



— THE SEWANEE MOUNTAIN — MESSENGER

Volume XLII No. 15

Published as a public service since 1985

Friday, April 24, 2026



Uncozy Mystery Writer Riner's Book Two Challenge

by Leslie Lytle, Messenger Staff
Writer

Transforming muddy wet beets and the unfulfilled promise of a saltwater pool into mystery novels that dare the reader to laugh out loud takes a gifted writer who knows how to take her craft seriously, but has a sense of humor about forgiving life. Meet Beth Riner, author of the character driven mystery series, "Odd Job Annie." Readers of Riner's novels tag along with Annie Cooper who like Riner is living her best retirement life in Monteagle. A former English teacher turned journalist, Riner writes feature stories for the Grundy County Herald, and occasionally the Messenger, as well, and does a lot of volunteering. Riner modeled Annie Cooper, the series' thesis character, on herself. Like Riner, ever-busy Annie frequently finds herself in quirky circumstances when out and about town doing odd jobs. Packing wet muddy beets sets the stage for lots of laughs in the title book of the series, "Odd Job Annie." But taking on the challenge of the second book titled, "A Deadly Development," Riner realized she had a problem. "In the first book I fell in love with the victim. I couldn't kill the victim off. But when I started writing the second one, I thought, it's a mystery. I'm going to have to kill somebody." Fate delivered into her life a developer who promised a saltwater pool and never delivered. Riner took the bait and ran with it. Set for release April 28, "A Deadly Development" pivots on Annie discovering the body of a disreputable real estate developer no one loves.

Laughing at her temerity, Riner confessed, "It was very therapeutic. I'm what Stephen King call a 'pantser,' somebody who writes by the seat of their pants as opposed to a plotter who meticulously plots everything out before they write. I know who the killer is and I have a list of suspects, and when I start writing, it just kind of flows."

The strategy serves her well. "Odd Job Annie" has a five-star rating on Amazon with close to 80

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SUD Drought Worries

by Leslie Lytle, Messenger Staff
Writer

"It's not looking real good for this year as far as drought goes," said Sewanee Utility District Manager Ben Beavers reporting on operations at the April 21 board of commissioners meeting. "At the end of February Lake O'Donnell was one foot down and Lake Jackson was overflowing. O'Donnell is now between a foot and two feet down and Jackson is overflowing, but just barely."

Beavers pointed out the region had been on a 20-year drought cycle. "We're at the 20-year mark," observed Board President Charlie Smith. At present the plateau verges on the "moderate" drought range, according to Beavers. "We're not in the extreme range yet, but there are places in Tennessee that are," he said. "This time last year both lakes were overflowing. Often both of them overflow into June." Rainfall for February was 3.08 inches; for March less than 4 inches, unusually low for that month; and so far for April less than one-half inch with only one major rainfall event. "Right now all the systems on the plateau are okay," Beavers said, "but it pays to keep an eye on it."

In other business, Beavers updated the board on the American Rescue Plan Act projects. Beavers applied to redirect unused funds from the Lead and Copper Survey to the Sewer Rehabilitation project. He has not yet received confirmation, but the Franklin County official administering the grant anticipated the request would be approved. Plans call for final inspection and close out of the Lead and Copper Survey project and the Asset Management Plan project in May. The Sewer Rehabilitation project prioritized fixing and replacing manholes. If approved, the \$162,000 in excess funds will be used to TV inspect and repair sewer lines.

The 74-page Asset Management Plan lists all SUD's physical assets, the assets value with depreciation accounted for, and the anticipated date when replacement will be required. Beavers will provide the firm conducting SUD's rate study with the document to aid in analyzing SUD's rate structure with a view to future needs. The study is currently "on-hold," according to Beavers. Accountant Buddy Petty, principal for the RateStudies firm, alerted Beavers of an irregularity in the 2023 and 2024 financial state-

(Continued on page 5)



Father Nick Phares

SAS Names New Chaplain

St. Andrew's-Sewanee School, after an extensive search, is pleased to announce that the Rev. Nicholas I. Phares will serve the school as chaplain, beginning with the 2026-2027 school year.

Rev. Phares currently serves as rector at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Barlesville, Okla., a position he has held since 2017. Previously, he served four years as associate rector at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Pensacola, Fla.

"Father Phares has tremendous experience in all facets of Episcopal ministry, from preaching weekly to providing spiritual leadership and pastoral care to his parishioners," said Karl Sjolund, SAS head of school. "He also has significant experience working with youth programs, including camp ministry and organizing and leading mission trips. He knows how to respond to the spiritual, ethical, and social needs of kids, and we're confident he'll serve the SAS community well."

The move also represents a return to the mountain for Father Phares and his wife and son. He is a 2017 graduate of the School of Theology at the University of the South, and both of his daughters are graduates of SAS, Morgan ('20) and Lexi ('23). Their son will be a member of SAS's freshman class this fall.

"SAS's commitment to forming the whole person, intellectually, spiritually, morally, and relationally, closely mirrors my own vocation as an Episcopal priest," Father Phares said. "I continue to be drawn to the way this community weaves faith, learning, service, and communal life into a rhythm that invites students to grow in integrity and joy."

Father Phares also holds a B.A. in Religion from St. Leo University and is currently earning an M.S. in Community Counseling from Rogers State University.

Honoring the Past, Inspiring the Future: Sewanee Elementary's Centennial

For 100 years, Sewanee Elementary has been at the heart of our community. On Friday, May 8, we invite you to walk down memory lane as we celebrate our centennial birthday from 5-7 p.m.

Experience the school's history through the eyes of our students during guided tours, and join us for a 5:45 p.m. assembly as we dedicate our gym, unveil a new school sign, and celebrate our forest trail. Whether you are a former student, a retired teacher, or a neighbor who supports our school, your presence will make this celebration complete. Refreshments will be provided.

Presidential Historian Jon Meacham to Deliver 2026 Baccalaureate Address at Sewanee

The University of the South is pleased to announce that Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer and presidential historian Jon Meacham, C'91, H'10, will deliver the baccalaureate address on Saturday, May 9, 2026, during Commencement Weekend.

A nationally respected interpreter of American history, democracy, and civic life, Meacham plans to use the Sewanee platform to share his reflections on 250 years of the American story — a theme central to his scholarship and public commentary. His remarks are expected to draw significant interest from graduates and their families, Sewanee alumni, and a broad public audience. The ceremony will be livestreamed and recorded for those unable to attend in person.

