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The
Bartlett Express

Bartlett, TN | Volume 50 | Issue 43 | Thursday, October 22, 2026 | bartlett-express.news $1.00



ALL BARTLETT CITY ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS EARN RECOGNITION

Jason Sykes
Bartlett City Schools

Bartlett, Tenn. — Bartlett City Schools (BCS) is celebrating a significant district-wide achievement as all six of its elementary schools have now been recognized as Apple Distinguished Schools, highlighting the innovative teaching, leadership and technology-rich learning environments taking place across the district.

The milestone was reached with the recent recognition of Altruria Elementary School and Oak Elementary School, joining Bartlett Elementary School, Bon Lin Elementary School, Ellendale Elementary School and Rivercrest Elementary School as Apple Distinguished Schools. This brings the total number of schools receiving this distinction to nine out of the 11 schools within the district.

Schools are selected for the Apple Distinguished Schools program based on their commitment to continuous innovation in education and their use of Apple technology to inspire, imagine and impact teaching and learning. Apple describes Apple Distinguished Schools as centers of leadership and educational excellence with a clear vision for how technology-rich environments can support learning goals.

For BCS, the recognition represents more than the use of technology in classrooms. It reflects

See **BCS,** *page 8A*

BARTLETT HOSTING FIRST SPECIAL NEEDS TRUNK N TREAT ON SATURDAY

Event at Shadowlawn Park will offer an inclusive Halloween celebration for individuals with special needs and their siblings

BARTLETT, Tenn. — The city of Bartlett Parks and Recreation Department will host its first Special Needs Trunk N Treat from 3 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 24, at the new inclusive playground at Shadowlawn Park.

The event is designed for individuals of all ages with special needs and their siblings, offering families an opportunity to celebrate Halloween in a fun, safe and inclusive environment.

Organizers are seeking community members and businesses to help make the event a success by hosting decorated vehicles or donating candy, toys and other treats for participants.

Those who host a trunk are asked to decorate their vehicles and provide individually wrapped candy or non-candy items to distribute to attendees. Organizers especially encourage non-candy



items, including small toys, stickers, fidget items and other age-appropriate trinkets.

Businesses and individuals who cannot host a trunk can still contribute by donating individually wrapped candy or non-candy items for backup supplies.

The department said community

See **Treats,** *page 2A*

BARTLETT SENIOR CENTER OFFERS TRAVEL, FRIENDSHIP AND DISCOVERY THROUGH GROUP TRIPS

After an eight-day New England adventure, the center is planning a 2027 journey to Mackinac Island, Chicago and Dearborn.

BARTLETT, Tenn. – For members of the Bartlett Senior Center, travel offers more than a chance to see new places. It also provides opportunities to share experiences, explore history and build friendships along the way.

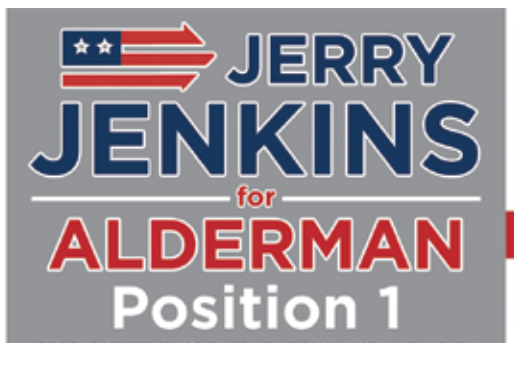
In August, a small group from the center spent eight days exploring New England during the region's colorful fall season, visiting attractions across multiple states and enjoying stops that combined entertainment, history and local culture.

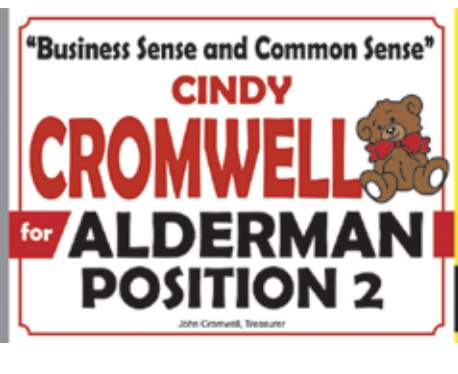
The center organizes trips with smaller groups, allowing participants to make multiple stops and take part in special guided tours. The approach gives travelers opportunities to explore destinations beyond the typical sightseeing experience while enjoying the company of fellow travelers.





