

## SPORTS



Blue Devils split games against Community.

■ See page 9

## HOLIDAY HOURS



Due to the New Year's holiday, our office will be closed Friday, Jan. 1. The deadline for ad material and content for the Jan. 5 edition is Thursday, Dec. 31 at 2 p.m. We will reopen Monday, Jan. 4.

## COVID-19 UPDATE

This snapshot was made available on: Dec. 27  
As of Dec. 13 Jackson County is in the Red Zone  
Total Active: 90  
Total Recovered: 839  
Hospitalizations: 25  
Deaths: 18  
Positivity Rate: 19.7 %



# JACKSON COUNTY SENTINEL

50 cents

Volume 123, Number 52

Gainesboro, Tennessee, Tuesday, December 29, 2020

1 Section, 12 Pages

## Unemployment Drops In Every County

Each of Tennessee's 95 counties experienced decreased unemployment in November 2020, according to new data released Thursday by the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (TDLWD).

Unemployment rates in 41 counties are now less than 5%. Fifty-four counties recorded rates of 5% or higher during the month.

Williamson County had the lowest unemployment rate. At 3.3%, its November rate dropped by 1.3 percentage points when compared to October. The new rate is just 1 percentage point higher than it was in November 2019.

At 3.6%, Moore County had the state's second-lowest rate for the month. The new figure is 1 percentage point lower than its October rate of 4.6%.

Overton County's unemployment dropped 1.7 percentage points bringing the rate to 4.2%.

Clay and Jackson counties also saw decreases of 1.7 percentage points. Clay now has a rate of 6.3% and Jackson has a rate of 5.6%.

Lake County recorded the highest jobless rate in November, but it still experienced a significant drop in unemployment. The county's new rate is 8.1%, down 2 percentage points when compared to October.

Shelby County's unemployment rate dropped more than any other county in the state. At 7.3%, it has the second-highest rate for the month, but it decreased by 3.7 percentage points when compared to its October rate of 11%.

A complete analysis of November's unemployment data for each county, including labor force estimates for areas across the state, is online.

Statewide, Tennessee experienced significantly lower unemployment during the month. The preliminary, seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for November is 5.3%, a 2 percentage point drop from October's revised rate of 7.3%. The new statistic is just 2 percentage points higher than the state's unemployment rate one year ago in November.

The state offers online options for Tennesseans searching for employment. Currently, on the state's workforce development website, Jobs4TN.gov, job seekers can find more than 230,000 open positions in a wide range of occupations and skill levels.

TDLWD recently launched the Tennessee Virtual American Job Center (VAJC). The new website located at [www.TNVirtualAJC.com](http://www.TNVirtualAJC.com) allows Tennesseans to research different programs, from different state agencies, that can help them remove barriers to employment so they can more easily reenter Tennessee's workforce. The VAJC allows job seekers to do this on their schedule, anytime, anywhere.

The state of Tennessee will release the December 2020 unemployment statewide rate Thursday, Jan. 21, 2021, at 1:30 p.m. CT.

## Moderna COVID-19 Vaccines Arrive



SENTINEL Photo / Megan Reagan

**Vaccines Arrive** – Overton County Health officials gave out the first round of vaccines Monday afternoon soon after they arrived that morning to health and emergency professionals. Pictured is Overton County Ambulance Services Director and Jackson County Commissioner Jim Morgan receiving the first vaccine in the county.

## 250,000 Expected To Be Vaccinated By Year End

MEGAN REAGAN  
staff writer

Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee said last Tuesday that he expects almost a quarter million Tennesseans to be partially vaccinated by the end of the year.

"We're fairly certain we'll have 250,000 Tennesseans vaccinated by the first," Lee said.

Lee made his comments during a teleconference with community newspapers from across the state.

Lee also addressed the executive orders he issued over the weekend, the toll COVID-19 has taken on Tennessee and the distribution of vaccines statewide.

Lee said more than 20,000 people had been partially vaccinated, so far, as of Tuesday.

According to Lee, the state had received about 56,000 vaccines from Pfizer and 150,000 vaccines from Moderna.

The vaccinations come as cases have spiked dramatically over the last two weeks.

Today, the county has 90 active cases, 25 hospitalized and 18 reported deaths.

Lee issued an executive order last Sunday limiting public gatherings to less than 10 people.

Lee said large gatherings need to be avoided. "That's where it spreads when 20, 30, 50 people gather to have a party," Lee said.

He also encouraged Tennesseans to continue to wear masks and practice social distancing, as they are the most effective tools; however, he maintained he would not issue a statewide mask mandate because he felt local officials knew their counties better.

He acknowledged Tuesday that Tennessee has the fastest infection rate right now in the United States and implored people to follow Center for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines.

"The next few weeks are critical," Lee said.

He said the state has been providing assistance to hospitals and opening COVID-only nursing homes.

"The government can't solve all problems," he said. "We have to do this together."

Lee said he worried about the next few weeks with Christmas and New Year's coming up; however, he said he felt as though there is a light at the end of the tunnel with vaccines.

"It's going to get worse before it gets better," he said.

## Yellow Belt Earned



**Eliza Earns Yellow Belt** – Eliza Miles, daughter of Adam and Laura Miles of Clay County, earns her yellow belt in a recent rank exam at Team Hunter Karate. Pictured are Eliza with instructor Rachel Buck.

## Shots Fired Lead To Arrest

On Dec. 18 Deputies responded to the Pine Lick Road area of Jackson County in regards to shots being fired into an occupied camper.

Upon arrival Detective Daniel Cummings and Deputy Cody Buck found a bullet hole in the camper and got a statement from the victim identifying Danielle Henry-Kilmon as a person in the vehicle when it drove by her camper and fired shots. Captain Dennis Thrasher and Detective Jesse Wade were called to the scene for processing. While on patrol Deputy Cody Buck spotted Danielle Henry-Kilmon entering a residence on



Christopher Heath

Jennings Creek Highway. Deputy Buck took Kilmon into custody and recovered a Glock 9mm pistol. Deputy Heather Mullins arrived on the scene and assisted Deputy Buck who took a second person (Christopher Heath) into custody. Deputies Buck and Mullins then recovered the vehicle used in the shooting in a remote location off of Pine Lick Road. The vehicle and two firearms were reported stolen out of Cookeville. Deputy Cody Buck charged Danielle Henry-Kilmon with aggravated assault and Christopher Heath with accessory after the fact to aggravated assault.



Danielle Henry-Kilmon

The investigation continued on Dec. 21 when Captain Dennis Thrasher and Detective Jesse Wade obtained enough information to identify a third person that is still at large, Elijah Paul Foster from East Tennessee. A second firearm (AR-15 Rifle) was recovered from a remote location off of Jennings Creek Highway, which was identified as being stolen out of Cookeville.

As a result of the investigation Captain Dennis Thrasher charged Danielle Henry-Kilmon with Criminal Responsibility of Felony Reckless Endangerment, two counts of Tampering with Evidence (Felony), two counts of Felony Vandalism, Criminal Responsibility for Felony Vandalism, three counts of

Felony Theft and Leaving the scene of an Accident.

Captain Thrasher also took warrants on Elijah Paul Foster for Aggravated Assault, Felony Reckless Endangerment, Felony Vandalism and Tampering with Evidence. Elijah Foster was last seen on the night of Dec. 18 on foot in the area of Pine Lick Road. Anyone with information about the location of Elijah Foster please call the Jackson County 911 Center at 931-268-0180.

Elijah Foster is 5' tall, 300 lbs.

The stolen vehicle and both stolen firearms from Cookeville were recovered.



Elijah Foster

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# Court

*Editor's Note: The Jackson County Sheriff's report is obtained from the Jackson County Sheriff's Department and is a matter of public record. The Sentinel appreciates the cooperation from the Jackson County Sheriff's Department in providing the report and we hope the printing of this report helps as a deterrent in criminal activity. All subjects are innocent until proven guilty in a*

*court of law.*  
**Sheriff's Report**  
On Dec. 10, Bruce Edward Phillips was arrested on warrants for three counts of false reports and two counts of criminal impersonation. On Dec. 11, Glen Allen Robichaud was arrested on a warrant for custodial interference. On Dec. 14, Brandy Marie Holland was arrested on a warrant for failure to appear.