Commencement Weekend will also feature a conversation between Meacham and veteran television news anchor John Seigenthaler titled "American Struggle: A Conversation about Democracy Past, Present, and Future." All are welcome at this special event on Friday, May 8, at 2 p.m. in Guerry Auditorium. Tickets are required and may be reserved using this form <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfAf1fSD8-bUSRjLgaQtFPaWE8mPo5z-bR1wr10DNhGfs-ox_g/view-form>. There is no charge, but all guests must register and present a ticket for entry. Seating is limited, and tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis. This event will also be livestreamed.

Meacham is the author of numerous New York Times bestsellers, including "American Lion: Andrew Jackson in the White House" — winner of the Pulit-



Jon Meacham. Photo by Heidi Ross

zer Prize — as well as acclaimed biographies of Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Jefferson, George H.W. Bush, and John Lewis. The Carolyn T. and Robert M. Rogers Chair in the American Presidency and a distinguished visiting professor at Vanderbilt University, he is the canon historian of Washington National Cathedral, a contributing editor to TIME, and a fellow of the Society of American Historians. His work regularly shapes national conversations about leadership, character, and the American experiment.

A native of Chattanooga and a summa cum laude Sewanee graduate, Meacham has remained deeply connected to the University through service on the Board of Regents and other advisory roles. He lives in Nashville and Sewanee with his family.

Sewanee looks forward to welcoming Jon Meacham home to the Mountain for a weekend of reflection, celebration, and inspiration.

Tradition and New Voices

The Sewanee Symphony Orchestra and the University Choir showcase Sewanee's rich musical tradition and creative spirit in a joint concert led by Sewanee Symphony Orchestra Music Director Dr. Mario Alejandro Torres and University Organist and Choirmaster Dr. Geoffrey Harris Ward. The concert will be at 7 p.m., Friday, April 24, in All Saint's Chapel. The program features the symphonic choral works "I Was Glad" by Hubert Parry, "Te Deum" by Charles V. Stanford, and "Greater Love Hath No Man" by John Ireland. Sewanee's woodwind instructor and concert oboist Rebecca Van de Ven will perform Antonio Vivaldi's "Concerto for oboe in A minor, R.V. 461" and organist Geoffrey Ward will perform Denis Bedard's "Concerto for organ and strings." The orchestra will take center stage with the second movement of Pyotr Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 6, the "Pathétique," and the exciting premiere of a composition by a Sewanee student. Arrive early for parking and seating at this annual free concert at All Saints' Chapel.

P.O. Box 296
Sewanee, TN 37375

Letter

THANK YOU!

To the Editor

I would like to thank family and friends that came to see me while I was sick, and sent cards and food. I am back to work now, thankful to be back, and for those who have returned.

Connie Warner, Cuttin' Up

Mooney's Market and Emporium Update

Many of you will have read in the Messenger that Joan is retiring this year. Though I have made offers to sell to a couple of people, no one is seriously interested at this point in buying to continue Mooney's.

I am beginning to initiate Plan B, and that is to liquidate the inventory (there is a lot) and close the store hopefully by sometime in September.

We will keep the yarn shop well stocked to get thru the Great Tennessee Yarn Tour which will run for the entire month of August.

We will keep the Natural Foods Market fully stocked and functioning through August as well.

If you have consignment items at Mooney's we will continue to offer them for sale unless you want to pick them up. At some point we will mark things down for bargain sale (this will not apply to local artisan items), and what is left at the end we will donate to charity. Please communicate your wishes about any part of this process regarding your property. We will also be corresponding directly with our consignors.

Please help get the word out that Mooney's is available to the right people who will want to keep it open and operating as the magical place we know and love. Joan will stay on deck for as long as needed to assure a smooth transition.

If you've thought about buying a Mooney's T-shirt, now is the time to grab one of the last ones that will be produced. If there is a special food item you can't get anywhere else, think about ordering some extra for your pantry. We are happy to take special orders, and as always we offer a case discount if you order the full case of something.

Stay tuned for more updates as things progress.

Until then, Mooney's is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. every day.

Sewanee Community Chest Needs You

The 2025-26 Sewanee Community Chest Fund Drive is \$3,600 away from the \$118,500 goal to support 19 local organizations providing essential services — quality of life programs, community aid, children's initiatives, and more.

The Sewanee Community Chest is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and donations are tax-deductible. Send your donation to Sewanee Community Chest, P.O. Box 99, Sewanee, TN 37375. For more information go to www.sewaneecivic.org, to give through PayPal Giving go to <https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/119597>.

If it matters to you, it matters to the community.

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University Job Opportunities

Exempt Positions: Assistant Coach, Volleyball, Athletics; Assistant Football Coach, Linebacker Coach/Special Teams Coordinator, Athletics; Major Gift Officer, Advancement

Non-Exempt Positions: Accounting Administrator, Facilities Management Administration; Assistant Manager, Cup & Gown, Business Services, Sewanee Dining Campus Security Officer, On-Call, Public Safety, Sewanee Police Department Catering Logistics Coordinator, Sewanee Dining, Catering; Fire Alarm Technician, Facilities Management, Trades; FitWell Group Exercise Instructor, Flourishing Wellness Center; Mineral Physics, Postdoctoral Fellowship, Earth and Environmental Systems; On-Call Catering Attendant, Sewanee Dining, Catering On-Call, Stable Assistant, Athletics, Equestrian Center Police Officer (Full-Time), Sewanee Police Department Police Officer (Part-Time), Sewanee Police Department; Second Cook/Commissary Chef, Sewanee Dining,



THE SEWANEE MOUNTAIN MESSENGER

Published as a public service to the community since 1985, this newspaper is printed on Fridays, 47 times a year. Free of charge, copies are distributed to 100 locations, including businesses and post offices across the Plateau. This publication is made possible by the patronage of our advertisers and by contributions from the University of the South (print production) and the Sewanee Community Chest.

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McClurg; Sewanee Dining Associate, Sewanee Dining, McClurg; Sewanee Shuttle Driver, Sewanee Police Department.

For more information call (931) 598-1381. Apply at <https://jobs.sewaneedu.edu>.

Voting Information

Tuesday, May 5, 2026, is the State and County Primary Election. Early Voting Period is through Thursday, April 30, 2026. Absentee Ballot Request Deadline Saturday, April 25, 2026.

All voters must present a federal or Tennessee state ID containing the voter's name and photograph when voting at the polls, whether voting early or on Election Day unless an exemption listed below applies.

Any of the following IDs may be used, even if expired:

Tennessee driver license with your photo.

United States Passport.

