and our joy is not affected by the changes and chances to which many men are exposed.

News tip or story idea?
Call 901-476-7116

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JUNE 2026 MARRIAGE LICENSES

The following marriage licenses were recorded in the office of Tipton County Clerk Mary Gaither in June 2026.
Christopher Blake Anton and Addison Lynn Eidson, issued June 4, married June 14 by the Rev. Shirley A. Bledsoe, minister.
Curicaveri Bernal II and Olivia Grace Wilson, issued June 24, married June 24 by Jillian S. Sandifer, notary.
Jairus Verdell Buford and Adrienne Dawn Hatchett, issued June 26, married July 16 by Kandyse Payne, minister.
Logan Charles Byers and Sydnee Emery Fisher, issued June 23, married July 5 by Dorothy Johnson, notary.
Christopher Edward Cranford and Melanie Denise Eliis Gordon, issued June 5, married June 21 by Johnny Pruett, pastor.
Christal Nicole Creasy and Jamie Edward Dancy, issued June 26, married July 25 by Peter L. Jeffery, reverend.
Ryleigh Dale Deverell and Justin Stanley Ervin, issued June 22, married June 28 by Rusty Wooten, county commissioner.
Destin Nicole Eaton and Anthony Deshun Smith, issued June 2, married June 21 by David Eaton, minister.
Veronica Jean Fitz and Allan Dewong Baldon, issued June 5, married June 6 by Amani M. Wright, notary public.
Adam Clint Garner and Talia Nicole Chism Reece, issued June 10, married

June 20 by J. Mark Chism, minister.
Lillian Caroline Garner and Landon Reed Jackson, issued June 17, married June 20 by Donna A. Parramore, elder.
Tabitha Lenore Hale and Orlandis Murray, issued June 10, married June 23 by Odell Murray, pastor.
Heather Nichole Hemby and Ashlyn Marie Wright Moyer, issued June 26, married June 26 by Elizabeth W. Fyke, notary.
Gracie Elyse Kirk and Josiaha William Jenkins, issued June 26, married June 27 by Cary E. Vaughn, pastor.
Stephen Kirk Lambert and Nicole Renee Knight, issued June 11, married June 13 by Charles Vanness, pastor.
Megan Lynn Leary and Jeremy Michael Giles, issued June 3, married June 3 by Ken Zelten, minister.
Jacob Aaron McKnight and Madison Blythe Johnson Wallace, issued June 18, married June 20 by Dustin Kitchens, pastor.
Tarra Jeanette Michaels and Ronnie Ray Thomas, issued June 3, married June 6 by Maurice W. Jackson, ordained minister.
Kelsey Ann Moss and Chloe Louise Fell, issued June 26, married July 10 by Mark Ellis, ordained minister.
Erica Leighann Murray and Odell Murray, issued June 10, married June 11 by Odell Murray, pastor.
Grant Alexander Nobles and Allison Marie Davidson, issued June 22, married June 27 by Scott Sealy,

minister.
David Shannon Pope and Wendy Kay Gipson Shannon, issued June 17, married June 26 by Bobby A. Jacobs, pastor.
William Paul Reeder and Miriam Alejandra Guerrero Anzaaldua, issued June 16, married June 10 by Chuck Williams, pastor.
William Shane Rook and Anna Lynn Matthews, issued June 18, married June 19 by Jillian S. Sandifer, notary.
Sharita Nichelle Stone and Detron Emytic Russell, issued June 3, married June 5 by Jillian S. Sandifer, notary.
Amber Leigh Tankersley and Antione Demond Culler, issued June 29, married June 29 by Mikenzie House, notary.
Matthew Justin Taylor and Ashley McCraw Clark, issued June 11, married June 13 by Richard Kiphut, minister.
Gabriel Ethan Thorton and Katelyn Elizabeth Belue, issued June 1, married June 2 by Gregory J. Tomke, pastor.
Randy Gene Webb and Stacey Leigh Morris, issued June 19, married June 20 by Andrew Kelly, pastor.
Bruce Andrew White and Aimee Michelle Schneider, issued June 26, married June 26 by Joshua Dale McLane, reverend.
Ethan Knox Willis and Bethan Jean Barnes, issued June 18, married June 20 by Maddison Crowe, notary.