On Dec. 15, Arlin Joe Lawson was arrested on warrants for aggravated sexual battery and rape of a child. On Dec. 15, Robert Gregory Poteet was arrested on warrants for drug/manufacture/deliver/sale/possession Schedule II, drug/manufacture/deliver/sale/possession Schedule II meth, unlawful drug paraphernalia and possess firearm intent

to go armed/dangerous felony. On Dec. 15, Anglia Gail Sagely was arrested on warrants for Schedule II drugs/Drug Free Zone, meth/manufacture/deliver/sale/possess with intent, possession unlawful drug paraphernalia uses and activities and possess firearm intent to go armed/dangerous felony. On Dec. 15, Michael Oneal Walker was arrested on a warrant for violation of probation. On Dec. 16, Gary Dean Castella Jr. was arrested on warrants for public intoxication and disorderly conduct. On Dec. 16, Kevin Lee Hendley was arrested on a warrant for domestic assault. On Dec. 16, Curtis David Senters was arrested on a warrant for violation of probation. On Dec. 17, Lucinda

R. Ward was arrested on a warrant for violation of probation. On Dec. 19, Christopher Charles Heath was arrested on a warrant for accessory after the fact. On Dec. 19, Danielle Jewell Henry-Kilmon was arrested on a warrant for aggravated assault. On Dec. 20, Jennifer Ann Key was arrested on a warrant for failure to appear.

# Local Boy Seeking Lifesaving Donation

A 10-year-old Clay County boy battling leukemia is in need of a donor for a bone-marrow transplant to save his life. In 2017, Evan Hayes was diagnosed with a form of cancer leukemia, at the age of six. "It was shock, anger, denial," said Stephanie, Evan's mother "I couldn't believe it. All I could do was ask why... I still do." Evan underwent the normal treatments of chemo and radiation therapies for nearly three and half years. For nearly more than

half a year, during Evan's time of remission and he was able to enjoy life. Then, in September, he started getting headaches again. He was brought back to the hospital where doctors performed a spinal tap and bone marrow examination. The leukemia had returned. "He has spent so much time going in and out of the hospital," said Stephanie. "It is a dreaded place to him." Evan's family created #EvansWarriors to spread the word about their son's condition and their search for a donor,

which has proved to be a daunting task. "There are not many volunteer bone marrow donors signed up which is making it difficult to find a well-matched bone marrow donor for him," Stephanie said. His parents and siblings would only be partial matches. "Evan has been through a lot in 10 years, but he is the strongest

person I know," his mother said. While he experienced many hardships, he has maintained high spirits and a strong will. Evan said that because of his experiences, he hopes to one day become a doctor for they have been very influential in his life. "He absolutely amazes me," Stephanie said. Evan's family is

working with Gift of Life Marrow Registry, which has mounted an urgent campaign, calling on those who are 18 to 35 and in good health to join the registry as soon as possible. To order a swab kit, visit [giftoflife.org/EvansWarriors](http://giftoflife.org/EvansWarriors). To hold a virtual or in-person donor recruitment drive, email Gift of Life Recruitment Manager Traci Ackerman at [tackerman@giftoflife.org](mailto:tackerman@giftoflife.org).

According to Stephanie, the process of joining the donor registry and becoming a donor is not as complicated as many would think. "The processes are not as invasive as you would think and it is so easy," she said. "Even if you're not a match for Evan, you could be for someone else—and that is another life saved."



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Sentinel

# RECIPES of the WEEK

Now that the holidays are over, you are probably tired of turkey and ham. Here is something different.	3 large onions, sliced 1 large green pepper, chopped 1 (16 oz.) can of sliced tomatoes, undrained ½ c. uncooked rice 2 tsp. Salt	2 tsp. Chili powder 1/8 tsp. Pepper Preheat over to 350 degrees. In a large skillet, cook and stir meat, onions and green pepper until meat is brown and vegetables are tender. Drain off fat. Stir in remaining ingredients. Heat thoroughly and pour into ungreased 2-quart casserole dish. Cover and bake 1 hour.
<b>Texas Hash</b> 3 lb. Ground beef		<b>Laura Winchell</b>
<b>Nona's Fried Rice</b> 3 c. Minute rice Cabbage, cut up in small pieces 1 or 2 scrambled eggs	Soy sauce Cook rice as directed on box. Boil cabbage until tender. Scramble eggs.	Chop in small pieces. Mix together in large skillet. Add soy sauce to your own taste. Stir and heat. Serve immediately. Great, fast, nourishing meal for working moms.
		<b>Margaret Rigdon</b>

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**SENTINEL**

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**Adam Johnson  
Publisher**

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POLICY**

Letters to the editor must be signed and include the address of the writer. The name will be published with the letter, but the address will be withheld. Unsigned letters will not be considered.

It is our right to reject any and / or all letters we deem questionable. Readers are encouraged to write letters to the editor as this is your forum.

Editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinions or ideas of the publishers or editors of the *Jackson County Sentinel*.

## Your Elected Officials

### Gainesboro Aldermen

Roger Dale Gore 268-9315	Jackie Jenkins Jr. 268-9315	Wayne Strong 268-9315	Lloyd Williams - Mayor 268-9315
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### Jackson County Commissioners

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### Jackson County School Board Members

Kristy Brown, Superintendent 268-0119 Amanda Taylor 268-0119	Kim Denson 268-0119 Mark Allen 268-0119 Marty Woolbright 268-0119	Mark Brown, Chairman 268-0119 Mitchelle Hix 268-0119
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### Representatives

Paul Bailey 304 War Memorial Building Nashville, TN 37243 (615) 741-3978	John Mark Windle 24 Legislative Plaza Nashville, TN 37243 (615) 741-1260	John Rose 1232 Longworth HOB Washington, DC 20515 Phone: (202) 225-4231	Lamar Alexander Dirksen Building Washington, DC 20510 (202) 224-4944	Marsha Blackburn B40B Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 Phone: 202-224-3344
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# Obituaries



**Kenneth Earl Mahaney**  
Kenneth Earl Mahaney, better known as “Jack”, 86, of the Free State community, passed away Dec. 15 at Cookeville Regional Medical Center. Funeral services were held Dec. 17 at **Anderson Upper Cumberland Funeral Home** with Bro. Jimmy Anderson and Bro. Jerry Lee Ridge officiating. Interment followed in the Mahaney Family Cemetery.

He was born March 17, 1934 in Jackson County. He was a factory worker and a member of the New Salem Church of Christ.

He was preceded in death by: parents, James William “Jim” Mahaney and Martha Elizabeth Brown Mahaney; son, Earl Mahaney; daughter, Brenda Kay Mahaney

Jared; brothers, Comer, Homer, Lester B., Earnest, John D., George and Jim Ed Mahaney; and sister, Willie Mae Mabry.

Surviving relatives include: wife, Edna Sue Mahaney; sons, Garry (Carolyn) Mahaney

of Carthage and Jerry Mahaney of Gainesboro; daughter, Stella Jean (Dennis) Mahaney, Stafford of Gainesboro; sister, Mildred Allen of Gainesboro; grandchildren, Keith Mahaney, Kendra Angel, Corey Mahaney, Lesley Williams, Lindsey Mahaney, Andy Stafford and Michelle Flynt; and great grandchildren, Brent Angel, Isaiah Angel, Spencer Stafford, Piper Stafford, Maizie Mahaney, Carter Williams, Cooper Williams, Jorja Flynt and Grayson Flynt.

**Carol Joyce Spivey Hammock**  
Carol Joyce Spivey Hammock, 72, of Gainesboro, passed away Dec. 20 at her residence. Funeral services were held

Dec. 22 at **Anderson Upper Cumberland Funeral Home** with Bro. Kenneth Anderson officiating. Interment followed in the Old Antioch Cemetery.

She was born Aug. 3, 1948 in Jackson County. She was a factory worker and a member of the Church of Christ.

She was preceded in death by: parents, Milton Benton Spivey and Evelyn Olene Flynn Spivey; brothers, James, Richards, Bobby, Dale, Wayne and Billy Spivey; and sisters, Sue Buck, Helen Dailey and Mildred Spivey.

Surviving relatives include: daughters, Tonya Pritchett of Celina and Tammy Michelle Goolsby Morgan of Gainesboro; sister, Judy Stacey of Gainesboro; grand-

children, Rin Pritchett, Brandon Goolsby, Megan James and Mikala James; great grandchild, Kay-dense Scott; and a host of several nieces, nephews and friends.

**Linda Faye Wilmoth**  
Linda Faye Wilmoth, 72, of Bloomington Springs, passed away Dec. 11 at her daughter’s residence. Funeral services were held

Dec. 15 at the chapel of **Anderson Upper Cumberland Funeral Home**. Interment followed in the Curry’s Chapel Cemetery in the Nameless community.

She was born March 31, 1948 in Jackson County. She was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by: parents, Sewell Issac and Ruby Lee Roberts Flatt; daughter, Norma Jean Harris; and

brothers, Kenneth and Wendell Flatt.