Photo ID issued by the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security.

Photo ID issued by the federal or Tennessee state government.

United States Military photo ID.

Tennessee handgun carry permit with your photo.

The following individuals are exempt:

Voters who vote absentee by mail (view requirements here <https://sos.tn.gov/elections/guides/guide-to-absentee-voting>)

Voters who are residents of a licensed nursing home or assisted living center and who vote at the facility.

Voters who are hospitalized.

Voters with a religious objection to being photographed.

Voters who are indigent and unable to obtain a photo ID without paying a fee.

For more information go to <https://sos.tn.gov/govotetn>.

For more information, sample ballots, and polling locations, go to Franklin County Election Commission https://www.franklincotn.us/election_commission.html;, phone (931) 967-1893. In Grundy County <https://www.grundycountyttn.net/officials/index.html#election>;, phone (931) 692-3551. In Marion County <https://marionvotes.com>;, phone (423) 942-2108.

Community Clean-up May 2

Mark your calendar and plan to join other community members for our annual Arthur Knoll Community Clean-up. Slated for Saturday, May 2, from 9-11 a.m. and sponsored by the Community Council, the University Office of Leases and Community Relations and Facilities Management, it's our chance to spruce up our roadsides and finally lasso the pesky trash that's accumulated over the winter. Meet at the Mountain Goat Trailhead at the Sewanee Welcome Center at 9 a.m. to fan out and do the deed. Got a spot you especially want to see cleaned up? Now's your chance! Garbage bags and other supplies will be provided. Afterwards, drop by Lunch for a free snack, then rendez-vous at Angel Park for presentation of the coveted Platinum Beauty Ring Award.

Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the editor are welcome at the Sewanee Mountain Messenger and are a vital part of our community's conversation. Letters need to be no longer than 250 words and may be edited for space and clarity. We make exceptions from time to time, but these are our general guidelines.

Letters and/or their author must have some relationship to our community. We do not accept letters on national topics from individuals who live outside our print circulation area. Please include your name, address and a daytime telephone number with your letter. You may mail it to us at Sewanee Mountain Messenger, P.O. Box 296, Sewanee, TN 37375, come by our office, 418 St. Mary's Ln., or send your email to news@sewaneemessenger.com. — KB



SERVING WHERE CALLED

Please keep the following individuals, their families and all those who are serving our country in your thoughts and prayers:

Prescott Atkinson
Brandon Brawley
Justin Brawley
James Gregory Cowan
Mark Gallagher
Nathaniel P. Gallagher
Peter Green
Zachary Green
Jackson B. Guenther
Steven Tyler Jeffery
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Waylon Case McBee
Bailey Jackson McLean
Andrew Midgett
Jose D. Ramirez III
Troy (Nick) Sepulveda
Zachary Sherrill
Allison Tucker
Nick Worley

If you know of others in our Mountain family who are serving our country, please give their names to American Legion and Auxiliary member Shirley M. Lawson at slawson@sewaneedu.edu.

MESSENGER INFORMATION

Phone: (931) 598-9949

Display Advertising

Deadline: Monday, 5 p.m.
ads@sewaneemessenger.com

News and Calendar

Deadline: Tuesday, 5 p.m.
Kiki Beavers
news@sewaneemessenger.com

Classified Advertising

Deadline: Wednesday, noon
April Minkler
classifieds@sewaneemessenger.com

MESSENGER HOURS

Monday and Tuesday
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Wednesday
9 a.m. to noon
Thursday — Production Day
Closed
Friday — Circulation Day
Closed

Upcoming Meetings

Town of Monteagle

There will be a Public Hearing at 4:45 p.m., Monday, April 27, in the conference room at City Hall. The purpose the meeting is to discuss Ordinance 3-26 an ordinance to add site plan review checklist and site plan staff checklist.

The regular City Council meeting will be at 5 p.m., Monday, April 27, in the conference room at City Hall.

The regular Monteagle Regional Planning Commission will meet at 4 p.m., Thursday, May 7, in the conference room at City Hall.

There will be a workshop of the Monteagle City Council and the CPA at 9 a.m., Monday, May 11, for the 2026-2027 Budget.

Franklin County Commission

The Franklin County Commission is scheduled to meet at 6 p.m., Monday, April 27, in the Franklin County Courthouse.

Coffee with the Coach

Coffee with the Coach, an opportunity to learn more about Sewanee's sports teams, will meet at 9 a.m., Tuesday, April 28, with John Shackelford, Director of Athletics, at the McGriff Alumni House. Coffee with the Coach will be livestreamed on <sewaneetigers.com/watch/>.

Plateau Party Meet & Greet at Shenanigans

Democrats from Franklin, Grundy, Marion, and other surrounding counties are invited to join us for an evening of food and fellowship at Shenanigans from 5:30-7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 28. The first round of pizza is on us! The rest is on you. This meeting is in lieu of our monthly meeting at the annex because our meeting space is unavailable due to early voting at the Annex.

Monteagle-Sewanee Rotary Club

The Monteagle-Sewanee Rotary Club will be at 5 p.m., Thursday, April 30 for a private club social at the Sewanee Inn. There will not be a breakfast meeting that day.

SCA Membership Meeting, May 4

The Sewanee Civic Association will meet at 6 p.m., Monday, May 4, in Kennerly Hall, St. Mark and St. Paul. Social time with wine begins at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner, a brief business meeting, and the presentation of the 43rd annual Community Service Award. The business meeting will consist of the annual report, committee updates, the SCA budget vote, and the slate of officers vote.

Reservations for dinner are due by Friday, May 1, via email <sewaneecommunitychest@gmail.com>. The SCA is celebrating 117 years of social and service opportunities for the community. The SCA is the sponsoring organization for the Sewanee Classifieds, the Sewanee Community Chest, and projects deemed beneficial to the community. Any adult who resides in the area and shares concerns of the community is invited to participate and become a member. Go to <www.sewaneecivic.org> for more information.

Sewanee Woman's Club May 11 Meeting

Tablescapes is the theme for the Monday, May 11, 2026 Sewanee Woman's Club meeting. The members are stirring their artistic and creative juices to create delightful table centerpieces for gourmet luncheon that St. Mary's Sewanee prepares for us.

Sewanee Woman's Club has been part of the social life of mountain ladies for 96 years! The tradition is always to dress up in spring fashions and wear hats to the May meeting as its the year's last meeting.

All ladies are welcome to enjoy social time, which begins at 11:30 a.m., admire the decor and visit all the ladies in hats. Lunch, for \$20, is served at 11:50 a.m. A business meeting follows lunch.