See **Travel,** *page 8A*



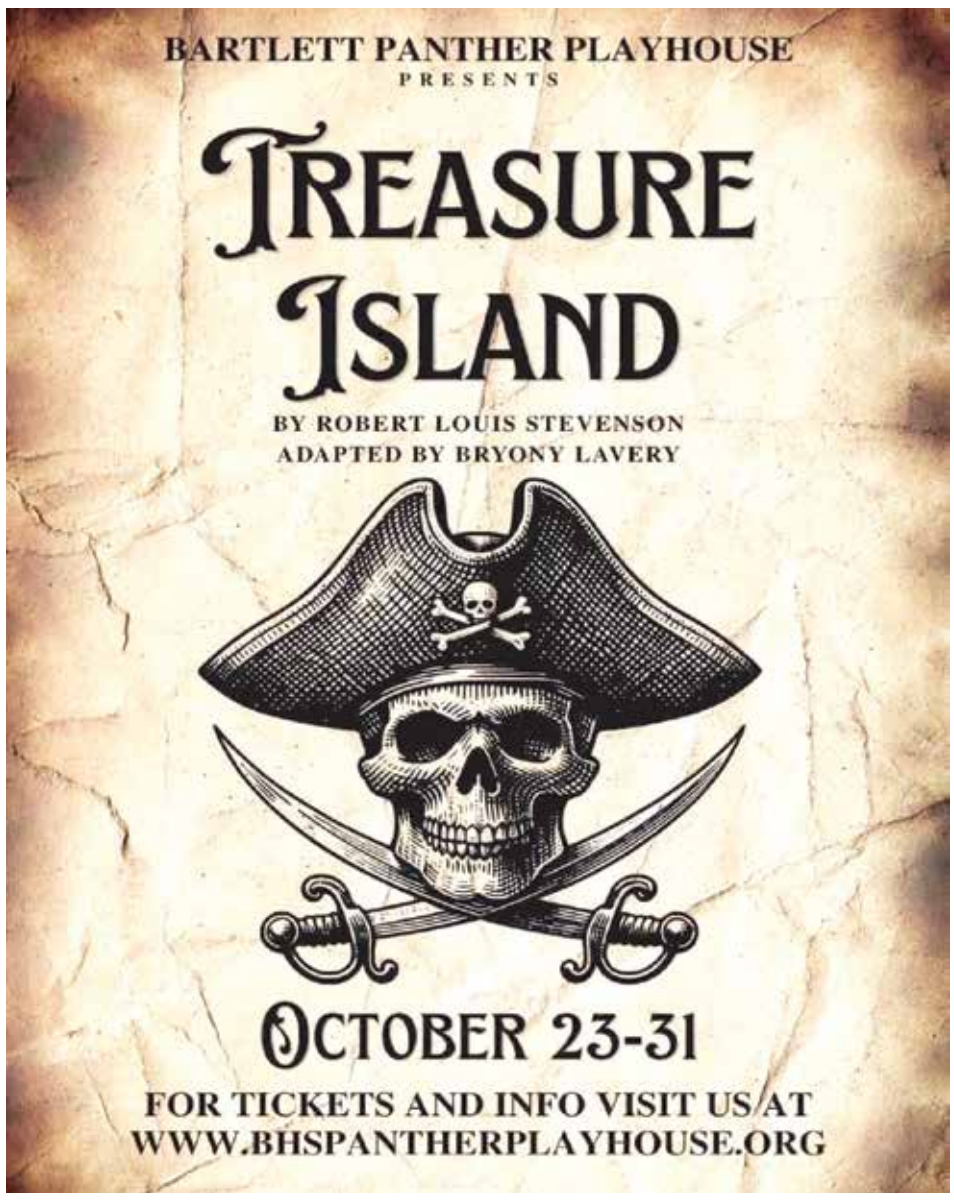




Ready to Serve Bartlett!

Inside: Community News - Page 2A and 3A | Church Listings - Page 4A
Classifieds - Page 5A | Puzzles - Page 6A

The Bartlett Express
Go to Bartlett-Express.news
Your online source for local news.



The Panther Playhouse will present its fall production of "Treasure Island" this weekend and next at 5688 Woodlawn St. in Bartlett. Tickets are available online at bhspantherplayhouse.org or at the door.



The Bartlett Community Concert Band will present its annual Halloween Concert at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 25, at the Bartlett Performing Arts and Conference Center, 3663 Appling Road. Community members are invited to enjoy an afternoon of seasonal music and Halloween fun.



RECOGNIZING NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

Jason Sykes
Bartlett City Schools

October is National Bullying Prevention Awareness Month, a time for students, families, schools, and communities to come together to promote kindness, inclusion, and respect, and to take a stand against bullying.

At BCS, we believe every student deserves to feel safe, respected, and included at school. Preventing bullying is a shared responsibility, and each of us can make a difference by choosing kindness, looking out for one another, and speaking up when something isn't right.

As a visible show of support, we invite students, staff, families, and community members to wear orange on Wednesday, October 21, 2026. Together, we can send a unified message that bullying has no place in our schools or community.

Through SpeakUp BCS, Bartlett City Schools provides students and parents with a way to report bullying, safety concerns, or other issues that may impact the well-being of our students. To learn more about our SpeakUp BCS program, visit https://www.bartlettschools.org/parents-students/speak-up-bcs.

If you see something, say something. If you need help, speak up. Together, we can create schools where every student knows they belong. Choose kindness. Speak up. Stand together.

TREATS,

Continued from 1A

support will help ensure children, teens and adults with special needs, along with their siblings, can enjoy Halloween activities in an inclusive and supportive setting.

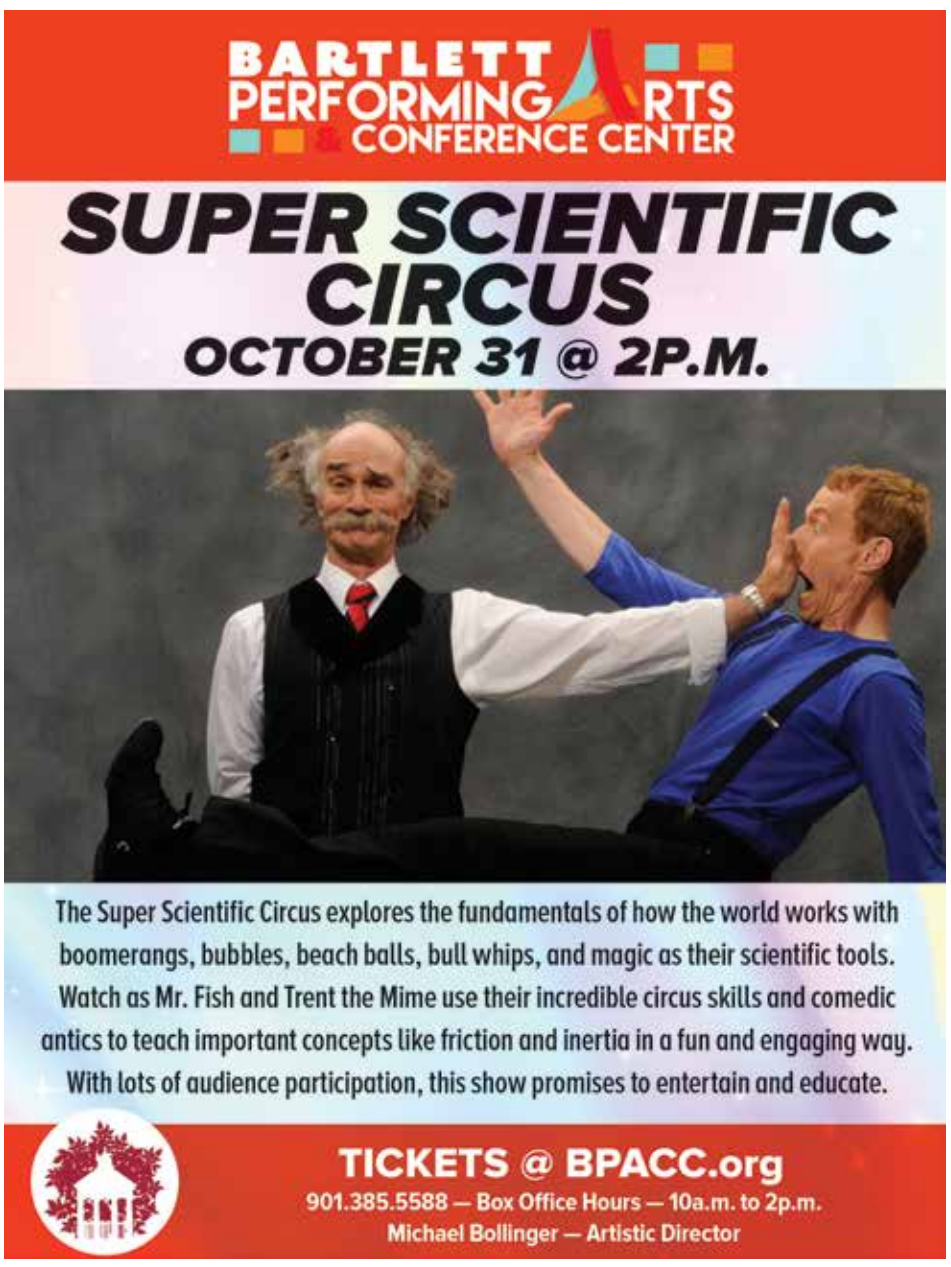
Those interested in hosting a trunk or donating treats and toys can contact the Bartlett Parks and Recreation administrative office at 901-385-5590 during regular business hours for more information.