Surviving relatives include: spouse, Jimmy Wilmoth; daughters, Shirley Ann (Bob) Drugan and Shelia Faye (Don) Rose, both of

**Michael Ward Davis**  
Michael Ward Davis, 54 of Jackson County, passed away Dec. 12 at Cookeville Regional Medical Center. The family has chosen cremation to honor Michael’s wishes and a memorial service will be announced at a

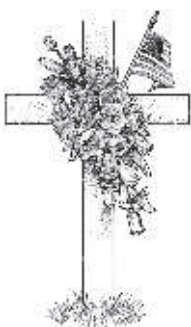
later date.

He was born Nov. 18, 1966 in Jackson County. He was a member of the Free State Church of Christ and a factory worker.

He was preceded in death by: father, Jackie Ward Davis; step fa-

ther, Paul Ward; paternal grandparents, Ottis and Christine Davis; and maternal grandparents, James and Ruby Stafford.

Surviving relatives include: son, Jacob Ward (Macy) Davis of Cookeville; mother, Peggy Ward of Gainesboro; sister, Christine Sellers of Honey Grove, Texas and Margaret Netherton of Celina; and grandchild, Jason (Kim) Schaffer of Chicago, Ill.



**Roger Joe Hammons**  
Roger Joe Hammons, 88, of the Tinsleys Bottom community, passed away Dec. 13 at Signature Health Care in Algood. A private graveside service was held at the Butlers Landing Cemetery with

a memorial services at a later date.

He was born Nov. 14, 1932 in Clay County. He was a farmer and a member of the Sugar Creek Church of Christ.

He was preceded in death by: parents, Her-

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**Cheryl Brown**  
Cheryl Brown, 73 of Gainesboro, passed away Dec. 21 at Mabry Health Care Center. Graveside services were held Dec. 26 at the Pleasant Hill Cemetery with Danny Scott and James Bybee officiating. There was no

visitation or service at the funeral home.

She was born March 29, 1947 in Bremerton, Wash. She worked as a cashier at Wal-Mart.

She was preceded in death by: parents, Robert Nielens and Hanzy Knudson Nielens; broth-

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**Steve “Wesal” Calvin**  
Steve “Wesal” Calvin, 66, of Gainesboro, passed away Dec. 14 at his residence. The family has chosen cremation. A memorial service was

held Dec. 22 at **Anderson Upper Cumberland Funeral Home**.

He was born Feb. 10, 1954 in Nashville. He worked for the Metro Nashville Water Department and was of the

Baptist faith.

He was preceded in death by: father, James Ross Calvin; and paternal grandmother, Cassie Calvin.

Surviving relatives include: brothers, Michael Joseph Calvin and Anthony Calvin, both of Gainesboro and Christopher Frank Calvin of Hermitage; and sister, Michele Marie Calvin of Nashville.

\*\*\*

Surviving relatives include nieces and nephews.

**Anderson Upper Cumberland Funeral Home** was in charge of arrangements.

**Jamie Juanita Scott**  
Jamie Juanita Scott, 74, of Jackson County, passed away Dec. 11 at Tennova Harton in Tulla-

homa. Graveside services were held Dec. 15 at Rob Draper Memorial Cemetery in the Stone community with Bro. Mike Fox officiating.

She was born July 1, 1946 in Jackson County. She was the daughter of Elvis Scott and Schrilda Jane Carmack Scott.

Surviving relatives

## A Week In Jackson County History



# January 8, 1970

**Jackson County Bank Moves To New Building**  
The Jackson County Bank officially opened for business in its new building on the corner of Main and Murray Streets Friday, January 2. The handsome structure is completely modern in every respect and features facilities to provide more convenient services to area residents.

A drive-in window is one of many conveniences offered at the new building, along with a paved parking area. The community room on the second floor provides an attractive location for business and social functions such as family reunions, wedding parties and teas, and individual or private meetings of civic groups. The community room, fully

equipped with table, stove, refrigerator, cabinets and dishwasher, can be used free of charge.

**Wide Use Of Electric Power Shown In UC EMC Annual Growth Report**  
The fast rise in the use of electricity here is indicative of the acceptance of electric energy for performing a wide variety of jobs, according to Lelon C. Johnson, manager of Upper Cumberland E.M.C.

This, he pointed out, has made it necessary to enlarge and strengthen the power system to keep abreast of growing demands for electricity.

**Contracts Let On Hull Power Gear**  
Three contracts totaling more than a quarter million dollars have been awarded by the Nashville District, Corps of Engi-

neers, for equipment at the Cordell Hull Power Plants.

Col. John C. Bell, district engineer, said the largest of the three went to the General Electric Company of Memphis for oil circuit breakers. This contact is for \$187,400.

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# How The Baby New Year Got It's Start

Excitement for a new year abounds on Jan. 1. Baby New Year is one of the more recognizable symbols of the New Year's holiday, particularly in print advertisements and television commercials. Perhaps you've wondered what role Baby New Year plays in the celebration? While he may seem like a relatively modern icon, this cultural mainstay has a lengthy history.

One theory suggests Baby New Year was celebrated as far back as 600 B.C. in ancient Greece, when a child was paraded around in a basket upon the arrival of the new year. The baby represented rebirth, and Greeks believed their god of wine, Dionysus, was reborn on New Year's as the spirit of fertility. Other histori-

ans say that the custom even predates the Greeks to the ancient Egyptians. Even though the baby new year custom was originally frowned upon by Christians and deemed a pagan tradition, eventually Christians embraced the symbol as well, albeit in a different way. The end of the year is marked by the birth of the Christ child, and this became a special way to interpret Baby New Year.

In modern times, Baby New Year has lost any connection to a deity or religious figure. Rather, he is now interpreted as a child who arrives at the start of the year and eventually ages into Father Time. The baby is depicted as an infant or toddler wearing a diaper and a sash with the year he is representing (and often a

top hat). He is sometimes depicted holding or associated with an hourglass, a noisemaker or other item either pertaining to time or New Year's Day festivities. Father Time is often portrayed as an elderly man with a long, gray beard. The Baby New Year/Father Time message boils down to "out with the old and in with the new." People bid goodbye to Father Time and welcome this cherubic child who will carry them through the next 12 months and grow with them.

The Baby New Year idea eventually developed into a "First Born" tradition as well. Many towns, cities and hospitals have instituted contests awarding the first baby born in the new year the title of "Baby New

Year." Such children are often the subjects of local news coverage and get their picture in the newspaper. Gifts, such as complimentary diapers, a case of formula or baby

food or other baby supplies may be offered. In addition, private companies may offer their own gifts and recognition to the lucky child and his or her family in turn for

complementary publicity. Baby New Year is a symbol of the fresh start the new year brings. His relevance in celebrations has endured for centuries.



**Baby New Year** – Baby New Year is a symbol of the fresh start the new year brings. His relevance in celebrations has endured for centuries.

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WHY HE BETRAYED JESUS HAS ALWAYS BEEN A CONJECTURE OPEN TO LENGTHY DISCUSSION. SOME HAVE SAID IT WAS PURELY HIS GREED FOR THE THIRTY PIECES OF SILVER, OTHERS MAINTAIN IT WAS OUT OF ANGER AT THE REBUKE HE RECEIVED FROM JESUS... (JOHN 12:1-8). ANOTHER THEORY IS THAT JUDAS, ALWAYS ANXIOUS AS TREASURER TO GET MORE MONEY, SAW AN EASY CHANCE TO ENLARGE THE TREASURY WITH NO REAL DANGER TO JESUS—FOR, HE REASONED THAT THE SON OF GOD COULD COMMAND LEGIONS OF ANGELS TO RESCUE HIM WHENEVER HE WISHED! BE THAT AS IT MAY, ONCE THE DEED WAS DONE AND THE COLD LIGHT OF REASON REVEALED TO JUDAS THE ENORMITY OF HIS CRIME, HE REPENTED IN A FRENZY OF DISPAIR, HURLED THE BLOOD MONEY BACK AT THE PRIESTS AND RUSHED OUT AND HANGED HIMSELF!



LEGEND SAYS THAT THE TREE ON WHICH JUDAS HANGED HIMSELF (SINCE CALLED THE JUDAS TREE) WAS THE LOVELY REDBUD TREE, A FLOWERING ORNAMENTAL SHRUB WHICH CAN ATTAIN HEIGHTS OF FORTY FEET!



NEXT WEEK: A SOUTHERN QUEEN—WHO WAS WISE!