Covington restaurant scores 68 on raw-food storage and sanitizer failures

Munford barbecue embargoes 40 pounds after walk-in cooler fails; seven county inspections

COVINGTON — El Presidente Mexican Restaurant, 899 Highway 51, scored 68 in a routine Tennessee Department of Health inspection August 26, the lowest of seven Tipton County inspections during the week of August 24 through 31.
The inspector cited four separate raw-food storage violations in the walk-in cooler: uncovered cooked chicken wings and cactus on shelves, raw fish stored above an uncovered container of sliced green onions, a hamburger chubb stored directly on top of a case of ready-to-eat pineapples, and raw shell eggs stored above a container of ready-to-eat pico de gallo. All were corrected on site.
Testing showed no sanitizer present in the dish machine. The person in charge was told the dishwasher could still be used to wash dishes provided a final sanitizing step was added in the three-compartment sink; that was set up and tested at 100 parts per million during the inspection, and the person in charge called the dish machine service representative.
The inspector also embargoed a half gallon of open orange juice stored unrefrigerated in a storeroom, and found two unlabeled spray bottles — one of purple liquid by the dish machine and one believed to be bleach water by the mop sink. The report states the person in charge did not have good control of product stored in the walk-in cooler given the four storage violations and the sanitizer failure.
Outlaw BBQ, 24 McLaughlin Drive #54, Munford, scored 88 in a routine inspection August 27 after an inspector found the interior walk-in cooler was not cooling properly. Inspectors embargoed 35 pounds of potato salad measured at 52 degrees and 5 pounds of coleslaw at 51 degrees, both stored in the cooler overnight — 40 pounds of product in all. The report requires a 90-day follow-up to confirm the cooler is working properly or has been replaced.
Los Alebrijes, 114 Atoka Munford Avenue, Atoka, scored 94 in a follow-up inspection August 27, up from the 79 it received August 19 after an inspector witnessed an employee using hand sanitizer instead of soap and water between handling payment and serving food. That violation no longer appears on the follow-up report.
Drummonds Elementary Cafeteria, 5068 Drummonds Rd., scored 95 in a routine inspection August 26 after the inspector found the dish machine was not sanitizing. The report states the dishwasher may be used to wash dishes but the final step must be sanitizing in the three-compartment sink.
Brighton Elementary Cafeteria, 1201 S. Highway 51, scored a perfect 100 on August 27. Marco's Pizza #8504, 11154 Highway 51 South Suite E, Atoka, scored 99 in a follow-up inspection the same day, and Crafted Coffeehouse, 110 W. Liberty Ave., Covington, scored 98 in a follow-up August 25; that report notes an employee went to the store and bought bleach, which was added to the sink and tested properly.
Inspection reports are public record. Complete reports for all Tennessee establishments are available at inspections.myhealthdepartment.com/tennessee.
This Week's Inspections at a Glance
Tipton County health inspections, August 24-31, 2026. Source: Tennessee Department of Health.
Outlaw BBQ, LLC — 24 McLaughlin Drive #54, Munford
Food service, routine, August 27 — Score: 88
No paper towels at hand-washing sink in kitchen. Corrected on site.
Food in walk-in cooler not being held cold. Embargoed 35 lbs. of potato salad at 52 degrees and 5 lbs. of coleslaw at 51 degrees, both stored in the walk-in cooler overnight.
Interior walk-in cooler not cooling properly; food items inside not held at proper temperature, resulting in embargo of 40 lbs. of product. 90-day follow-up required to ensure the cooler is working properly or has been replaced.
Cell phone stored on shelf above steam table with plastic to-go containers.
Wet wiping cloth stored on prep table.
Employee drink with lid stored on shelf above portioned to-go packaged food items.
Marco's Pizza #8504 — 11154 Highway 51 South, Suite E, Atoka
Food service, follow-up, August 27 — Score: 99
Item marked out of compliance, no detail given: nonfood-contact surfaces clean.
Brighton Elementary Cafeteria — 1201 S. Highway 51, Brighton
Food service, routine, August 27 — Score: 100
No violations noted.
Los Alebrijes — 114 Atoka Munford Avenue, Atoka
Food service, follow-up, August 27 — Score: 94 (up from 79 on August 19)
Items marked out of compliance, no detail given: thermometers provided and accurate; wiping cloths properly used and stored.
Comment: employee went to the store and bought bleach, added it to the sink and it tested properly.