The department also has an Amazon wish list that allows supporters to send donated items directly to the department.

Say You Read It In The Bartlett Express!

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Upcoming Events ...

BUCKMAN ART CENTER PRESENTS:
URBAN BUSH WOMEN'S "DANCE FOR EVERY BODY" WORKSHOP

October 23, 2026, 5:30 p.m.

Free and open to the community

Buckman Arts Center at St. Mary's, 60 Perkins Extd., Memphis, TN 38117

Join the legendary Urban Bush Women for a free community workshop open to the public on Friday, October 23 at 5:30 p.m., prior to the company's evening show. "Dance for Everybody" embraces the idea that each individual has a unique and powerful contribution to make and that bodies are a formidable source of agency. The goal is for "every body" to find their level of challenge and comfort and partake according to their abilities. This movement jam/dance class seeks to appreciacyounker@stmaryss-chool.org to reserve a spot.



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FIRE PIT FRIDAYS ARE COMING OCTOBER 30

Staff Reports

Fire Pits Fridays are returning to Freeman Park, offering families an opportunity to gather around the fire and enjoy an evening outdoors.

The event will run from 6 to 9 p.m. Fire pits will be available for roasting marshmallows, visiting with friends and neighbors and meeting new people.

Limited benches will be available, so attendees are encouraged to bring their own chairs or other seating.

Source: City of Bartlett



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY
The *Bartlett Express* welcomes letters to the editor and guest columns (300 words limit). We reserve the right to edit letters for length and clarity. All letters/columns must be signed. Anonymous letters will not be published. Letters may be mailed to *Bartlett Express*, 7731 Hwy. 70, Ste. 102, Bartlett, TN 38134; or PO Box 529, Covington, TN 38019.

Living with Purpose

By David Peel

Ask Them While You Still Can



There's a particular kind of regret that shows up at funerals. It sounds like, "I always meant to ask her about that." The stories our parents and grandparents carry usually aren't written down anywhere. When they go, the stories go with them, unless someone thought to ask.

The good news is that it doesn't take a formal interview. It takes a porch, a cup of coffee, and a few good questions. Here are some worth asking the older people in your life:

What did you look forward to most as a child?

Who did you admire growing up, and why?

Did you have any pets?

What were your grandparents like?

Who was the kindest person you ever knew?

What's the first big news event you remember?

What did summer look like when you were a kid?

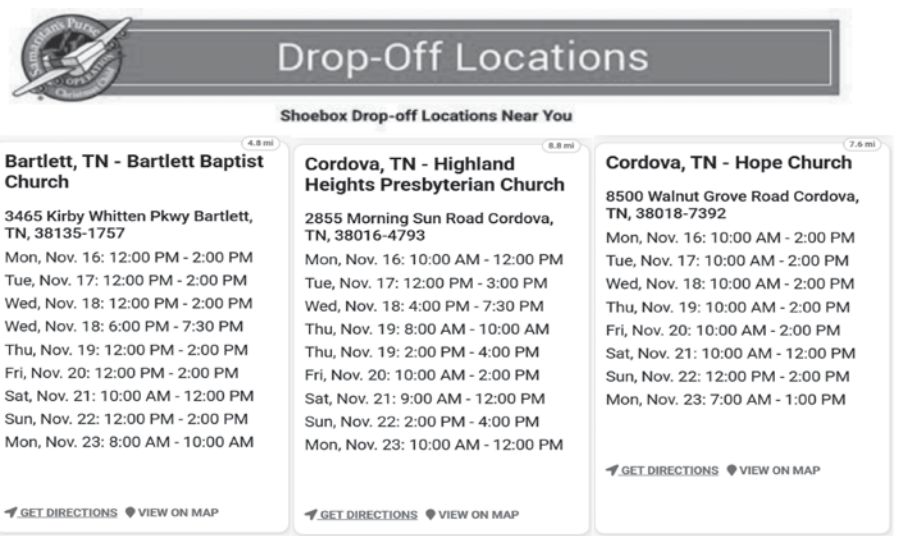
What are you proudest of?

What do you think was the worst day of your life?

That last one takes courage from both of you. Ask gently, and be ready to simply listen. Let them wander, because the best stories usually come from the detour rather than the answer. Hopefully they'll let you record it. Even better if you can let them walk through some old photographs and label the photographs.

We put a lot of effort into preserving old buildings. The people who remember what those places meant deserve much more attention.

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.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD DROP-OFF LOCATIONS TO OPEN NOV. 16-23

Staff Reports

Volunteers across Tennessee are preparing to collect gift-filled shoeboxes for children in need around the world during Operation Christmas Child's National Collection Week, Nov. 16-23.

Nearly 5,000 drop-off locations will open nationwide to collect shoebox gifts filled with toys, school supplies and personal care items. Collection sites throughout Tennessee will participate in the annual effort, a project of Samaritan's Purse.

Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 244 million shoebox gifts to children in more than 175 countries and territories, including those affected by war, poverty, disease and natural disasters.

The organization hopes to reach 12.8 million children in 2026.

"Shoebox gifts may seem simple, but they have an eternal impact. Each box is an opportunity to tell a boy or girl in need about the true meaning of Christmas," said Franklin Graham, president of Samaritan's Purse. "I've delivered these boxes around the world, and I never get tired of seeing the joy that they bring — even in the midst of disasters, war, and poverty."

Individuals, families and groups can fill shoeboxes with gifts for children. Operation Christmas Child partners with local churches around the world to distribute the boxes and share the Christian message.

Participants also have the option to donate $10 per shoebox online through the organization's "Follow Your Box" program, which provides a tracking label allowing donors to learn where their gifts are delivered.

Drop-off locations and operating hours are available through the organization's online search tool, which allows users to search by city or ZIP code. Signs will identify participating collection sites.

Additional information, including shoebox packing instructions and drop-off locations, is available at samaritanspurse.org.

Scan This Code to visit us online, or go to: www.bartlett-express.news

Is God Dead? ... by *Ty B. Kerley, DMin.*

Evil and Sin

This week, we begin to investigate five possible reasons God allows evil to exist, which can be extracted from the biblical text. First, the Bible is quite clear that God allows evil to exist as a form of *punishment for sin*. Second, some evil comes about due to the consequences of others' sin. Third, some evil comes about due to the consequences of evil done by spiritual beings. Fourth, the biblical text indicates that God allows evil to exist as a pathway to the greater good. And fifth, the biblical text suggests that some evil is *beyond our finite human ability to understand*.