SAVE THIS FOR YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL SCRAP-BOOK

AREA CHURCHES		
<b>BAPTIST</b>	<b>CHURCH OF CHRIST</b>	<b>JEHOVAH'S WITNESS</b>
GLADDICE MISSIONARY BAPTIST	HURRICANE CHURCH OF CHRIST	JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH	FREESTATE CHURCH OF CHRIST	<b>METHODIST</b>
NEW ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH	LAKEVIEW CHURCH OF CHRIST	CURRY CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
SPRING CREEK THE BAPTIST CHURCH	LIBERTY CHURCH OF CHRIST	FAIRVIEW FREE METHODIST CHURCH
DODSON BRANCH SOUTHERN BAPTIST CHURCH	MCCOINSVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST	GAINESBORO FIRST UNITED METHODIST
GAINESBORO FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH	MORRISON CREEK CHURCH OF CHRIST	GRANVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CUMMINS MILL BAPTIST CHURCH	NEW SALEM CHURCH OF CHRIST	MOUNT UNION UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
<b>CATHOLIC</b>	NORTH SPRINGS CHURCH OF CHRIST	<b>OTHER</b>
ST. THOMAS AQUINAS	PLEASANT HILL CHURCH OF CHRIST	WARTRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH
<b>CHURCH OF CHRIST</b>	RICHMOND CHAPEL CHURCH OF CHRIST	MOUNTAIN CHAPEL MINISTRY
BEECH GROVE CHURCH OF CHRIST	SHILOH CHURCH OF CHRIST	SONLIGHT CHURCH
BAGDAD CHURCH OF CHRIST	STONE CHURCH OF CHRIST	POSTON'S COMMUNITY CHAPEL CHURCH
BURRISTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST	SUGAR CREEK CHURCH OF CHRIST	MT. PLEASANT COUNTRY CHURCH OF GOD
CENTER GROVE CHURCH OF CHRIST	WHITE'S BEND CHURCH OF CHRIST	OLD ANTIOCH COMMUNITY CHURCH
CHURCH OF CHRIST	UNION HILL CHURCH OF CHRIST	NEW HOPE COMMUNITY
DUDNEY'S HILL CHURCH OF CHRIST	WHITLEYVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST	WORLD OUTREACH
FREEWILL COMMUNITY CHURCH OF CHRIST	HAYDENBURG CHURCH OF CHRIST	PLEASANT GROVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FLYNN'S CREEK CHURCH OF CHRIST	ZION CHURCH OF CHRIST	BURRISTOWN ASSEMBLY OF GOD
GIBSON AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST		DILLARD'S CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH
		THE LIFE HOUSE CHURCH
		JC CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

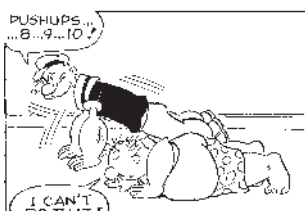
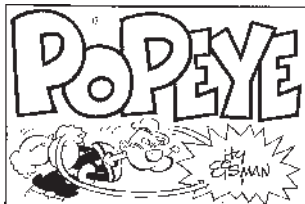
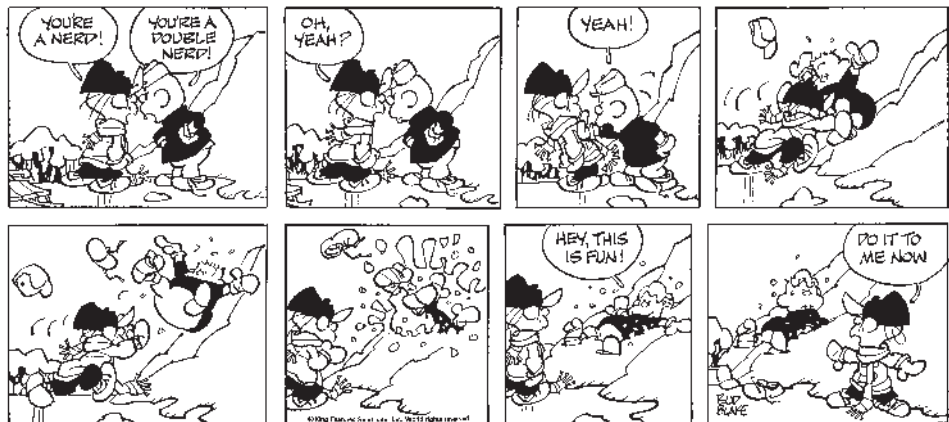


# Leisure



## TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



# HOROSCOPES

### ARIES

**Mar 21/Apr 20**

Aries, it may take time to make a nutritional overhaul, especially if indulging in drinks and sweets has become habitual. Be patient with yourself and you'll be successful.

### TAURUS

**Apr 21/May 21**

Taurus, if you've been considering a move lately, you may find yourself putting the wheels in motion pretty soon. Begin to make a list of what you need to pull this off.

### GEMINI

**May 22/Jun 21**

Direct communication does not always come easy to you, Gemini. Give it a try and convey your feelings to someone you love. Be honest and welcome the response.

### CANCER

**Jun 22/Jul 22**

Cancer, even if you're feeling out of sync this week, you will manage to find someone who is marching along to a similar beat. This person can become a true friend.

### LEO

**Jul 23/Aug 23**

Start to clean house, Leo. Avoid any distracting habits that might get in your way. You don't need anything to derail your positive plans for the future this week.

### VIRGO

**Aug 24/Sept 22**

Virgo, find a new muse and begin a creative project. There may be some obstacles along the way, but you will see creative endeavors through to completion.

### LIBRA

**Sept 23/Oct 23**

A former flame may try to heat things up again, Libra. If you're single, you may be interested. But steer clear of this person if you're attached because it spells trouble.

### SCORPIO

**Oct 24/Nov 22**

Scorpio, embrace healthy debate and don't try to bowl anyone over with your big ideas. Afford others their own right to have an opinion, even if it differs from

### SAGITTARIUS

**Nov 23/Dec 21**

You have learned many lessons about financial responsibility, Sagittarius. When an item catches your eye, it might be very tempting to indulge. Stay the course.

### CAPRICORN

**Dec 22/Jan 20**

Personal affairs often make you a closed book, Capricorn. But you may have to spill a few secrets to a trusted friend to get the advice you need right now.

### AQUARIUS

**Jan 21/Feb 18**

Clean up any unresolved parts of your life before the year draws to a close, Aquarius. It's a large undertaking, but you have the means and the support to get it done.

### PISCES

**Feb 19/Mar 20**

Cease to compromise on your core values, Pisces. You do not have to sway to the desires of others. Stand your ground on important issues.

## 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. Server            | ___ I ___ | Middy or Whitman      | ___ L ___ |
| 2. Fabric            | C ___     | Slow mover            | S ___     |
| 3. Grocery store job | ___ A ___ | Advanced in size      | ___ I ___ |
| 4. Roost             | ___ E ___ | Veranda               | ___ O ___ |
| 5. Lift              | H ___     | Damp                  | M ___     |
| 6. Thunder sound     | ___ M ___ | Flintstone's neighbor | ___ B ___ |
| 7. Meddle with       | ___ A ___ | Bad humor             | ___ E ___ |
| 8. Ointment          | L ___     | Movement              | M ___     |
| 9. Pry               | ___ N ___ | Ice cream portion     | ___ C ___ |
| 10. Foolishness      | ___ O ___ | Colt's sister         | ___ I ___ |

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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See this week's answers in next week's edition of the Sentinel

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

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

1. Invol. throw	5. Right. light	10. Crash. Crisis
2. Pocket. Picked	6. Liter. Lather	9. Middle. Pickle
3. Do. Do. Do. Do. Do.	7. Flash. "Well"	8. Blank. Blk

## CROSSWORD

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

- ### ACROSS

1 "-- Lang Syne"  
5 Steed stopper  
9 Plead  
12 Dandling site  
13 Reactions to pyrotechnics  
14 Preceding  
15 Mid-month date  
16 Automaker Ransom Eli --  
17 Have a bug  
18 Small winning margin  
19 Go blue?  
20 Air for a pair  
21 "How I Met Your Mother" net  
23 Census stat  
25 Off-course  
28 Auction, often  
32 Use crib notes  
33 Rechargeable battery  
34 Grow canines  
36 Tourist attractions
- ### DOWN

37 Moray or conger  
38 Coop occupant  
39 Witty one  
42 Clay, now  
44 "Super-food" berry  
48 Tramcar contents  
49 Teeny bit  
50 So  
51 Meadow  
52 Expression  
53 Deserve  
54 Spigot  
55 Whirlpool  
56 "Phooey!"  
1 Related  
2 Loosen  
3 Dregs  
4 Treated with irreverence  
5 "Give a hoot, don't pollute" owl  
6 Sacred  
7 "Heavens to Murgatroyd!"
- 8 Donkey  
9 Suitor  
10 One of HOMES  
11 Money  
20 Like some drivers or hitters  
22 Wash  
24 Aladdin's ally  
25 Performance  
26 The girl  
27 Shirt shape  
29 Interlaken interjection  
30 Long. crosser  
31 Mag. staffers  
35 Very happy  
36 Vibrate abnormally  
39 Filly's brother  
40 Vicinity  
41 Harvest  
43 Byron or Tennyson  
45 Burn somewhat  
46 Atmosphere  
47 "-- It Romantic?"  
49 Chowd down

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Year in Review

JACKSON COUNTY  
SENTINEL

# Flooding Problems Throughout The County



**Water Everywhere** – With so much rain last week, Roaring River went over the banks and flooded Roaring River Road at Aaron Branch Road causing TDOT to close the road.