Please make reservations if you want to enjoy the wonderful lunch or just to see all the table creations by emailing Hilary at <reservations.swc@gmail.com> by noon on Sunday, May 3.

Belvidere Firemen's Fish Fry

The Belvidere Fire Department's annual Fish Fry is 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, April 25, at the Belvidere Community Center, 349 Belvidere Rd.

Tickets are \$15, adults; \$5, children 4-12; and free for children under 4. The menu is fish, barbecue chicken, chicken strips, hush puppies, fries, baked beans, cole slaw, drinks and homemade desserts. All seating is indoors, and there will be bluegrass music. For information on the fish fry, call Ed Burns at (931) 636-4488.

The Belvidere Valley Lawn and Garden Pullers Association will also be having a Pulling-in Competition at noon. To enter, call Mike Moore at (931) 273-9314.

Volunteers Needed for the Sewanee Fourth of July

In preparation for the 40th Sewanee Fourth of July Celebration, and the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, volunteers are needed to make this the best celebration possible.

The next planning meeting is at 5 p.m., Tuesday, May 12, via Zoom. Volunteers are needed for the parade, children's games, Almost World Famous Mutt Show and more. If community members don't volunteer, we can't offer events. To volunteer and to get the Zoom link, please email <sewaneejuly4th@gmail.com>.

Food truck vendor registration is open. Arts and Crafts Fair registration is open. The theme and grand marshals will be announced soon. For more information go to <http://www.sewaneefourthofjuly.org>.

Messenger Break Ahead

The Messenger will be on break May 18-25. There will not be an issue on Friday, May 22. We will be back in the office on Tuesday, May 26, and back in print on Friday, May 29, to officially welcome summer. Important updates will be available on the website <www.sewaneemessenger.com> or on our Facebook page.

If your organization or church has a different schedule during the summer than we normally post, please send the updates to <news@sewaneemessenger.com> or call the office at (931) 598-9949.

Monteagle Sparkle Week

The Town of Monteagle will have its Sparkle Week, May 4-9. Put out household items for pick up and disposal on Sunday night. There will only be one pass at each location. In Grundy County: Wrens Nest Road to Armory Road. In Marion County: Moss Cricle Road to Wells Road. Items not eligible for pick up are tires, batteries, paint, household garbage, electronics or household chemicals. For more information contact Town Hall at (931) 924-2265.

Community Rummage Sale

Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Decherd is hosting a community rummage sale 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, May 2. Items include clothing, accessories, household goods, furniture, entertainment items, yard equipment.

Electronics Recycling Event

The Cumberland Center for Justice and Peace will be hosting an electronics recycling event from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, April 25, at the Sewanee Community Center.

Recycling consumer electronics conserves our natural resources and avoids air and water pollution, as well as reducing greenhouse gas emissions caused by manufacturing virgin materials.

All electronic items will be accepted with the exception of old televisions that use tube technology and/or are built into wooden cabinets.

For more information email <cumberlandjusticeandpeace@gmail.com>.

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Church News

All Saints' Chapel

Services during the Academic Year: Sunday, All Saints' Chapel, 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist, Rite 1; 11 a.m., Holy Eucharist, Rite 2; and 6:30 p.m., Growing in Grace.

Monday-Friday, St. Augustine's Chapel, 8:30 a.m., Morning Prayer; 4 p.m., Evening Prayer. All Saints' Chapel, noon, Quiet Hour.

Wednesday, Meditation Chapel, 7 a.m., Christian Meditation.

Christ Church

The Third Sunday after Easter, along with the Fourth and Fifth Sundays, feature a return to the discourses in the Upper Room found only in the Gospel according to St. John, when Jesus was preparing his disciples to become apostles.

They are students but soon they will be teachers. Of course, their peace is about to shatter. He assures them that someday soon "your heart will rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you."

We, of course, look back on 2,000 years of Christian witness. Yet we also know how fragile that witness is. And how literally millions of Christians suffer persecution.

As we celebrate our beautiful Spring, we pray for those who still

meet in "Upper Rooms."

Our Sunday service at Christ Church Monteagle begins at 10:45 a.m. We always serve lunch. Our Wednesday service is at noon.

Christ Episcopal Church

Christ Episcopal Church of Tracy City is beginning a study of the Lectionary readings for each Sunday before the service. The study is at 10 a.m., Sundays, in the Parish House which is next door to the Church. The study will be hosted by the Rev. Marion Rectenwald. Marion is a retired priest who served for many years on a Lakota Indian reservation in South Dakota. Our regular service hour is 11 a.m. each Sunday with Eucharist and organ music.

City Light Church

City Light Church in Monteagle exists to see people changed by the love of Jesus and fulfill their purpose. We are located at 841 W. Main St., Monteagle, and offer services at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Sundays. Our children's ministry offers a safe and exciting environment for children newborn to fifth grade. Find out more at <www.citylightchurch.cc>.

Draw Near

Draw Near is a new church at 301 Montgomery St., Cowan, that is all about becoming disciples of Jesus one person at a time through real relationships. Come as you are and experience authentic worship at 10 a.m., Sunday. Classes for 2 years through fifth grade.

Outdoor Movie Night

The historic Marble Plains Baptist Church will host Drive-In Ministries from Alabama for an outdoor movie night on Friday, May 1 at 7:30 p.m. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and join with friends and family under the stars and watch "Unsung Hero," a fam-

ily friendly movie based on a true story. The movie is completely free and concessions will be provided by the church. On Saturday, May 2, the movie, "Family Camp," will be shown as an indoor matinee at 2:30 p.m. The church is located just inside Tims Ford State Park at 525 Marble Plains Road.

Monteagle SDA

Weekly prayer meeting is at 9 a.m., Wednesday, and Sabbath school is at 10 a.m., Saturday, followed by worship service at 11 a.m. A vegetarian potluck takes place each week after the worship service. Please join us. Monteagle SDA Church is located at 497 College St., Monteagle.

Morton Memorial United Methodist

We will continue celebrating Easter with a sermon titled "Rule of Life" based Acts 2:42-47. It was a golden age in the Jerusalem community for the disciples and the community of believers. Psalm 23 will be featured.

Children are welcome at Morton! Pastor Melisa will have a children's time during worship. Our children's message will focus on Psalm 23. Following this portion of worship, children will leave for time together in activities.