It becomes very clear, very early, that God has set forward in the Bible the reality of an *if/then* structure of how people "are to be" in the world. By that, I mean one need not read too far into the Bible to see that God establishes the first behavior-based contractual agreement with mankind. It is an agreement between God and man principally and primarily based on understanding the proper ordering of reality: the Creator over creation. In this inaugural covenant, God states that man may eat the fruit of any of the trees in the Garden but may not eat of the Tree of Life, or they will "surely die." It is nothing less than *if* you do that, *then*, this will happen. Direct, straightforward, and easy to understand: if/then. It is a daily and life-long fact of life. How often have you heard a similar ultimatum from parents, teachers, law enforcement, employers, spouses, siblings, friends, enemies, etc. etc? In all these cases, there is an understood expectation and a warning about what will happen if things go wrong.

This same if/then covenant structure is repeated throughout the biblical text in the various covenants God makes with mankind throughout biblical history. The Adamic Covenant, the Noahic Covenant, the Abrahamic Covenant, the Mosaic Covenant, and the New Covenant are all examples of particular agreements established at various times between God and mankind. And each covenant is laid out with the same structure: if you do that, then this will happen. In the Bible, this structure is otherwise termed "blessings and curses." The most powerful of which is recorded in Deuteronomy 28, which is divided into two sections titled *Blessings for Obedience* (vv 1-14) and *Curses for Disobedience* (vv 15-68). Of the blessings, Moses speaks to the Israelites: "And if you faithfully obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth." So opens the accounting of the unimaginable favor that shall come upon them and overtake them. God will bless His people with a great increase in their numbers and herds of livestock. The rains will be abundant and timely. Their enemies will melt before them, and He will bless them in their land. This is an agreement between the Creator and the creature; it is a covenant formed by two willing parties based upon a simple premise established by God: "The Lord will establish you as a people holy to himself. . . . if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you today, being careful to do them, and if you do not turn aside from any of the words that I command you today, to the right hand or to the left, to go after other gods to serve them" (13b–14).

The consequences of disobedience are dire, showing that although God does not create evil, disobedience brings about suffering. Moses tells the people, "But if you will not obey the voice of the Lord your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you" (v 15).

So begins a list of curses that include cursing their women's wombs, herds, and crops, being stricken by wasting disease, fever, inflammation, grievous boils, fiery heat, drought, blight, and mildew. They shall fall in battle before their enemies, and the birds and the beasts will consume their war dead. They will be struck with blindness, madness, and confusion of mind. They shall become a byword and do abominable things to one another, even mother to infant child. And on it goes. Every aspect and nuance of life will be afflicted and infected with immense suffering brought on by the wrath of God for disobedience as *punishment for sin*. These are the rules established by God for the Israelites to either follow or ignore. They can completely and freely make their own choices. They alone are masters of their destiny. They alone make the free will choice to either accept the offer of God's blessings or make the *free will choice* to suffer the consequences of God's curses. Since these free will options lie before the people, it cannot be argued that God is the Creator of evil, that He is unjust, or that He is without mercy. Nor can it be argued that God is anything less than all-powerful, all-knowing, and all-loving. It can be said, however, that although God is not the Creator of evil, He has a morally sufficient reason for allowing evil to exist, in this case, as punishment for sin. Join us again next week as we look at what the Bible says about suffering that comes as a *consequence of other people's sins*.

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

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

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VIN# 1GNEC13T95R118566

2016 HOND CIV
VIN# 19XFC2E58GE065357

2014 NISS ALT
VIN# 1N4AL3AP5EN253226

2008 NISS VRS
VIN# 3N1BC13E38L388520

2022 KIA FRT
VIN# 3KPF24AD4NE451928

2009 HOND ACC
VIN# 1HGCP26789A159365

2019 SUZI GSX
VIN# JS1GN7FAXK7101107

2009 HOND ACC
VIN# 1HGCP26339A156547

2009 HYUNDAI SAN
VIN# 5NMSH13E59H315372

2014 NISS RGS
VIN# JN8AS5MT7EW618411

2013 DODG AXT
VIN# 1C3CDZCB5DN510960

2008 HOND ACC
VIN# 1HGCP26748A120819

2016 TOYT COA
VIN# 2T1BURHE0GC682363

2016 CHEV EQU
VIN# 2GNALBEK1G1169841

1998 FORD RNG
VIN# 1FTYR10C4WUB47478

2013 HYUN ELN
VIN# KMHDH4AE6DU749956

2014 MERCEDES E350
VIN# WDDHF5KB6EA992066

2013 RANGE ROVER EVO
VIN# SALVN2BG4DH783076

K B Auto Repair
170 EASTMAN
MEMPHIS, TN 38109
901-857-8815

THE FOLLOWING CARS WILL BE SOLD BY AUCTION ON **11/6/2026:**

2015 FORD MUSTANG
1FA6P8TH3F5335454

2015 CADILLAC ESCALADE
1GYS3MKJ6FR714520

2007 HONDA ACCORD
1HGCM56777A140250

2013 HONDA ACCORD
1HGCT1B87DA013388

2017 KIA SOL
KNDJP3A59H7419284

2009 NISSAN MAXIMA
1N4AA51E29C827900

2018 FORD FUSION
3FA6P0D98JR226339

2015 BMW 428XI
WBA4A7C51FD414871

2016 HONDA CIVIC
19XFC2F78GE009595

2020 CHEVY SILVERADO
3GCPWDED8LG11342

1996 FORD RANGER
1FTCR10A7TUA80329

2019 HARLEY-DAVIDSON
1HD1KTP16KB661357

AUTO AUCTIONS

ABOVE N BEYOND AUTO, INC.
2405 ELVIS PRESLEY BLVD.
MEMPHIS, TN 38106

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MACK TRUCK 96
1M1AA13YOTWO59527

FAST LANE TOWING & RECOVERY, INC.
2405 ELVIS PRESLEY BLVD.
MEMPHIS, TN 38106

NOTICE OF INTENT THAT ANY OR ALL PARTIES HOLDING INTEREST IN THE FOLLOWING MUST CONTACT BY CERTIFIED MAIL WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THIS NOTICE ON **10-22-26.**

GMC DENALI 07
2GTEK638771653475

GMC YUKON 03
1GKEK63C23J313670

DTS TOWING
3930 THOMAS ST., MEMPHIS, 38127

THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD AT AUCTION ON **NOVEMBER 22, 2026 AT 11 AM**