**Road Closed** – After three days of rain, Roaring River Road was closed because of flooding.

SENTINEL Photos / Darlene Dean

## Picture Perfect Snowfall



SENTINEL Photo / Darlene Dean

**Winter Wonderland** – Residents of Jackson County woke up Friday morning to a beautiful snowfall. It covered the trees and made a spectator scene.

## JCHS Football Helps Out

**Helping Out** – The JCHS football team volunteered to help clean up the tornado damage last week when school was out.

Everyone helped and spent their day off giving back to the residents of Putnam County.



## Courthouse Has No Access

Due to the continued spreading of the Coronavirus the Jackson County Courthouse is closed to the public.

If you need assistance from any of the elected officials, office staff will remain in the offices each day during business hours to assist the public via phone, fax and email.

If you need assistance you can call and do the transaction over the phone or on the internet.

**County Clerk's Office services offered:**

Vehicle registration renewal online at <https://secure.tncountyclerk.com/index.php>. Phone registration renewal 268-9212. Driver's License Machine is closed. Online renewals can be done at <https://dl.safety.tn.gov>.

**Trustees Office:**

Property Taxes can be paid online at <https://tncountyclerk.com/index.php>

tntrustee.org. You may pay over the phone at 877-768-5048. Note there will be a fee charged if you pay online or over the phone. You can mail Check or Money Order to P.O. Box 1 Gainesboro, Tn. 38562. If you have any questions feel free to call the office at 931-268-9417.

**Circuit Court Clerk's office:**

Is accepting fillings via fax and email and payments for fines, costs and fees can be made by phone and an online payment option is in the works and will be available very soon. To contact the Clerks office: 931-268-9314.

The 2018 taxes will be turned over to the Clerk & Masters office April 1st, 2020. Postmark will not be accepted on the 2018 Property taxes.

**Courthouse Offices**

**numbers:**

Jackson County Mayor's Office 931-268-9888, Jackson County Circuit Court Clerk's Office 931-268-9314, Jackson County Clerk's Office 931-268-9212, Jackson County Trustee's Office 931-268-9417, Jackson County Register of Deed's Office 931-268-9012, Jackson County Assessor of Property's Office 931-268-0246, Jackson County Clerk & Master's Office 931-268-9516, Jackson County Administrator of Elections Office 931-268-9284.

son County Register of Deed's Office 931-268-9012, Jackson County Assessor of Property's Office 931-268-0246, Jackson County Clerk & Master's Office 931-268-9516, Jackson County Administrator of Elections Office 931-268-9284.



## COVID-19 What You Need To Know

RANDY HEADY  
COUNTY MAYOR

The Coronavirus. It's not just about you and me. The fact is that many of us are in an age group or health status that has a very small risk of serious complications. Does that mean we have nothing to worry about and that we should ignore the advice from our federal and state leaders? No, it doesn't.

What about our parents, grandparents and other family and friends that are in an age group that is at risk? What about those that have underlying medical conditions that make them particularly vulnerable? We may or may not be in one of those groups, but we could be affecting people that are – perhaps even someone we love. The temporary protective measures that we are being asked to implement could make a difference of many in the more vulnerable groups. It matters.

COVID-19 is more contagious than the flu and has a higher fatality rate. In addition to making temporary lifestyle changes to protect those most vulnerable, we also need to help flatten the curve. What does that mean? The red curve in the graphic represents the number of cases without protective measures in place. The blue curve represents the possible number of cases with protective measures in place. The key is the healthcare system capacity line. It represents the healthcare resources available to address COVID-19. If we have the red spike without the protective measures, we run the risk of not having enough hospital beds, ventilators, medications and personal protective equipment (PPE) needed to care for the sick. Running short of healthcare resources would likely mean a greater loss of life. The protective measures make a difference. They matter.

Are we overreacting or is this the end of civilization? As with most things, the truth is somewhere in between. COVID-19 is real, it is serious, and it is in the US. As of this writing, there has yet to be a confirmed case in Jackson County. The Coronavirus was barely a topic for discussion with the public just a couple of weeks ago, but now we are in an environment where things change by the hour, if not sooner. That can make it hard to determine what we should

believe – what is real. This isn't about having the bravado to face the virus, but it is also not a time for panic. It's about community. It's about doing the right thing to help our friends, family and neighbors. We don't have to hide in fear, but we should follow the guidance from our State and Federal leaders and practice the following: Social distancing; Frequent hand washing; Avoiding touching your face, nose and mouth; Avoiding close contact with people who are sick; if you feel ill, stay at home; Avoiding large group gatherings; and following CDC directions for cleaning and read all directions on cleaning solutions.

I am in constant contact with City of Gainesboro Mayor Lloyd Williams, Director of Schools Kristy Brown, as well as our local Emergency Management Agency (EMA), Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Health Department and other local agencies. I have listened in on briefing calls from the White House intended for local governments, and I read multiple briefings daily. Jackson County has established emergency preparedness plans in place. Our EMA is in continued communication with the Tennessee Department of Health (TDH), the lead agency for any emerging health threats in Tennessee. Jackson County has a plan and is prepared to follow the lead of our State and Federal agencies.

For more detailed information and updates, please go to: <https://www.tn.gov/health/news.html> or [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html)

It is my prayer that this will be over soon and Jackson County can get back to normal. In the meantime, it is vital that we take care of each other as a community and help those who are in need. There will be more updates in the days to come, at this time we ask you not to panic. If you think you may be infected please call your primary care physician before going to the doctor. While this may seem unusual, we must be sure that we are taking care of the most vulnerable and those infected.

2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.



# JACKSON COUNTY SENTINEL



MEGAN REAGAN  
Staff Writer

Governor Bill Lee ordered a “Safer At Home” order early last week to take precautionary action in lessening the spread of the COVID-19 virus; however, Lee changed the “Safer At Home” order to a “Stay At Home” order due to an increase in movement across the state.

Data from the Tennessee Department of Transportation analyzed traffic patterns for March 2020. While safer at home measures and further restrictions on businesses showed a steep drop-off in vehicle movement from March 13-29, data beginning on March 30 indicates travel is trending upwards again.

The administration also analyzed data from Unacast to understand cell phone mobility and determine movement trends among people. Unacast indicates the movement of Tennessee

seans is trending toward pre-COVID-19 levels.

“The month of April stands to be an extremely tough time for our state as we face the potential for a surge in COVID-19 cases,” said Lee. “Every Tennessean must take this seriously, remain at home and ensure we save lives.”

Along with the Executive Orders, Lee ordered all non-essential businesses to close; whereas the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) advises that “The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to the virus,” and the best way to avoid being exposed to the virus is to remain home except as necessary to engage in essential services and activities.

**Essential services include:**

Healthcare and public health operations, which includes but is not limited to hospitals, clinics, pharmacies, dental offices, etc.; human services

operations; essential infrastructure operations, which includes but is not limited to food production, distribution and sale; construction related services, etc.; essential government functions.

Food and medicine stores; food and beverage production and agriculture; organizations that provide charitable and social services.

Religious and ceremonial functions; media; gas stations and businesses needed for transportation; financial institutions and insurance entities; hardware and supply stores.

Critical trades such as plumbers, electricians, pest control, HVAC, etc.

Mail, post, shipping, logistics, delivery and pick-up services; education institutions; laundry services; restaurants for off-premise consumption; businesses that sell supplies to work from home; businesses that sell supplies for essential businesses and opera-

tions.

Transportation services; home-based care services; residential facilities and shelters. Professional services such as legal services, accounting, insurance or real estate.

Manufacturing, distribution and supply chain for critical products and industries; hotels and motels; and funeral services.