To learn more, accept this invitation to worship with us. Morton is located at 322 West Main St.,

(Continued on page 5)

Church Calendar

Abundant Life Assembly of God, Cowan

10:30 a.m. Worship, Sunday

All Saints' Chapel

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite 1, Sunday
11 a.m. Holy eucharist, Rite 2, Sunday
6:30 p.m. Growing in Grace, Sunday

Bible Baptist Church, Monteagle

10 a.m. Worship Service, Sunday
5:30 p.m. Evening Service, Sunday
5:30 p.m. Evening Worship, Wednesday

Calvary Baptist Church, Winchester

10 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Worship Service, Sunday
4 p.m. Evening Worship, Sunday
7 p.m. Prayer Meeting, Wednesday

Chapman Chapel Church of the Nazarene, Pelham

9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Sunday
10:45 a.m. Morning Worship, Sunday
6 p.m. Evening Worship, Sunday
7 p.m. Bible study, Wednesday

Christ Church Monteagle

10:45 a.m. Holy Communion, Sunday

Christ Church, Tracy City

10 a.m. Bible Study, Sunday
11 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Sunday

Christ the King Anglican Church, Decherd

9 a.m. Sunday Service, Sunday

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Winchester

9 a.m. Worship Service, Sunday

City Light Church, Monteagle

9:30 a.m. Worship Service, Sunday
11 a.m. Worship Service, Sunday

Cowan Fellowship Church

11 a.m. Worship Service, Sunday

Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Cowan

11 a.m. Worship, Sunday

Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Monteagle

9:45 a.m. Sunday School, Sunday
11 a.m. Worship Service, Sunday

Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Sewanee

9 a.m. Worship Service, Sunday
10 a.m. Sunday School, Sunday

Decherd Presbyterian Church

11 a.m. Worship (Sunday)

Decherd United Methodist Church

9:45 a.m. Sunday School, Sunday
10:50 a.m. Worship Service, Sunday

Draw Near (non-denominational), Cowan

10 a.m. Worship, Sunday

Epiphany Mission, Sherwood

10 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II, Sunday

First Baptist Church, Cowan

9:15 a.m. Sunday School, Sunday
10:25 a.m. Worship, Sunday

First Church of the Nazarene, Cowan

11 a.m. Worship Service, Sunday

Good Shepherd Catholic Church, Decherd

5 p.m. Mass, Saturday
10:30 a.m. Mass, Sunday
12:30 p.m. Spanish Mass, Sunday

Goshen C. P. Church, Winchester

11 a.m. Worship Service, Sunday

Grace Fellowship Church

10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Worship Service

Harrison Chapel Methodist Church, Midway

10 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Sunday Morning Service
5 p.m. Sunday Evening Service

Highpointe Apostolic Church, Monteagle

10 a.m. Sunday School, Sunday
11 a.m. Worship, Sunday
7 p.m. Worship, Wednesday

Hobbs Hill Community Church, Tracy City

10 a.m. Sunday School, Sunday
11 a.m. Morning Service, Sunday
5 p.m. Evening Service, Sunday
6 p.m. Evening Service, Wednesday

Marble Plains Baptist Church, Winchester

9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Sunday
10:30 a.m. Morning Service, Sunday
5 p.m. Evening Service, Sunday
6 p.m. Mid-week Service, Wednesday

Midway Baptist Church

9:45 a.m. Sunday School, Sunday
10:45 a.m. Morning Service, Sunday
6 p.m. Evening Service, Sunday
6 p.m. Bible Study, Wednesday

Midway Church of Christ

10 a.m. Bible Study, Sunday
11 a.m. Morning Service, Sunday
6 p.m. Evening Service, Sunday

Monteagle Church of Christ

11 a.m. Morning Service, Sunday
6 p.m. Bible Study, Wednesday

Monteagle First Baptist Church

11 a.m. Worship Service, Sunday
6 p.m. Bible Study, Wednesday

Monteagle Seventh-day Adventist Church

10 a.m. Bible Study, Saturday
11 a.m. Worship, Saturday
7 p.m. Prayer and Study, Tuesday

Morton Memorial United Methodist, Monteagle

10 a.m. Sunday School, until 10:45 a.m.
11 a.m. Worship Service, Sunday

Mountain of God Tabernacle, Monteagle

Online worship services. Call (931) 924-5339 or go to <<https://www.tdworldministries.org>>

11 a.m. Worship Service, Sunday
6 p.m. Prayer Service, Wednesday

New Creations Ministries, Rayburn Chapel

4 p.m. Prayer Meeting, Sunday

New Hope Church of God in Christ, Cowan

11 a.m. Sunday Service, Sunday
6 p.m. Sunday Service, Sunday

Pelham United Methodist Church

9:45 a.m. Sunday School, Sunday
11 a.m. Worship Service, Sunday

St. Agnes' Episcopal Church, Cowan

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Sunday

St. James-Midway Episcopal Church

9 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Sunday

St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church, Alto

8 a.m. Mass, Sunday

St. Mark & St. Paul

8:20 a.m. Nursery, basement of Kennerly Hall, Sunday

8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Sunday

9:45 a.m. Godly Play

9:45 a.m. Youth Sunday School

9:45 a.m. Sunday Forum

11 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Sunday, also available livestream Facebook

St. Mary's Sewanee Retreat Center

4 p.m. Centering Prayer Group, Thursday

Sewanee Church of God

10 a.m. Worship Service, Sunday

Sewanee Zen, Stone Nest Dojo

7 a.m. Zazen, Tuesday-Thursday
10 a.m. Zazen and Ceremony, Sunday

Sisters of St. Mary Convent Chapel

7 a.m. Morning Prayer, Tuesday-Friday

5 p.m. Evening Prayer, Tuesday-Friday

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer, Saturday

5 p.m. Evensong, Saturday

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Sunday

5 p.m. Evensong, Sunday

Tracy City First Baptist Church

10:45 a.m. Morning Worship, Sunday

Trinity Episcopal Church, Winchester

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Sunday
12:30 p.m. Lectionary Bible Study, Tuesday

Unitarian Universalist Church, Tullahoma

10 a.m. Service, Sunday

Valley Home Community Church, Pelham

10 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Morning Service, Sunday

Winchester First United Methodist

10 a.m. Worship, Sunday

Obituary

Henry Wallace Blizzard

The Hon. Henry Wallace Blizzard Jr., age 86 of Monteagle, died on April 10, 2026. He was born on Jan. 13, 1940, in Columbus, Ga., to Theda Holder and Henry Wallace Blizzard. He graduated from Columbus High School, and enrolled in Auburn University with a scholarship from the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps. While enrolled at Auburn, he was a member of Phi Kappa Tau social fraternity, Omicron Delta Kappa honor society, and the Auburn University Marching Band. He earned a BA in History. He then served as a Lt. J.G. in the U.S. Navy, and later in the Naval Reserves. After his honorable discharge, he attended Florida State University earning a Master of Administration; he subsequently obtained a Juris Doctor from the University of Alabama School of Law. In Tuscaloosa, he met his future wife, Lelia Bourdin, who was a graduate teaching assistant at the University of Alabama. They married and moved to Athens, Ala., where he practiced law and was a member of the Chamber of Commerce and Jaycees. In 1978, he was appointed as the first circuit judge for the 39th Judicial Circuit in Limestone County, Ala., a position he held for 18 years. As a judge, he sought to promote fairness in criminal sentencing throughout the state by serving on the Alabama Sentencing Commission. He held officer positions in the Alabama Circuit Judges Association and taught at judicial colleges across the country.