KNDJH741695020049
2009 KIA BORREGO

5YFEPRAE7LP030882
2020 TOYOTA COROLLA

JN1CV6AR2DM352724
2013 INFINITI G37 SEDAN

2HGFG12806H574005
2006 HONDA CIVIC

5NPE34AF1GH277325
2016 HYUNDAI SONATA

4T1BF1FK6HU277113
2017 TOYOTA CAMRY

1HGCP26829A159483
2009 HONDA ACCORD

3N1AB8CV9MY272288
2021 NISSAN SENTRA

1C3CCCAB3FN608472
2015 CHRYSLER 200

JF2GTAEC8LH252732
2020 SUBARU CROSSTREK

4T1BE46K27U503909
2007 TOYOTA CAMRY

A&A TOWING
4000 N. WATKINS
901-357-3330

The Following Vehicles Will Be Sold On **11-5-26 AT 9 A.M.**

2005 HONDA ACCORD
VIN # 1HGCM56825A104150

2007 MAZDA M6
VIN # 1YVHP80C675M18402

2017 NISSAN SENTRA
VIN # 3N1AB7AP1HY321178

2011 HONDA CRV
VIN # 5J6RE4H73BL097238

2023 NISSAN KICKS
VIN # 3N1CP5BV8PL555597

2013 GMC YUKON
VIN # 1GKS1AE07DR111140

2003 FORD EXPEDITION
VIN # 1FMFU18L43LA46352

2013 LEXUS G35
VIN # JTHBE1BL9D5011352

2016 DODGE CHARGER
VIN # 2C3CDXBG1GH180684

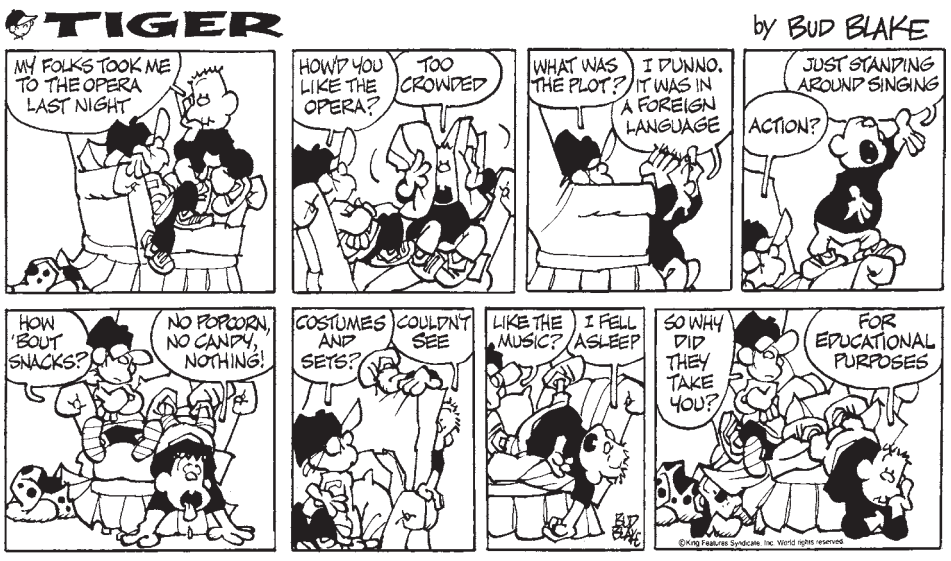
1999 BUICK LESABRE
VIN # 1G4HP52K6XH481891

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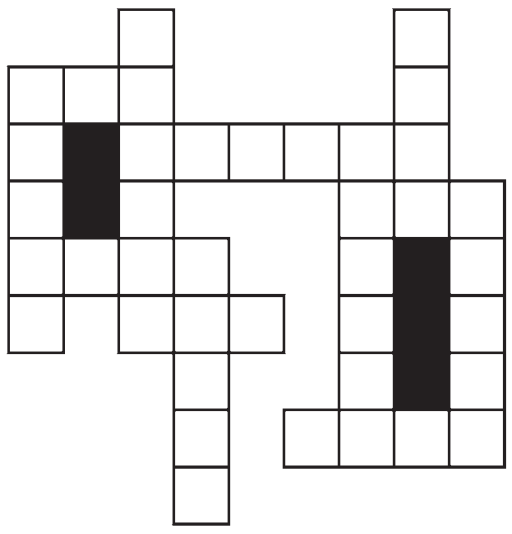


FEAR KNOT™

By: rj johnson

DOUBT? ...OR DARE!

WPA
HAMSPI
♥ ELTSI
♥ ITLA
♥ HERTWI
ISK
♥ ENSW
ARKTA
IRP
RWPLAS
♥ ANLIP
♥ AKEL



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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.

Even Exchange

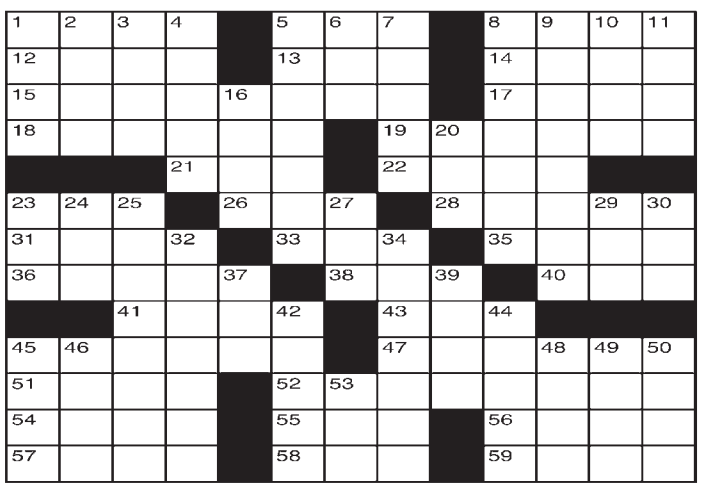
by Donna Pettman

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. Vegetable plot	G _ _ _ _ _	Prison keeper	W _ _ _ _ _
2. Admonish	_ _ O _ _	Burn with water	_ _ A _ _
3. Blue ribbon or trophy	_ _ _ Z _	Cost	_ _ _ C _
4. Chit chat	_ _ N _ _ _	Trade	_ _ R _ _ _
5. Kangaroo's pocket	P _ _ _ _	Feel	T _ _ _ _
6. H20	_ _ T _ _	Thin biscuit	_ _ F _ _
7. Pious	_ _ _ _ _ T	Alternate route	_ _ _ _ _ R
8. Ag	_ I _ _ _ _	Tray	_ A _ _ _ _
9. Pathway	_ _ _ _ L	Teach a dog	_ _ _ _ N
10. Corn cob segment	_ _ R _ _ _	Canine lodge	_ _ N _ _ _

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King Crossword



ACROSS
1 Havana's land
5 High tennis shot
8 Pitt of "Moneyball"
12 Spoken
13 Shock partner
14 Shakespearean villain
15 Military groups
17 Bar fight souvenir
18 Order by classes
19 Vehement protest
21 High school subj.
22 Poi base
23 Likely
26 Small battery
28 Cowboy in "Toy Story"
31 Indy winner A.J.
33 Away from SSW
35 Peevish fit
36 Seized vehicles
38 Business mag
40 Punker Vicious
41 Shacks
43 Cyclades isle
45 1912 Olympic legend
47 Relatives of loons
51 Mine, to Marcel
52 Spoofs
54 Dresses in
55 Org. with a style manual
56 Squad
57 Celeb's aide
58 Tummy muscles
59 Young fellows