Essential activity is defined as things such as going to the grocery store, getting medicine, providing or facilitating food orders, outdoor activities within health guidelines and caring for or visiting a family member or friend within the health guidelines.

Despite actions taken to limit the spread in recent weeks, the numbers of cases have continuously increased as the number nears 3,000 cases.

The executive order remains in effect until April 14, 2020 at 11:59 p.m.

## State Audit Finds Discrepancies

A recent state audit resulted in 11 findings and recommendations, which was then reviewed with Jackson County management.

The two most notable discrepancies appeared in the Office of Director of Schools and the Office of the County Clerk.

Jackson County Schools have a fund called the School Federal Projects Fund, which had a cash overdraft of \$110,024 as of June 30, 2019. The fund is used to account for restricted federal revenues, which must be expended on specific education programs. The trustee paid checks issued on the School Federal Projects Fund that exceeded available funds. It was recommended that the school department should not issue checks exceeding cash on deposit with the county trustee. The overdraft was cleared within three days after the fiscal year when federal reimbursement funds were received.

The County Clerk’s office had numerous findings. There was a cash shortage of \$36,086.24 subsequent to June 30, 2019. The clerk failed to properly document changes and deletions to receipts. The office did not deposit funds within three days of collection, duties were not segregated adequately, and the office did not review its software audit logs. Depositing of funds within three days and reviewing software audit logs had been found in an audit for Fiscal Year 2018 and had not been corrected. It was found that total collections from five separate days from July 1, 2019 through January 29, 2020 totaling \$30,626.24 were never deposited to the bank account and the balance of the shortage (\$5,460) consisted of eight deposits made to the bank that were less than the receipts listed on the clerk’s daily collection reports. Because of the failure to reconcile bank statements on a monthly basis, this shortage was not detected by the office. Officials should take steps to recover the \$36,086.24 cash shortage the audit said. Bank statements should be reconciled monthly and any differences investigated and corrected. Any deletions and changes to receipts should be supported by proper documentation.

The County Mayor’s office had deficiencies in purchasing procedures and the general ledger payroll liability accounts were not reconciled with subsidiary payroll records and payments. These findings were also found in an audit for FY 2018. They had not been corrected. It is recommended that the general ledger payroll liability accounts should be reconciled monthly with payroll reports and payments, and any errors discovered should be corrected promptly.

Also, a list of usernames and passwords was maintained in the Sheriff’s office. Employees have been assigned a unique username and password for accessing the office’s accounting software. However, a listing of the passwords were maintained by designated personnel. After management was made aware of this deficiency on April 4, 2019, the listing was destroyed.

The Jackson County Audit Committee is not a functioning committee, the audit also found. The Audit Committee was created on June 24, 2013, but there are no minutes to document that this Audit Committee has met or conducted any business since May 5, 2018. The county’s Audit Committee should be a functioning committee, maintain minutes of its meetings and annually present a written committee report detailing how it discharged its duties and any committee recommendations to the full county commission.

## COVID-19 Testing Happening

The National Guard has set up drive thru COVID-19 testing stations in rural communities throughout the state to aid in the fight against the pandemic, including in our very own.

National Guard medics will be set up outside of the Jackson County High School Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. every week until

future notice to assist in COVID-19 testing. The exception will be Good Friday. The hours will be 9 a.m. until 12 p.m.

The National Guard is working in conjunction with the Health Department to allow them to continue their many other public programs. Residents must meet screening requirements in order to be tested.



SENTINEL Photo / File Photo

**Drive Thru Testing** – Pictured are people in cars lined up waiting to be tested.

## Class Of 2020 Honored



SENTINEL Photo / Social Media

**Lights Of Hope** – Last Tuesday at 8:20 p.m., Jackson County High School turned on the lights on the athletic fields. They joined in the nationwide movement “Lights of Hope” to remind students and student-athletes that although they aren’t in the building or on the fields, they are still in everyone’s hearts and minds. They left the lights on for 20 minutes in honor of the Class of 2020.

## Residents Urged To Complete Census

RANDY HEADY  
county mayor

This is a very uncertain time for our community and our society. The coronavirus COVID-19 response has already had a devastating impact on our economy. We must take care not to compound the damage by allowing the crisis to affect our future.

Perhaps the 2020 Census is the least of your concerns today be-

cause you may be struggling with lost income, a loved one at risk, fear of the unknown, or you are simply feeling threat anxiety as so many of us are. I urge you not to let apprehension or disinterest get in the way of being counted in the census.

Our county relies on federal funding to provide important services for the community. We receive a certain amount of money for every person counted

here to fund our health department and hospital, our schools, and even the meals available to children right now while our schools are closed. Our law enforcement and fire protection services also count on federal funds, as do the library, senior center, and parks.

Each person living in Jackson County who does not get counted in the census means less money to provide services that everyone uses.

The census is only taken once every ten years, so this is our only chance to get it right and improve our county’s resources for the entire decade between 2020 and 2030.

I’m asking you to look ahead to the next ten years. Take five minutes today to fill in the census form online at [www.my2020census.gov](http://www.my2020census.gov) or call the Census Bureau at 844-330-202 to answer the questions by phone.

## 2020 Graduation Announced

KRISTY BROWN  
Director Of Schools

After much consideration, we have finalized plans for the Class of 2020 Graduation Ceremony. We appreciate the support and suggestions from students, parents and community members. It is clear that the graduating class and most others prefer to have a ceremony as close to traditional as possible and as close to the original date as possible. With that said, there will be some changes required due to COVID-19 and the necessity for social distancing.

After consulting with the regional health director it has been determined that: Graduation will be held at Mack Draper Stadium Kyle Sisco Field on the campus of Jackson County High School on May 22, at 7 p.m.

Seating will be limited; however, we are working hard to make sure seniors are able to share this special occa-

sion with as many family members as possible and still adhere to the social distancing guidelines. Family and friends will also be able to watch graduation on livestream and it will be recorded. A photographer will take photos of seniors receiving awards and diplomas. The videos and photos will also be available free of charge to all seniors.

Seniors should pick up graduation packets on Friday, May 8 between 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. The packets will include details on graduation practice, parking, number of guests, safety guidelines and other important information. They should continue to check emails and school social media as well. Jackson County Schools want to honor seniors and their accomplishments in the best way possible while keeping graduates and community safe.

Final plans and final approval are pending. This is the information that is available as of May 1.



JACKSON COUNTY  
SENTINEL

Year in Review

# Stafford Pleads Guilty

## Over \$25,000 Stolen From Taxpayers

DARLENE DEAN  
staff writer

The Tennessee Comptroller's Office, working in conjunction with the Tennessee Department of Revenue, has completed an investigation resulting in the guilty plea of former Jackson County Clerk Amanda Stafford.

Auditors and investigators with the Comptroller's office determined that Stafford stole at least \$25,643 between May 2018 and December

2019. The theft was first discovered when Comptroller financial auditors performed a surprise cash count at the clerk's office on Oct. 22, 2018.

The investigation revealed that Stafford stole most of the money (\$14,328) by keeping cash that was collected by the clerk's office from Jackson Countians. The money should have been deposited in the office's bank account, but Stafford used the money to pay personal expenses.

Stafford was able to conceal these actions by engaging in a lapping scheme. Stafford would take cash from a particular day's collections and then replace it with money collected on subsequent days. This lapping scheme is evidenced by noting that, in one six-month period, Stafford failed to deposit at least \$326,706 within two weeks of receipt.

The states Comptroller's office also stated that Stafford's other scheme involved fraudulently al-

tering at least 52 vehicle registration applications to conceal her misappropriation of at least \$11,315. They also said for example, on June 21, 2019 the clerk's office received \$120.50 from a taxpayer for a new vehicle registration. Stafford altered the application by removing the \$400 cost of the vehicle, the related sales tax and the county's wheel tax. This change caused the clerk's records to show only \$40 was collected. Stafford kept the

\$80.50 difference.

"Citizens of Jackson County trust that the tax money they pay to their county clerk's office will be accounted for and used for the county's benefit," Special Investigations Director Tommy Sneed said. "Citizens should be assured that any breach of this public trust will be fully investigated and those responsible will be held accountable."

On May 28, Stafford pled guilty in Jackson County while appear-

ing before Judge Brody Kane. Kane accepted Stafford's guilty plea on two counts of theft over \$2,500 and sentenced her to two years' probation. Judge Kane also ordered Stafford to pay \$10,768.20 in restitution to the state. Stafford resigned her position as Jackson County Clerk on May 8, 2020.

To view the investigative report, go to: <https://comptroller.tn.gov/office-functions/investigations/find.html>.