While in Athens, he led several Boy Scout Troops and was a member of the Athens Public Library board. Henry was a spiritual person, consistently involved with his church, including many years at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Athens, Ala., and later at St. James Episcopal Church in Sewanee where he and Lelia became members. After he and Lelia retired to Monteagle, he volunteered with the Mountain Goat Trail Alliance, the Monteagle Visitor's Center for the Tennessee State Parks Conservancy, and the Community Action Committee of St. Mark and St. Paul in Sewanee. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife of 55 years, Lelia, and several aunts, uncles, and cousins.

He is survived by his children, Lee (Will) Phillips of Johnson City, Tenn., Wallace (Lawson) Blizzard of Mountain Brook, Ala., Donna (Mike) Sweigart of Roswell, Ga., Mary Gwen (Murash) of Davidson, N.C., and Charles Blizzard of Athens, Ala.; brother, Lt. Col. (Ret.) Daniel Kirk (Olga) Blizzard, eight grandchildren, one niece, and one nephew.

A Memorial Service will be at 1 p.m. (CDT) on Friday, May 8, 2026, at the Lake Clubhouse, Clifftops, Monteagle. Directions to the Lake Clubhouse will be available at the Clifftops Gate House, 700 Clifftops Avenue, Monteagle. Please email <BlizzardFamily2024@gmail.com> with any questions. In lieu of flowers, the family appreciates donations to St. Jude Children's Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105, or go to <www.stjude.org/donate>. For complete obituary go to <<https://www.legacy.com/legacy/henry-blizzard-jr>>.



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Church (continued from page 4)

in Monteagle. Worship begins at 11 a.m. In addition to a thought-provoking message, there is always inspirational music. If you are unable to attend and want to sample worship, the service is live-streamed at Morton's Facebook page and is available on YouTube in the week following the service.

St. James Episcopal

St. James Episcopal Church celebrates The Holy Eucharist each Sunday at 9 a.m. We have a Parish Potluck the first Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. Our Daughters of the King chapter meets the second Tuesday of the month at 1:30 p.m. The Men's Breakfast Group meets the first Saturday of the month. We gather each Sunday after church for refreshments and fellowship. St. James is located at 898 Midway Rd., Sewanee. All are welcome to experience love, hope, and joyful fellowship at St. James.

St. Mark and St. Paul

Sunday the Holy Eucharist is celebrated at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. The 11 a.m. service will be live-streamed on our Facebook page and remains available there.

Nursery Services: Infants and toddlers through three years old are invited to gather downstairs in Claiborne Hall.

Morning and Evening prayer services are at 8:30 a.m. and 4:45 p.m., Monday through Thursday in the sanctuary.

Pilgrimage: The Rev. Rob Lam-born will be away for pilgrimage to Biblical sites in Türkiye and Greece April 22-May 7. The church office remains open regular hours. For pastoral matters, please contact Archdeacon Betty Carpenter, or for other urgent matters outside of office hours, Senior Warden John Gatta (April 22-23 and April 27-May 7) or Junior Warden Chris Asmussen (April 24-26).

Sunday Forum: This Sunday, Amy Evans will be addressing "Controversies in Pediatrics." The forum meets in Kennerly Hall, 9:45-10:45 a.m., with coffee and light refreshments.

CAC will host its final Community Meal of the spring semester at noon, Friday, April 24, in Kennerly Hall.

Centering Prayer Group: Mondays at 7 p.m. and Tuesdays at 2:30 p.m., both in the sanctuary.

Lectionary Bible Study: meets every Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. in Brooks Hall. The class begins with a brief prayer and a reading of the Gospel lesson appointed for the coming Sunday.

Adult Choir: Adult choir practice is Sundays 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Children's choir rehearses on Wednesday after school. To enroll your child contact Wyatt Poe at: <music@stmarkstpaul.org>.

Godly Play continues this Sunday at 9:45 a.m. for children (3 years old through fifth grade).

Youth Sunday School meets upstairs in Brooks Hall.

Rite-13 and J2A: Young people in grades 6-10 are invited to participate in Rite 13 and Journey to Adulthood (J2A) on Sunday afternoons. Please contact Hilary Bogert Winkler <hbwchurch@gmail.com> for details.

April Book Study: "Falling Upward" by Richard Rohr: Tuesday nights, 5:30-6:30 p.m. through April 28 in Brooks Hall. Led by the Rev. Scott Lee. "When you get your, 'Who am I?', question right, all of your, 'What should I do?' questions tend to take care of themselves." Everyone is invited to attend even if you have not opened the book at all.

Blessing Our Graduates - May 10. On Mother's Day, we will honor and pray for all graduates in the parish. This includes those graduating from preschool, fifth grade, middle school, high school, college, seminary, and other programs. We do this once a year, so please include those graduating in fall or winter. Email Jeannie at <formation@stmarkstpaul.org> with your graduate's name and program. Their name will appear in the bulletin and we will pray for them by name in each service. During Coffee Hour after second service, we will have a small gift for the graduates in attendance and they may join a group photo.

SUD (from page 1)

ments; category totals were accurate but line-item entries were missing. Smith speculated the irregularity resulted when SUD transitioned to using different software for financial record keeping in 2023. Beavers will adjust the entries and resubmit the documents to Petty, as well as informing the state comptroller of the error.

Looking to the future, Beavers intends to apply for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to help pay for repainting the farm water tank, estimated cost \$450,000. The high cost is due to lead paint on the exterior which will require sandblasting to remove. Franklin County only receives one CDBG grant, but Winchester and Cowan qualify for CDBG grants as municipalities, reducing the competition, Beavers pointed out. "We've never gotten a CDBG grant, so it's our turn," he observed. Beavers will have SUD's engineer put together a data package for use in the grant application, that could also be used to apply for other grant or loan opportunities.