DOWN
1 Club in a Manilow song
2 Web addresses
3 Sheepish remarks
4 Choir members
5 From Vientiane
6 Personal
7 Make drunk
8 Casual eateries
9 Masked mammals
10 Lab gel
11 "Finding Nemo" fish
16 Killer whale
20 Motor City labor org.
23 Ghana's cont.
24 "The Bells" writer
25 Violent storms
27 Blackbird
29 Nero's 502
30 Since Jan. 1
32 Sightseer
34 Bafflers
37 NASCAR advertiser
39 Business abbr.
42 1965 march site
44 Capital of South Korea
45 "I did it!"
46 Med. plan options
48 — fide (genuine)
49 Oklahoma city
50 Bygone jets
53 Cleric's tunic

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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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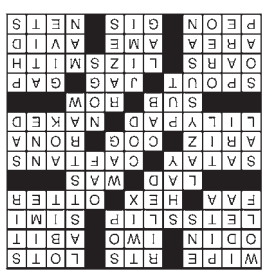
See This Week's Answers In Next Week's Edition

Weekly SUDOKU — Answer

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

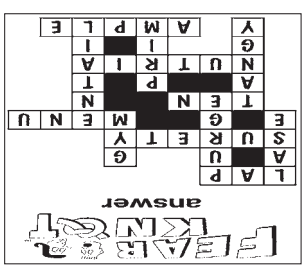
King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 23 mins.



Even Exchange answers

1. Hermit, Kermit	6. Peach, Perch	5. Moose, Mouse	10. Trench, French
2. Sheer, Sheen	7. Terry, Tarry	4. Badger, Bagger	9. Hanger, Hunger
3. Blast, Beast	8. Comedy, Comely	3. Blast, Beast	8. Comedy, Comely
4. Badger, Bagger	9. Hanger, Hunger	2. Sheer, Sheen	7. Terry, Tarry
5. Moose, Mouse	10. Trench, French	1. Hermit, Kermit	6. Peach, Perch



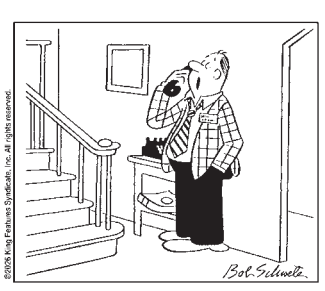
CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: **B** equals **S**

LIECUEAZ BRQJLRJQW MERP QJAZB RPFR QWLWEKWB OFUJIVJB QWKEWMB: F IFTTWQ VO QWLVCCWATFREVA.

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"I can't go bowling, Al — I just got back from a convention in Vegas and my wife is demanding a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _!"

SCRAMBLERS

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

Curve **MECABR** ___ ___ ___ ☐☐ ☐☐ ___
Balance **SOFFET** ___ ☐ ___ ___ ☐ ___
Cover **CEPTAR** ___ ___ ☐ ___ ___ ___
Trend **DIET** ___ ☐ ☐ ___

TODAY'S WORD ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___

WORD SPIRAL

P
E A
B T

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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Wishing Well®

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

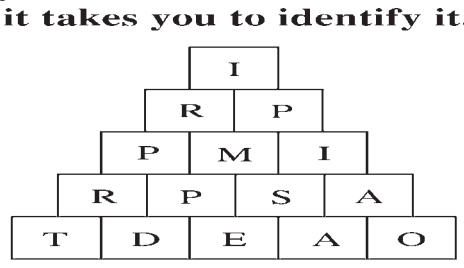
HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the 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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STICKELERS [sic].

by Terry Stickels

This is a common 15-letter word ending in the letter "D." See how long it takes you to identify it.



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CryptoQuip answer

What might you assume is the favorite chocolate candy of cave-dwelling dwarfs? Tootsie Trolls.

SCRAMBLERS Solution

1. Ponder; 2. Polish 3. Pierce; 4. Salami

Today's Word

ASPIRINS

Word Spiral Answer

TOMBSTONE

SCRAMBLERS Solution

1. Ponder; 2. Polish 3. Pierce; 4. Salami

Today's Word

ASPIRINS

Welcoming New Businesses



Mister Sparky Electric celebrated its grand opening on October 6th with the Bartlett Area Chamber of Commerce. Mister Sparky provides safe and reliable wiring and electrical work for residential and commercial buildings throughout the Bartlett and Memphis area.

Bartlett Area Chamber of Commerce



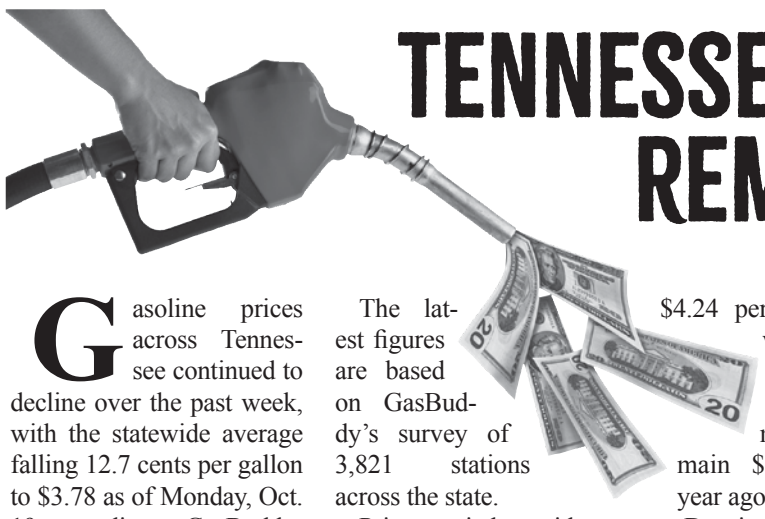
Elizabeth Rook Insurance celebrated their Grand Opening of their new office in Bartlett on Oct. 8th. The agency specializes in personal and commercial lines insurance including auto insurance, home insurance, business insurance, and life insurance for all of Tennessee and Mississippi.

Bartlett Area Chamber of Commerce



CenterWell Home Health celebrated the grand opening of their Home Healthcare Clinic on Oct. 13th with the Bartlett Area Chamber of Commerce. At CenterWell, you can find senior primary care, pharmacy and home health specialists that take the time to understand what you need so you can spend more time doing what you love.

Bartlett Area Chamber of Commerce



TENNESSEE GAS PRICES DROP 12.7 CENTS, REMAIN HIGHER THAN LAST YEAR

Gasoline prices across Tennessee continued to decline over the past week, with the statewide average falling 12.7 cents per gallon to $3.78 as of Monday, Oct. 19, according to GasBuddy.

The decrease marks a continued retreat from prices recorded earlier this fall. Tennessee motorists are now paying an average of 28.3 cents less per gallon than a month ago, although prices remain $1.13 higher than they were at this time last year.