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Notice of Public Auction

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

Table with 2 columns: Vehicle Description and Identification Number. Rows include 2006 Chevrolet C1500 Suburban, 2020 Buick Encore GX Select, 2012 Volkswagen Passat Sel, 2014 Nissan Altima 2.5S/SV/SL, 2017 Ford Fusion SE, 2007 Ford Escape XLT, 2011 Toyota Highlander SE Base, 2003 Toyota Tundra Access CAB, 2021 Chevrolet Equinox LT, 2002 GMC New Sierra C1500 Base, 2008 Great Dane Trailer, 2015 Vanguard National Trailer, 2013 Hyundai Sonata SE/Limited SE, and 2012 Chevrolet Impala LS.

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Lady Cardinals sweep Memphis Home Education Association

David Perry
Sports Writer

The Brighton Lady Cardinals earned a convincing 3-0 victory over Memphis Home Education Association, winning 25-20, 25-13 and 25-9 in a dominant three-set performance.

Brighton started the match with energy and confidence, overcoming a competitive opening set before taking control and carrying that momentum through the rest of the match. The Lady Cardinals' offense and defense worked together throughout the night, allowing Brighton to steadily build its advantage.

After winning the first set by five points, Brighton increased its lead in the sec-

ond set and finished with a commanding 12-point victory. The Lady Cardinals continued to apply pressure in the third set, taking control early and never allowing Memphis Home Education Association back into the match. Brighton closed out the sweep with a 25-9 win, taking the final set by 16 points.

Aeryl Potter played an important role in Brighton's victory, finishing the match with eight kills and 15 digs. Potter's ability to contribute offensively while also making defensive plays helped the Lady Cardinals maintain their momentum through all three sets.

Briley Bennett also turned in an impressive all-around performance, re-

cording 10 kills, three aces and 23 digs. Bennett's aggressive serving, strong attacking and defensive effort gave Brighton another reliable player in every area of the court.

Molly Quirarte helped anchor the Lady Cardinals' defense with 15 digs, keeping plays alive and giving Brighton opportunities to transition from defense to offense.

Greta Garrett led Brighton's offense with 24 assists, setting up her teammates throughout the match and keeping the offense organized while the Lady Cardinals worked toward the sweep.

The Lady Cardinals return home Monday to take on Houston.

Chargers roll past Douglass 67-14

Covington improves to 2-1 ahead of county rivalry game with Brighton

Steve Holt
Sports Writer

Last season the Douglass High Red Devils came to Covington with only 12 players. They were overruled by the Chargers. This year Douglass had doubled its numbers to 23.

"They played hard and with discipline," said Charger head coach J.R. Kirby. "You have to give them credit."

In the end, the Chargers were too big, too fast and too skilled as they rolled to a 67-14 win to improve to 2-1 for the season. CHS scored 35 points in the opening period and 55 in the half, setting up a running clock for the entire second half.

Six Chargers scored on offense as CHS put up 478 rushing yards on 30 carries and added 34 passing yards, with Colby Labermier completing 2 of 2

attempts for 20 yards and Carson Winberry connecting on 1 of 1 for 14 yards. The Red Devils were held to 55 total yards, completing 4 of 13 passing attempts for 32 yards and a 41-yard touchdown. Douglass' running game was held to 23 yards on 19 carries, including a 37-yard score late in the fourth period.