CAC Pantry Sunday

Pantry Sunday for the Community Action Committee (CAC) is scheduled for the first Sunday of the month, May 3. All are welcome to contribute. Please bring your food offerings to St. James Episcopal in Midway, the Parish of St. Mark and St. Paul for collection, or deliver directly to the CAC located at 216 University Ave., Sewanee. There is an Amazon Wish List <<https://a.co/f6TXKX4>> for those who want to shop online.

The CAC is an outreach ministry of the Parish of St. Mark and St. Paul, with generous support from the Sewanee Community Chest, other organizations and individuals across the Mountain. For more than 50 years, the CAC has provided food, financial assistance, and educational support for persons in the greater Sewanee community. The CAC is open 9-11 a.m., Monday through Friday. For more information contact the CAC at (931) 598-5927.

Riner (continued from page 1)

reviews and was a 2025 Mystery & Mayhem finalist for the Chanticleer International Book Awards. Also celebrated as a journalist, Riner received two Tennessee Press Awards in 2025: business feature writing, second in the state, and general feature writing, fourth in the state.

Riner taught high school English for 23 years, but writing was always her first love. "If you were an English major, you love words," she insisted acknowledging her passion. In "A Deadly Development," Riner makes profligate use of the word "skeevy" taunting a friend who insisted "skeevy" was not a word. "I used it a dozen times just to mess with him," she joked. Interestingly, the only critical reviews of "Odd Job Annie" upbraided her for using not-so-polite language. "Annie has a bit of a mouth on her," Riner said. One reader counted 45 uses of the 'f-word.' Riner's publisher Golden Bridges Publishing compiled the language objections into a funny video and posted it on Facebook and Instagram.

Riner calls her books "uncozy mysteries," differing from the cozy mystery genre, with prudent verging on prudish language and serious verging on somber takes on life. Riner's book are funny. "Annie is always getting into scrapes," Riner observed. "Her odd jobs put her in hysterical situations." Learning how popular Odd Job Annie was with male readers surprised Riner. "I think the humor is why men like it," she speculated.

In book three, "A Killer Romance," three love interests infect Annie's not-so-cozy retirement: a handsome baker neighbor, an ornery country sheriff, and a mysterious air force colonel. "I don't know if she's going to end up with any of them. I kind of like the idea of Cinderella has a fling and lives happily ever after single," Riner speculated.

For a 60-something retiree, being pursued by paramours is an unexpected treat. Likewise, mystery writer Riner finds herself a bit awed by the success of "Odd Job Annie" and the impatient readers eager for release of her second book. Meet the charmer at a launch party from 1-3 p.m., Saturday, May 2, at Sounding Stone Gallery in Monteagle. Coincidentally, Sounding Stone will be hosting the exhibit, "To Tell a Yarn: Stories in Fiber and Cloth," featuring the work of seven regional fiber artists who use textiles to tell and re-tell stories. Thrilled by the synchronicity, Riner said, "It's a win-win!" So are the doppelgangers Beth Riner and Odd Job Annie.

Riner's books are available in both paperback or Kindle format on Amazon and all other online book retailers. "A Deadly Development," officially scheduled for release April 28, may be preordered now.

South Cumberland Shindig

Join us for SCCF's annual shindig at the Caverns celebrating music education on the South Cumberland Plateau. Hear from Grundy County Strings, Grundy JAM, Top of the Rock Choir, and Sewanee Elementary Music, with square dancing by Cumberland Community Dance and a talk by special guest Nicholas Ma. This is a free event, but a ticket reservation is required: <<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/k6f64c9>>.

Doors open at 5 p.m., and the show begins at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, May 7. Additional gifts made when reserving your ticket help SCCF continue to support these programs and fund even more music education opportunities on the plateau. We appreciate your support.



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SENIOR CENTER NEWS

The Sewanee Senior Center serves lunch at 11:30 a.m., Monday through Friday. The suggested donation is \$5, regardless of your age. Please call (931) 598-0771 by 9 a.m. to order lunch. Menus follow:

Monday, April 27: Chicken livers, mashed potatoes, slaw, biscuit.

Tuesday, April 28: Meat loaf, pinto beans, fried okra, cornbread.

Wednesday, April 29: Chicken salad cold plate.

Thursday, April 30: Chuckwagon sandwich, chips.

Friday, May 1: Ham, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll.

Menus may vary. For information call the center at (931) 598-0771.

Chair Exercise Class is 10:30–11:30 a.m., every Monday and Wednesday at the Community Center. Contact Susan Roberson at (516) 987-8440.

The Sewanee Senior Center does not charge any membership fee. All persons 50 or older who take part in any of the activities are considered members.

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Register for the 2026 SAS Summer Camps

Registration is open for SAS Summer Camps. Go to <https://www.sasweb.org/summer> for complete information.

Climbing Camp: May 25-29 (Monday-Friday), 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., grades fourth through high school, \$475. SAS faculty member and climbing instructor Jeff Christopher brings our newest camp to fruition! Camp will include skills and safety time, expert instruction in our state-of-the-art new climbing facility, outdoor rope days, outdoor bouldering on or near campus, climbing movies, games, and competitions. Camp includes lunch in our infamous “Hogwarts-esque” dining hall — or a to-go boxed lunch if out and about on the Plateau. All gear is provided and no experience is necessary. Bus pick up is available from Kimball.

Basketball Camp: May 26-29, May 26-29 (Tuesday-Friday), 9 a.m. to noon, grades 1-8, \$125. SAS Varsity Coach Larson Heitzenrater heads up camp this year where campers gain a solid foundation of the fundamentals of basketball while learning to be a team player. Players work on fundamentals, participate in dribbling and shooting contests, and play full court games.

Soccer Camp: June 8-12 (Monday-Friday) 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., grades three through eighth, \$275 (discounts available for siblings). Peewee (rising 3rd graders), Junior (rising 4th-5th graders) and Youth (rising 6th-8th graders) Soccer Camps offer players instruction and drills to promote better ball handling skills and game strategy. Our coaches reserve the right to place children in camp divisions by skill level rather than strictly by grade level. Campers should bring an extra pair of socks, gym shoes and cleats, lunch, shin pads, soccer ball, sunscreen, a water bottle, a swim suit, and a towel. All campers should be dropped off and picked

up at the SAS gymnasium.