The latest figures are based on GasBuddy's survey of 3,821 stations across the state.

Prices varied considerably throughout Tennessee on Sunday, with the lowest reported price at $3.35 per gallon and the highest at $5.59, a difference of $2.24 per gallon.

Tennessee's average remains below the national average, which fell 5.5 cents over the past week to $4.24 per gallon. Nationwide, gasoline prices are down 23 cents from a month ago but remain $1.26 higher than a year ago.

Despite the recent declines, Tennessee drivers are still paying considerably more than in previous years. On Oct. 19, 2025, the statewide average was $2.65 per gallon, compared with $2.77 in 2024, $3.09 in 2023, $3.33 in 2022 and $3.12 in 2021.

Gas prices also declined in several neighboring markets during the past week.

In Nashville, the average fell 14.1 cents to $3.80 per gallon, while Chattanooga saw a larger decline of 19.8 cents, bringing its average to $3.61. Across the state line in Huntsville, Alabama, gasoline averaged $3.83 per gallon, down 8.6 cents from the previous week.

While gasoline prices moved lower, diesel prices continued to climb. The national average price of diesel increased 5.2 cents over the past week to $6.30 per gallon.

Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy, said most states experienced lower gasoline prices during the week, with some of the declines tied to temporary state fuel tax suspensions and normal pricing cycles.

He cautioned that the downward trend could change depending on developments in global oil markets.

"For now, the outlook remains tied to geopolitical developments, and some price-cycling states could see upward swings in the days ahead if oil markets firm at all," De Haan said.

He added that motorists in states with temporary fuel tax suspensions may see some protection from broader price increases, although market conditions remain uncertain.

GasBuddy calculates its national averages using more than 11 million weekly price reports from over 150,000 gas stations across the country.

A GOOD DAY TO BE A VOL



Ad Veritas

Daniel Richardson

There are plenty of good ways to spend a Saturday afternoon, but having family over, eating a bowl of chili (or two) and watching Tennessee beat Alabama is pretty hard to improve upon.

My mother and brother came over to watch the game with us this year. After my recent experience standing for hours at the Texas game, watching this one from home had some advantages. Comfortable seating, good food and a considerably more satisfying outcome made for a great afternoon.

Tennessee's 26–10 victory was particularly enjoyable because of how the Vols earned it. This wasn't a last-second escape. Tennessee held Alabama scoreless in the second half and gradually took control of the game. It was fun watching our offensive and defensive lines push the Crimson Tide around instead of the other way around.

The numbers back that up. Alabama managed just 201 yards of total offense, including only 54 rushing yards. Tennessee recorded five sacks and forced four turnovers. Whatever reputation Alabama brought into Neyland Stadium, our defense was unimpressed by it.

On offense, DeSean Bishop carried the ball 32 times for 159 yards and two touchdowns. The drive that put the game away consumed nine minutes and 32 seconds of the fourth quarter—the longest drive of the Josh Heupel era. There is something deeply satisfying about watching your team keep moving the chains while the other team runs out of time to do anything about it.

I'll admit I had been a little jealous of the attention Alabama quarterback Keelon Russell was getting, even finding a place in the Heisman conversation. Meanwhile, our own young quarterback, Faizon Brandon, has been dealing with the shoulder injury he suffered against Texas. I'm still hoping to see Brandon healthy and playing like he did early in the season.

But Saturday was a reminder that an exciting quarterback is only part of a football team. Russell finished with 147 passing yards and two interceptions. I wouldn't write off a young player because of one bad afternoon, but I also wouldn't dismiss that performance as simply inexperience. Tennessee's defense deserves the credit for making his afternoon so difficult.

The historical perspective makes the win even sweeter. Tennessee has now beaten Alabama in three of their last five meetings, with all three victories coming in Knoxville. The last time the Vols won three consecutive home games against the Tide was in 1996, 1998 and 2000. Before that, you have to go back to 1956, 1958 and 1960 to find another such stretch.

Those victories in the late 1990s are part of the Tennessee football I grew up watching. The Vols actually won seven straight against Alabama from 1995 through 2001. As a kid, it was easy to believe that was simply how things were supposed to work. The 15 consecutive losses from 2007 through 2021 provided a rather unpleasant correction to that assumption.

That is why it meant something to have my own children watching this one. They got to see the version of this rivalry I remember so fondly, with Tennessee giving us plenty to celebrate. I hope some of these afternoons become the kinds of memories they carry into adulthood.

Of course, being a Tennessee fan, I couldn't quite let the weekend pass without finding something to complain about. The Vols moved up to No. 11 in the Associated Press poll. I had really been hoping for the top 10, but apparently I'll have to remain patient for at least another week.

Still, I'm not going to let one spot in the rankings spoil a Saturday like that. There will be plenty of time to debate where Tennessee belongs and worry about the next opponent. For now, I'm happy to enjoy a win that brought back good memories while giving our family a chance to make some new ones.

Lena's chili would have been good either way. It just tasted a little better with a win over Alabama.

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TRAVEL,

Continued from 1A

The New England trip is part of the center's ongoing travel program, which offers older adults opportunities to discover new destinations and enjoy shared adventures.

Next stop: Mackinac Island

The Bartlett Senior Center is already planning its next major trip, "Discover Mackinac Island," scheduled for Aug. 7-15, 2027.

The nine-day excursion will explore parts of the Midwest, with stops planned in Mackinac Island, Chicago and Dearborn, Michigan.

Travelers will spend two nights at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, known for its historic setting and accommodations. The itinerary also includes a guided exploration of Chicago with a local guide and visits to historic workshops and homes in Dearborn.

The trip is designed to combine sightseeing, history and cultural experiences while giving participants the opportunity to travel with friends and meet fellow adventurers.

For older adults interested in group travel, organized excursions can provide a convenient way to explore destinations without having to plan every detail independently.

Information available

Residents interested in the 2027 trip can contact the Bartlett Senior Center at 901-385-6439 or visit the "Senior Travel and Trips" page on the city of Bartlett's website for additional information.

With its combination of guided experiences, historic destinations and time spent with friends, the upcoming trip offers another opportunity for Bartlett-area seniors to turn travel plans into lasting memories.



BCS,

Continued from 1A

the intentional work of educators who use technology to create opportunities for students to become creators, collaborators, communicators and problem-solvers.

Across BCS classrooms, technology is incorporated into instruction in ways that support curriculum goals while providing students with opportunities to explore ideas, demonstrate their learning, collaborate with classmates and create authentic products.

"Having all six of our elementary schools recognized as Apple Distinguished Schools is an extraordinary accomplishment for Bartlett City Schools," said Dr. David A. Stephens, Superintendent of Bartlett City Schools. "Most importantly, this recognition is a reflection of the people who make learning happen every day. Our teachers, school leaders and technology coaches have worked intentionally to create learning environments where technology is not simply something students use, but a tool that helps them think differently, create, collaborate and demonstrate what they know."