Freshman Cordarius Byars led the way for CHS on offense with 181 yards and three touchdowns on 10 carries. Steven Cunningham had two carries for 93 yards and a score. Collen Winfrey added a touchdown on four carries for 71 yards. Labermier got in the act with 70 yards on five carries and a touchdown. DJ Smith got five touches totaling 35 yards and a touchdown, and freshman Karsen Teamer accounted for 8 yards on two carries and a touchdown. Covington's defense was not to be denied, as Tacavion

Adams returned two Douglass fumbles 8 and 16 yards to top off the CHS scoring.

"We played well for the most part," Kirby said. "A lot of kids got to play and we scored 67 points. However, the same problems recurred as in our previous two games. We put the ball on the ground twice. Special teams have to improve, as well. We missed three extra points and allowed way too many yards on kick returns."

Looking to improve to 3-1, Covington takes on in-county rival Brighton in its last non-district game at 7 p.m. Friday.

"This will be a challenge," Kirby said. "The Cardinals went to Dyersburg and capitalized on numerous Trojan miscues to post a win. We have to go to Dyersburg for district play in October. The Cardinals will bring it. We have to be ready to play."

Covington Lady Chargers sweep Millington

David Perry
Sports Writer

The Covington Lady Chargers earned a straight-set volleyball victory over the Millington Trojans, winning 25-19, 25-22 and 25-22. Covington controlled the match from the opening serve and stayed composed during several competitive stretches to complete the three-set sweep.

The Lady Chargers established an early advantage in the opening set and used consistent play to keep Millington from gaining momentum. Covington closed out the first set 25-

19, setting the tone for the remainder of the match.

Millington responded with a stronger effort in the second set, keeping the score close throughout. Covington continued to make key plays when needed and finished the set 25-22 to move within one set of victory.

The third set followed a similar pattern, with both teams battling for control and Millington refusing to go away quietly. The Lady Chargers once again delivered in the closing points, securing a 25-22 win and completing the sweep.

Ava McCalla paced Covington with 11 kills and

also led the team with nine aces. McCalla added seven digs, giving the Lady Chargers strong production on both offense and defense.

Raylynn Elder added 10 kills as the Lady Chargers continued to find ways to attack the Millington defense, and Layton Smith contributed seven kills.

Abby Ward directed the Covington offense with 29 assists, helping set up the team's attackers throughout the three sets. Her distribution allowed Smith, Elder, McCalla and the rest of the Lady Chargers to remain active at the net.

Covington travels to Halls for its next match.

Turnovers costly in Brighton loss to JCM

Jeff Ireland
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When Brighton beat Dyersburg last week to move to 2-0, turnovers were huge. The Cardinals forced five fumbles and took advantage.

In Week 3 Friday night against Jackson Cental-Merry at home, it was a different story. Early Brighton turnovers put Brighton in a hole and the Cardinals could not recover in a 28-12 non-region loss to the Cougars.

"What stood out is I don't know what team this is," said a clearly frustrated Brighton head coach Keith Setler after the game. "I don't recognize them at all. Some of the worst tackling I've ever seen. Beyond the tackling, you're not going to win any game when you lose the turnover margin. We gave up the ball three times in the first half. At that point, you're supposed to lose. This is some bad football. It's on us to correct it."

JCM started the game with a 17-play, 10-minute drive to go ahead 7-0. Brighton followed with a promising drive, but the possession ended with a lost fumble at the JCM 38. Brighton's next drive ended with a punt, and JCM scored again to go ahead 14-0 with 2:40 left in the



Brighton senior Nasir Hill looks for an opening during Friday night's loss to JCM at home. Photo by Devin Littles

second quarter.

Brighton's next drive ended with another turnover and JCM took advantage to go ahead 20-0 at the half.

