


Bartlett-Heritage
Funeral Home & Cremation Center
Formerly Bartlett Funeral Home • "Meeting Your Emotional and Economic Needs"
5809 Stage Rd., Bartlett • www.bartlettheritage.com

• Hablamos Español
• Traditional Funerals
• Graveside Services
• Cremation Services
• Prearrangements
(Call For An Appointment)
901-372-5555

*Serving Bartlett, Arlington & Lakeland Since 1978*

*The*
# Bartlett Express

Bartlett, TN | Volume 50 | Issue 41 | Thursday, October 8, 2026 | bartlett-express.news $1.00



*An Arlington player faces a Munford defender during the Lady Tigers' 7-0 victory over the Lady Cougars at Arlington Soccer Stadium.*

## THE PAYOFF

### *Weeks of hard challenges starting to benefit Lady Tiger Soccer vs. Munford*

***By Thomas Sellers Jr***
*Richardson Media Group*

If District 15-3A awarded Goalie of the Year to the performer with the most saves and a high save rate by shots faced, Munford Lady Cougar sophomore Emma Walker would be the runaway winner.

She proved her skills and ability Thursday night in the regular-season finale against the Arlington Lady Tigers. Munford traveled to Shelby County to face another high-level squad for the league. Although Arlington prevailed 7-0 over Munford, Walker had another All-District performance with multiple stops of Arlington attempts on goal.

Before arriving at the pitch of Arlington Soccer Stadium, the Lady Cougars forced top-tier teams like Collierville and Houston to play nearly the entire 80 minutes because of Walker's performances.

Walker has saved nearly 150 shots at a 70 percent rate heading into the Arlington contest. Meanwhile the Lady Tigers entered the contest with a sub .500 record, having faced teams like ECS, St. George's, Sacred Heart (Ky.), Bethlehem (Ky.), Lakeland Prep., USJ and Georgetown Prep. (Maryland) before going into district play.

The Lady Tigers validated those tough tests by grabbing an early 2-0 lead against Munford behind a pair of goals from freshman Adriana Ospina. Arlington built a 4-0 lead by halftime. Walker's movement in the goalie box led to several offside calls on Arlington. Walker's positioning made the Lady Tigers limit deep passes.

By the middle of the second half the Lady Tigers wore down Munford and added three more goals for the league victory.



*An Arlington player dribbles upfield against Munford. The Lady Tigers earned a 7-0 win despite a strong effort in goal by Lady Cougars sophomore Emma Walker.*

## TWO BARTLETT TEACHERS AMONG FOUR SHELBY COUNTY AWARD WINNERS

***Staff Reports***

MEMPHIS, Tenn. – In surprise classroom visits, local educators were honored as four of only ten statewide recipients of the annual Tennessee Early Educator Awards. The statewide awards program, launched by Tennesseans for Quality Early Education (TQEE), honors outstanding early childhood educators for their impact on the lives of Tennessee's youngest learners.

Awardee Details:

- Leslie Bates | Kindergarten | Kate Bond Elementary | Bartlett
- Jasmine Hayes | 3rd Grade | Rozelle Elementary | Memphis
- Magita McKinney | Kindergarten | Bon Lin Elementary | Bartlett
- Moneshia Morris | Birth - Age 5 | Early Enrichment Center at Idlewild | Memphis

The Shelby County educators were surprised during class on Wednesday, September 30, celebrating the moment with their colleagues and students. Hayes, Morris, Bates, McKinney, and the other award winners each received a $1,000 cash prize, an all-expenses-paid trip to Nashville, and a shopping spree at Lakeshore Learning to celebrate their contributions to early education in the state.

"Exceptional early educators deserve to have their work seen, celebrated, and valued," said Blair Taylor, CEO of TQEE. "Each of these honorees brings something special to the children and families they serve, and we're proud to recognize their accomplishments. We hope this recognition reminds them how much their work matters and how grateful their communities are to have them."

The Tennessee Early Educator Awards highlight the importance of early childhood care and education professionals who work with children from birth through third grade. Of the 10 educators selected for

the award, 5 are recognized for their work in birth through preschool programs, and 5 for teaching in kindergarten through third grade.

Backed by a range of sponsors, including Lakeshore Learning, Ballad Health, Hyde Family Foundation, Niswonger Foundation, Nancy and Harold Dishner, the Boyd Foundation, and Crisp Communications, these awards provide well-deserved recognition to the early education profession and underscore the critical role of high-quality early learning to Tennessee's education outcomes.




*Leslie Bates | Kindergarten | Kate Bond Elementary | Bartlett*




*Magita McKinney | Kindergarten | Bon Lin Elementary | Bartlett*

Remaining award recipients from across the state can be found on the on the TN Early Educator Awards website tqee.org/educators/early-educator-awards/.

***About Tennesseans for Quality Early Education***

*Tennesseans For Quality Early Education (TQEE) is a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring Tennessee's youngest learners, birth through third grade, get the quality early care and education they need to power our state's future. Learn more about TQEE at tqee.org.*

CINDY CROMWELL for ALDERMAN POSITION 2

"Business Sense & Common Sense!"
Business Owner, BHS Graduate
Looking out for Bartlett Homeowners

Inside: Community News - Page 2A & 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.