# Bust Vandalized

In the early morning hours of June 22, an individual decided to vandalize the monument of General Andrew Jackson located on the Courthouse lawn in downtown Gainesboro. It's unknown why someone would vandalize government property that symbolizes part of Jackson County's history, but nonetheless they did. Mayor Randy Heady made the statement after the incident that this "will not be tolerated" in our community. "The moment we become aware of the identity of said individual we will prosecute to the fullest extent possible," stated the Mayor. There are multiple cameras located around the town, and the Gainesboro Police De-

partment is investigating the crime.

Jackson County is rich with history dating back to its establishment on Nov. 6, 1801. The county was named after General Andrew Jackson, who by 1801 had already served as a U.S. Congressman and Senator from Tennessee, a Tennessee Supreme Court justice, and a colonel in the Tennessee militia.

The bust of General Jackson was dedicated in the memory of Alice Hawkins Whitson of the Dodson Branch Community by her grandson Sam T. Barnes, the sculptor, in 2001.

Richard Head, Gainesboro City Public Works, and Mike Mitchell helped in the cleaning and restoration.



SENTINEL Photos / Randy Heady

**Vandalism –** The bust of Andrew Jackson had paint poured over it.



**Cleaning Process –** Mike Mitchell cleaning all the paint off of the bust.



**All Cleaned Up –** The bust of Andrew Jackson has had all the paint cleaned off.

# First Lady Helps Out



SENTINEL Photo / Matthew Stafford

**Food Pantry –** First Lady of Tennessee Maria Lee joined volunteers of the Care Center at New Hope Baptist Church in Gainesboro to serve and support over 100 families facing food insecurity. Pictured from left to right are: Maria Lee, First Lady of Tennessee; Randy Heady, Jackson County Mayor, and Becky Williams, director of New Hope Baptist Church Care Center.

# County Schools Prepare To Return

JACKSON COUNTY SCHOOLS  
special to the *Sentinel*

Jackson County Schools are planning and preparing for all students to return to school on Aug. 4.

The first full day for students is Wednesday, Aug. 5. Plans are not final; however, state and health guidelines to re-open schools during the COVID-19 pandemic will be in place as reasonable as possible. According to Brown, most students will return in-person to school buildings for traditional instruction.

Director of Schools Kristy Brown stated, "Our goal is to educate and support students of Jackson County, no matter where they are learning." She continued, "Our top priority is to make the schools safe and healthy environments for students to return in August, but we must continue with plans in the event of school closures. Our families want their children to return safely to school, but with a sense of normalcy as practically as they can. Communication is extremely important as well. Our district and school teams are working diligently to have solid plans for a variety of scenarios, even though guidelines change often." Extra materials and student laptops have been ordered so that all students will be able to use a school-issued device at school or at home, if necessary.

Enhanced cleaning procedures, designated entry points, health screenings before entering schools, rearranging bus routes, and arranging spaces to promote social distancing are some of the measures that school personnel are planning for. Health officials and schools are high-

ly recommending that students and staff wear face coverings in spaces that social distancing is not possible; however, masks will not be required for students in the schools as of this time. The Jackson County School Board has also ensured that there is a full-time nurse in every building. In addition, the board approved a virtual instruction option for families with medical conditions or additional health concerns for their child for the upcoming school year.

The deadline to apply to begin school using the virtual instruction program (VIP) option is July 23. The Tennessee State Board of Education will require 180 school days with 6.5 hours of instruction per day in person or online for all students, in order to meet attendance requirements. Brown said, "Even though it may be the best choice for some students to begin the year with online learning, it's important for families to know that virtual instruction will look different than during the emergency closure last spring. From the beginning, attendance will be required and taken for each class and assignments will be graded, whether students are learning at school or at home. This will also be the case if in-person students have to learn online from home due to recommendations for schools to close."

A complete continuous learning plan will be released later in the month. A series of communications for students and parents will outline more details as they become available.

Overall, students and educators look forward to the beginning of the new school year and seeing their students after the extended time away from classrooms.





# Sports



## Blue Devils Split Games Against The Vikings

MATTHEW STAFFORD  
staff writer

The Blue Devils basketball teams of Jackson County High School took the court to face Community, on Monday, Dec. 21

The Lady Blue Devils lost to the Lady Vikings 64-47.

Scoring for the girls against Watertown were: Ericka Davidson with eight, Riley Thomas with three, Nikki Ragland with three, Emma Stepp with three, Lilly Chaffin with eight, Rebecca Harris with four, Emma Chaffin with seven, Jacklyn Agee with seven, Rylee Anderson with two and Rachel Harris with two.

“We just got outplayed. They played harder than us, and we had a hard time scoring. We were 13-23 from the free throw line and 2-13 from the 3 point line. We also had 21 turnovers. I think

we are capable of playing much better than what we did tonight,” Coach Jim Brown said.

The JCHS Blue Devils won against the Vikings 65-61.

Scoring for the boys against Watertown were: Hayden Stacy with four, Jordan Arroyo with 13, Ramon Cuevas with 10, Eli Burris with 13, Chris Pigg with 10 and Kendrick Brown with five.

“Good win for our team tonight. We played a good basketball team tonight. The boys played hard for four quarters tonight. I thought we really rebounded the ball well against a big team,” Coach Kevin Thomas said.

Following the game against Community was a game against Smith County for the boys on Tuesday, Dec. 21.

The JCHS Blue Devils won against the Owls 77-50.

Scoring for the boys against Watertown were: Jordan Arroyo with one, Ramon Cuevas with 27, Eli Burris with 17, Chris Pigg with 13, Kendrick Brown with eight, Drew Clinard with five, Braden Jones with four, and Brayson Smith with two.

“Playing back-to-back nights for the first time this year was a challenge mentally, but I thought the boys were really mature about it and came in tonight with the right frame of mind. We had a huge advantage inside, and our post players stepped up and had 48 of our 77. Our guards done a nice job of getting them the ball,” Coach Kevin Thomas said.

The Blue Devils will take the court again Tuesday, Dec. 29 at home against Pickett County at 6:00 p.m. and Thursday Dec. 31 at Gordonsville at 2:00 p.m.



SENTINEL Photos / Matthew Stafford

Get By – Chris Pigg trying to get by a Vikings defender.



Free Throw – Ericka Davidson tries to make a free throw against the Lady Vikings.



He Shoots – Eli Burris tries to make a shot over a Vikings defender.



Excuse Me – Emma Stepp tries to make a basket with a Lady Vikings defender all over her.



Watch It Buddy, Personal Space Please – Hayden Stacy tries to get by a Vikings defender on Monday night.



Here, You Take It – A Lady Devils player tries to get the ball to a teammate as she is surrounded by two Lady Vikings defenders.



**If You Received A Bargain Hunt Store Receipt That Showed More Than The Last 5 Digits Of Your Credit/Debit Card Number, Your Rights May Be Affected By A Class Action Settlement.**

*Para información en español, visite el sitio web.*

**What is this lawsuit about?** The lawsuit alleges that customers who used a credit or debit card at Bargain Hunt stores were provided with electronically-printed customer receipts which had more than the last five digits of their card number printed on the receipt. Bargain Hunt denies any wrongdoing but is settling the claims in this lawsuit.

**Who is included in the Settlement?** You are included in the Settlement if you used your personal credit or debit card at any Bargain Hunt store and you were provided with an electronically-printed customer receipt between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017 that shows more than the last 5 digits of your card number.

**What are my rights? Submit A Claim** - You can get up to \$100 from the Settlement. To be eligible for any money, you must submit a Claim Form by **March 22, 2021** along with: (1) An original or copy of a receipt from any Bargain Hunt store between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017 showing more than the last 5 digits of your credit/debit card number; or (2) An original or copy of your credit/debit card statement showing your first and last name, and a purchase from any Bargain Hunt store between August 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017.

Visit [FactaReceiptSettlement.com](https://FactaReceiptSettlement.com) for more details on benefits available and how to submit a claim.

**Do Nothing** - If you do nothing, you will remain in the Settlement, but you will not receive any money from the Settlement, and you will be bound by the orders and judgment of the Court and give up your rights to sue for the claims resolved by this Settlement. **Object** - You can stay in the Settlement and object to the Settlement. Your objection must be mailed to the Settlement Administrator on or before February 5, 2021. **Exclude Yourself** - If you do not want to be legally bound by the Settlement and you want to preserve your right to sue about the claims released by this Settlement, you must request to be excluded on or before February 5, 2021. If you exclude yourself you will not receive any money from this Settlement.