The achievement also recognizes the important role of BCS technology coaches, who work alongside teachers to support instructional technology integration, professional learning and innovative approaches to classroom instruction.

"Technology is more powerful when it is paired with great teaching," said Joey Mitchell, Director of Technology. "Our teachers continue to find ways to use these tools to enhance instruction and give students new ways to engage with their learning. Our technology coaches play an important role in helping teachers explore those possibilities and bring innovative ideas into their classrooms."

Apple's program emphasizes that recognized schools use Apple technology in innovative ways to inspire, imagine and impact teaching and learning. The program also encourages recognized schools to share successful practices and innovations with other educators and communities.

A District-Wide Culture of Innovation

The six BCS elementary schools each bring their own unique approaches, instructional practices and school communities to the Apple Distinguished School designation. Together, however, they demonstrate a shared commitment to preparing students for a rapidly changing world.

The recognition builds on years of investment and professional learning throughout BCS, where educators have continued to explore how technology can strengthen instruction, increase student engagement and provide students with new ways to demonstrate their learning.

The district's elementary schools are:

- Altruria Elementary School
- Bartlett Elementary School
- Bon Lin Elementary School
- Ellendale Elementary School
- Oak Elementary School
- Rivercrest Elementary School

More Than a Technology Recognition

The Apple Distinguished School designation is ultimately about teaching and learning. Apple states that schools in the program use technology to empower students to lead, learn and thrive, discover new opportunities, and engage in learning in new ways.

For BCS, the recognition celebrates the teachers and staff members who continue to rethink how students learn and how technology can support those experiences. BCS remains committed to building on the practices that earned the designation while sharing ideas and innovative approaches across the district and with educators beyond Bartlett.

I grew up a poor Alabama farm boy. I'm presently a Christian missionary in Japan, having lived in Japan since 1973. Please listen to my Radio Sermons Audio on my website: Christ-is-all.us Sermon Number 2024-1 is especially touching. Richard Yerby c/o Christ Is All, PO Box 490, Vernon, AL 35592-0490

As life on earth becomes Increasingly expensive, Disappointing, hopeless, And deadly dangerous; Being prepared for a Blessed Eternity in Heaven weighs heavily on my mind.

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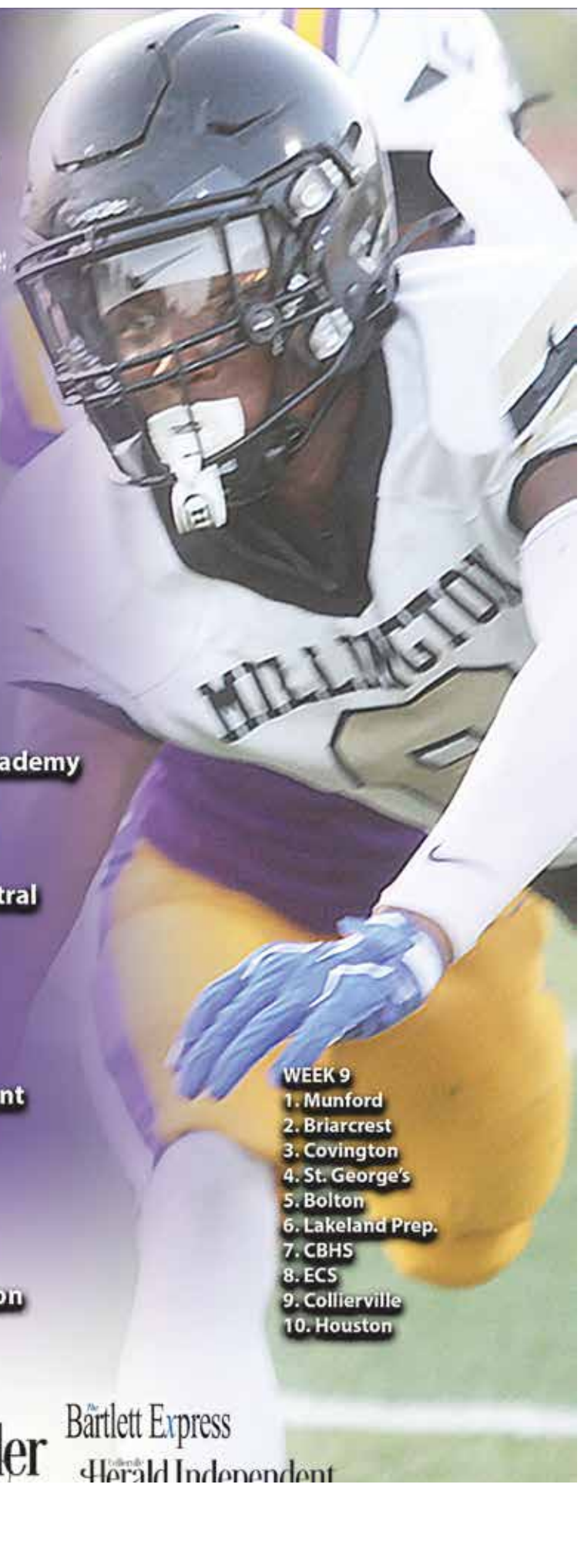
POWER 10

2026

The Dynamix Power 10 Rankings presented by West 10 Media returns for the 2026 season. The teams from the coverage area for The Bartlett Express, The Collierville Herald-Independent, The Leader, The Millington Star, and The Germantown News & Shelby Sun Times, including Arlington, Bartlett, Cordova, Collierville, Germantown, Millington and Tipton County were eligible. With several residents from those cities attending Christian Brothers High School and Memphis University School, those two teams were also eligible for the rankings. Check out each paper throughout the season to stay updated on the rankings. Here are the rankings going into Week 10

WEEK 10

1. Munford (7-1) @ Germantown
W 42-7 @ Brighton
2. Briarcrest (7-1) vs. Lipscomb Academy
L 42-7 @ Brentwood Academy
3. St. George's (6-2) vs. Lausanne
L 13-7 @ St. Benedict
4. Covington (6-2) @ McNairy Central
L 28-27 @ Dyersburg
5. Bolton (7-2) @ Raleigh-Egypt
W 12-6 vs. Wooddale
6. ECS (5-3) vs. St. Benedict
W 42-0 vs. Northpoint Christian
7. Lakeland Prep. (5-3) @ Craigmont
W 44-36 vs. Kirby
8. Collierville (4-4) @ Cordova
L 49-35 vs. Lausanne
9. Houston (4-4) @ Collierville
W 41-6 @ Arlington
10. Arlington (5-3) vs. White Station
L 41-6 vs. Houston



WEEK 9
1. Munford
2. Briarcrest
3. Covington
4. St. George's
5. Bolton
6. Lakeland Prep.
7. CBHS
8. ECS
9. Collierville
10. Houston

WEST 10 MEDIA · The Millington Star · Germantown News · The Leader · The Bartlett Express · Herald Independent