Brighton scored a couple of TDs in the second half, but the turnover bug hit again and JCM left town with a win. Jakarion Burrell scored both TDs for Brighton and finished with 119 yards on 16 carries.

The Cardinals (2-1) play at Tipton County rival Covington this week.

"We gotta wallow in it, cry in it, whatever, but after 24 hours you have to move on," Setler said. "If you don't get past that first loss, you'll let the team beat you twice."

Week 4 of high school football is here

County matchup between Covington and Brighton highlights this week's action

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

What: Munford (2-0) vs. Woodford County, Ky. (3-0)

When: Friday at 7 p.m.

Where: Munford

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

The skinny: This rivalry started last year when Munford travelled to Kentucky and got, what at the time, seemed like a surprising win against one of Kentucky's best football programs. Since then, Munford has shown itself to be one of the best Class 5A teams in Tennessee, so the Cougars are probably the favorite here. Woodford won 12 games last season and advanced deep into the playoffs.

Munford completely annihilated Millington last week in what used to be a competitive rivalry. Starks, a two-time Mr. Football nominee, figures to be a big factor in this one.

What: Covington (2-1) vs. Brighton (2-1)

When: Friday at 7 p.m.

Where: Covington

Players to watch: Covington – QB Colby Labermier, RB Collen Winfrey, RB Cordarius Byars, OL Hunter Jones, DL Jalen Holland; Brighton – DB Timon Wiggins, QB Michael Gilliland, RB Jakarion Burrell, TE Brett Cothran, RB Nasir Hill

The skinny: Covington beat Brighton 49-0 last season and has not lost to the Cardinals since 2016. Brighton has shown improvement this season. Could this be the year Brighton breaks the streak? That could depend on Brighton cleaning up

its mistakes after multiple turnovers in last week's loss to JCM. Covington has looked like a typical Covington team so far this year with a stable of running backs doing damage. Last week it was freshman Cordarius Bowers, who rushed for 181 of Covington's 478 yards on the ground.

What: Tipton-Rosemark Academy (0-3) vs. FACS (0-2)

When: Friday at 7 p.m.

Where: TRA

Players to watch: TRA – QB Cason Gilmore, RB Reggie Holmes, TE Buck Ford, WR Edward Lague, K Colin Corbitt

The skinny: The Rebels are winless this season, but the season is by no means lost. With a win vs. FACS, which TRA beat 49-7 last season, the Rebels will be right back in the middle of the playoff hunt in its league. Sophomore Reggie Holmes has been a bright spot for the Rebels. He has racked up 248 rushing yards while averaging 7.1 yards per carry.



TIPTON COUNTY

Band Showcase

SATURDAY SEPT. 12 BRIGHTON HIGH SCHOOL
GATES OPEN 6:30 PM PERFORMANCE 7:30 PM
DONATIONS TAKEN AT GATE
LIGHT CONCESSIONS SOLD BEFORE EVENT

Tipton County Band Showcase set for Saturday at Brighton High School

Music, marching and school spirit will take center stage Saturday evening as the Tipton County Band Showcase brings together three of the county's high school marching bands.

The showcase will be held Saturday, Sept. 12, at Brighton High School. Gates will open at 6:30 p.m., with performances beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The event will feature the marching bands from Brighton High School, Covington High School and Munford High School, giving students an opportunity to perform for family, friends and members of the community.

TIPTON COUNTY BAND SHOWCASE
Saturday, Sept. 12 — Brighton High School
Gates open 6:30 p.m. — Performance 7:30 p.m.
Donations taken at gate. Light concessions sold before event.

The showcase will highlight the hard work and preparation students have put into their marching band programs as they take the field for an evening of music, marching and school spirit.

Community members are encouraged to attend and support the local students and band programs. Donations will be accepted at the gate, with proceeds

helping support the event and participating bands.

Light concessions will also be available for purchase before the performances.

With Brighton, Covington and Munford all taking part, the Tipton County Band Showcase will bring the county's high school band programs together for one night of entertainment and community pride.

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