The parties will request a Fairness Hearing before the Honorable Judge Andy Prather, Division 2, on **April 1, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.** to decide whether to approve the settlement and to award attorneys' fees and expenses to the Settlement Class Counsel appointed by the Court, plus Settlement Class Representative incentive awards. If the hearing date/location changes, the updated information will be posted on the settlement website. Applicable pleadings will be posted on the website below after they are filed. You may attend this hearing, but you do not have to. If you want to be represented by your own lawyer, you may hire one at your own expense, but you do not have to.

**This is a summary notice only.** For more information about the Settlement, including the Long Form Notice and Claim Form, please visit [FactaReceiptSettlement.com](https://FactaReceiptSettlement.com) or write Bargain Hunt Settlement, PO Box 42546, Philadelphia, PA 19101-2546 or call 1-833-913-4213.

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# Classifieds

- LEGAL
- HELP WANTED
- STATEWIDE
- STATEWIDE
- STATEWIDE
- STATEWIDE

STATE OF  
TENNESSEE  
PROBATE COURT OF  
JACKSON COUNTY  
AT GAINESBORO  
NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS

ESTATE OF: Edith Marie Loftis

Notice is hereby given that on the 14th day of December, 2020, Letter of Testamentary, in respect to the estate of Edith Marie Loftis, deceased, who died September 14, 2020 were issued to the undersigned by the Probate Court of Jackson County, Tennessee.

All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file same with the Clerk of the above named Court at the Jackson County Court House, P.O. Box 342, Gainesboro, TN 38562 within the earlier of four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death, otherwise their claims will be forever barred.

This the 14th day of December, 2020.

Brian Loftis,  
Administrator  
Sherrie Pippin-Loftis,  
Clerk and Master  
Michael Savage,  
Attorney for Estate  
12-22, 12-29  
2TP

**HELP WANTED:** Ansei America is accepting applications for the following position: 1st shift Assembly position, starting \$9.50 an hour, 2nd shift Assembly position, starting \$9.65 an hour. Hourly pay rate will increase after 90 day probation. Health Insurance, paid holiday's, sick, vacation after a 90 day probation. All applicants must provide a High School Diploma or GED upon submitting your application. Please submit applications Monday thru Friday 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. at 1659 North Grundy Quarles Hwy, Gainesboro, TN 8-13, TFC

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40x100 metal shop building situated on 15.09+- surveyed acres. This flat to rolling pasture ground is also improved with a nice barn, fencing and is just a mile from Dale Hollow Lake Dam. The property is being offered in 3 tracts, near Dale Hollow Lake, and SELLING ABSOLUTE. Also, we are offering a large assortment of personal property including a 1955 Chevy Bel Air, 1940 Chevy Master Deluxe, 1932 Chevy Van, 1986 Alfa Romeo, Tractor Boat 60hp Motor, Grasshopper Mower, Tools, Furniture, and more.

Log on and bid at [www.crossroadsauctiongroup.com](http://www.crossroadsauctiongroup.com)

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Terms: All property in this auction sells "As is, Where is" having given the right to bidders to inspect prior to bidding. Buyers to place a 15% deposit with the balance due on or before 30 days. 10% buyers premium. 2021 tax prorated to the date of closing. All bidding takes place online. Personal property payment with possession.

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You can also view our listings at [www.realtor.com](http://www.realtor.com) or [www.realtracs.com](http://www.realtracs.com).

Just enter the MLS number on the ad.

CDP164 - HERMAN SMITH LANE

Overlooking the city of Gainesboro, we have 3.2 acres on both sides of the street. This property is in the city limits and city water and sewer available. This property is a great buy at \$18,900.00.

CDP171 - CUMBERLAND VALLEY DRIVE

Offering a nice lake view, we have a .74 acre sloping lot. This lot has light restrictions and would be great for your full-time home or get-away cabin. The lot is septic approved for two bedroom system, and has city water available. Priced to sell at \$39,900.00. Owner terms available.

CD967 - HIGHWAY 56

In a great location, we have 1.16 acres improved with a large concrete slab and a paved driveway and parking area. This property was used as a market and garage in the past. There is a small portable bank building on site, along with a septic system and water tap. Natural gas is available. This would be a great place for a business. Priced at only \$50,000.00. MLS # 1817603

CDP155 - CARL DIXON LANE

Offering a seasonal lake view and the lake just across the road we have this nice three bedroom, two bath brick home with a new metal roof and really nice kitchen with granite counter tops and stainless steel appliances. Other amenities are a two-car garage, 28x48 barn, and a large front deck overlooking the Corp property that you can sit and watch the various wildlife. This home is priced at \$274,900.00.

CD926 - CAMP DISCOVERY LANE

Overlooking Cordell Hull, we have 4.89 ac. +/- being mostly wooded. This property is septic approved and has city water and electric available. This property has long road frontage and lots of wildlife. Price is \$16,000.00. MLS # 1813155

CDP152 - WEBSTER ROAD

Convenient to Cordell Hull Lake and Indian Creek Campground, we have approx. 84 acres +/- with long road frontage. This property is mostly wooded and offers bench and ridge fields that are grown up currently but can be cleared back out. City water and electric is available and wildlife is plentiful. Priced to sell at \$141,000.00.

PUBLIC NOTICE

JACKSON COUNTY UTILITY DISTRICT NOTICE

Due to the increased cost to supply quality drinking water to you, our customer, it has become necessary to pass these increases along to our customers. We regret this action, but, State law requires that we increase our rates sufficient to cover utility expenses.

Effective with the 01/01/21 billing the following rates will apply:

	MONTHLY MINIMUM BILL 0-1500 GALLONS	ADDITIONAL CHARGE FOR USAGE OVER 1500 GALLONS
5/8" RESIDENTIAL	\$23.45	\$15.10 PER 1000 GALLONS
1" COMMERCIAL	\$24.45	\$15.10 PER 1000 GALLONS
1 1/2" COMMERCIAL	\$28.45	\$15.10 PER 1000 GALLONS
2" COMMERCIAL	\$36.45	\$15.10 PER 1000 GALLONS

ALL WATER USAGE SUBJECT TO SALES TAX

EXISTING TAP AT LOCATION

Owner's Service Charge	\$ 50.00 NON-REFUNDABLE
Renter's Service Charge	\$100.00 NON-REFUNDABLE
NEW TAP 3/4"	\$1175.00
Owner's Service Charge	\$ 50.00
TOTAL	\$1225.00
NEW TAP 1"	\$1350.00
Owner's Service Charge	\$ 50.00
TOTAL	\$1400.00



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# New Members Elected To Myers–Zoillcoffer Camp 1990



**Newly Elected Members** - At the December meeting of Myers-Zollicoffer Camp 1990 in Livingston, TN, Bobby Ray White and Matthew Ray White were welcomed into the bonds of fraternal brotherhood. Both men were elected members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans upon the service record of their ancestor Private Elige Washington Ledbetter with Company A, 8th Regiment, Tennessee Cavalry. The youngest member of Camp 1990, Lucas White, conducted the oath of initiation to his grandfather and father. Pictured left to right are three generations of Whites: Bobby Ray, Lucas Grant and Matthew Ray.

# New Basketball Restrictions

Jackson County High School will be complying with Governor Lee and TSSAA’s new guidelines which will allow for family only and essential personnel to attend games through Jan. 19.

Governor restricts spectators at sporting events Executive Order No. 70 effective now through Jan. 19. Because of the significant increase in the incidence of COVID-19 infections in Tennessee, additional restrictions on who may attend interscholastic athletic practices and contests will be in place. Unfortunately, large scale attendance by spectators and students must be curtailed. Doing so means that bands, pep bands, cheerleaders, and dance teams may not attend athletic contests while these restrictions remain in place. In accordance with the new Executive Order, the only attendees permitted at practices or games, in addition to the student-athletes on the team, are: Players’ parents or guardians and immediate household members; First Responders; Coaching and team personnel; School, game, and facility administrators; Athletics officials; and Media and athletic scouting personnel attending the event in their professional capacity. Social distancing between persons from different households is required. While the Executive Order does not mandate the use of masks, the Governor has encouraged masks, and the TSSAA COVID-19 Sports Regulations provision regarding the use of masks remains. Refer to the Tennessee Returns to Play page at TSSAA.org for full information. These are minimum restrictions. Depending on particular school, facility, or community circumstances, school officials may require additional limitations on attendance.

The Governor’s office conferred with TSSAA about these restrictions. TSSAA concurs with Governor’s office that these restrictions represent the best means for us to continue providing interscholastic athletic participation opportunities to our student-athletes while also doing our part to curb the spread of the virus. We remain hopeful that we will soon begin to see a decline in the instances of infection and that our schools will soon be able to return to more normal operation of their athletic competition.



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