Camp SAS: Grades first through rising fifth, June 1-5, June 15-19, June 22-26, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., \$275 per week per camper (discounts available for third and fourth siblings). Camp SAS is a traditional summer day camp offering an opportunity to play games, do crafts, take hikes, and go swimming while hanging out with old and new friends. The daily schedule includes morning groups with a focus on sports and field games, arts and crafts, and STEM activities plus nature walks alongside relaxing and hanging out. Afternoons include movies, water games and swimming (lifeguards provided), and possible field trips. If you are considering enrolling your child at SAS, this camp is a great way for them to get to know the campus. This program is limited to 30 participants per each session. Campers bring their own lunch.

It's Better Than Camp! July 11-18 and/or July 18-25. Our residential sleep-away camp for boys and girls ages 11-15 provides an intimate approach to traditional camp by combining instruction in a variety of specialty sessions with summer favorites all kids love. Each camper enjoys their own schedule as they live in our air-conditioned dorms, dine in our Hogwarts-esque dining hall, and swim, hike, bike, camp, cave, and play as they take advantage of our 550-acre campus — named one of the most beautiful in the southeast. Camp is a member of the American Camp Association and follows ACA guidelines and protocols. Our special programming, small group settings, talented staff, and unique campus offer a relaxed one-of-a-kind “better-than-camp” summer experience!

In our sixth year, SAS’s It’s Better Than Camp! offers specialty sessions in an array of pursuits that

have included American Sign Language, ceramics, computer technology, woodworking, culinary arts, music lessons, digital music production, dance, painting, mountain biking, karate, and theater. This year, we continue to offer two morning specialty sessions and one outdoor adventure afternoon block for everyone. We also take a one-night camping trip each Friday with optional camping on Thursday. We continue to build our leadership program for our older campers as well (14-15 year olds). Cost of the camp includes specialty session instruction, air-conditioned accommodations, all meals, camp T-shirt and lanyard, laundry facilities, off-campus excursions, and all transportation during camp. There will be several snack trips to Piggly Wiggly or Dollar General. To register go to <https://www.sasweb.org/summer/sas-summer-camp>. Please contact us at sassummer@sasweb.org with any questions you may have.

Deborah Lawrence to Give McCrady Lecture

Deborah Lawrence, chief scientist at carbon credit rating agency Calyx Global, will present the McCrady Lecture, titled “Who Cares About Deforestation? Forests, Climate, and Why the World Needs All of Us,” at the 33rd annual Scholarship Sewanee event. The event will be at 1:30 p.m., Friday, April 24, in Blackman Auditorium.

Lawrence holds a B.A. in anthropology from Harvard University and a Ph.D. in botany from Duke University. Prior to assuming her current role, she served as a professor of environmental sciences at the University of Virginia, and has more than 25 years of experience conducting field, laboratory and modeling research on forests and climate in Indonesia, Mexico, Costa Rica, Cameroon, and the Great Lakes region of East Africa. Lawrence also helped to establish SilvaCarbon, an interagency program of the US Federal Government on forest carbon measurement and monitoring, and served on the Technical Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use of the American Carbon Registry.

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Associate Professor Katie McGhee Receives NSF Mid-Career Advancement Award

Associate Professor of Biology Katie McGhee has received a prestigious Mid-Career Advancement (MCA) Award from the National Science Foundation (NSF). She will receive \$273,024 over three years from NSF's Division of Integrative Organismal Systems.

The MCA Award is designed to support mid-career scientists in substantively enhancing and advancing their research program and career trajectory. It supports crucial training and the means to gain new skills to ensure long-term productivity and creativity. This is the first-ever MCA Award given to a Sewanee faculty member, and was the only one given to an institution in Tennessee this year.

McGhee is a behavioral ecologist whose lab studies how an individual's early experiences, and even the experiences of their parents, shape their behavior later in life. With her MCA Award, titled "How do early competitive interactions affect the development of the stress response?" McGhee will examine whether competitive social interactions early in life carry over to affect how individuals cope with stressors later, both behaviorally and hormonally. Early competitive interactions can determine an individual's early access to resources, their circulating stress hormone levels, and their eventual dominance rank. However, whether these early interactions alter development of the stress response and how individuals react to future stressors remains unknown.

To answer these questions, McGhee uses a model fish system (the mangrove rivulus) that is one of only two self-fertilizing hermaphroditic vertebrates in the world. Experimentally, this allows her to control for genetics and detect subtle environmental effects on behavior. Her grant will provide her with valuable training in measuring stress hormones and allow her to establish a set-up to measure hormones in her lab at Sewanee. This grant will also positively impact many undergraduate students in McGhee's lab and classes through hands-on research and new course offerings in endocrinology.

"I am truly honored to be awarded the MCA," says McGhee. "Although this grant provides crucial training to me and equipment for measuring hormones, I will also be able to train students in these methods and expand the research opportunities available."

2026 Faculty Awards Recognize Excellence in Advising, Teaching, Scholarship, and Service

On April 8, Vice-Provost and Dean of the College Jennifer Cooley and Associate Dean for Faculty Development Deon Miles honored the dedication and impact of Sewanee's exceptional faculty with the presentation of the 2026 Faculty Awards. These awards recognize outstanding contributions to advising, scholarship, service, and teaching.

Assistant Professor of Politics Patrick Gauding received the Award for Excellence in Academic Advising or Mentoring. In support of Gauding's nomination, students noted his commitment to his students and how he has helped them prepare for future career success. Wrote one student, "[Gauding] does a great job linking what students can do on campus or during their time at Sewanee to future career goals. Between conferences, independent study, research assistantships, and internships, he is always helping students find ways to work towards their goals. Every advising session is a combination of practical advice and some career mapping."

Professor of Chemistry Rob Bachman was recognized with the Award for Excellence in Service to the Institution. Nominated for this award by his faculty colleagues, Bachman was honored for his participation in and leadership of many key components of University governance, including his current chairing of the Chemistry and Physics Departments. In support of his nomination, one colleague wrote, "Rob's service demonstrates his commitment to students and to his colleagues, and showcases the values of the institution, such as academic excellence and concern for the community."

The Award for Excellence in Scholarship, Research, or Creative Activity was won by two faculty members: Associate Professor of Biology Katie McGhee and Professor of History Kelly Whitmer. McGhee was recognized not only for her research productivity—which includes the publishing of 10 peer-reviewed articles since 2019—but for the intentional manner in which she involves students in her research. Wrote one colleague in support of her nomination, "McGhee has adeptly balanced the expectation to conduct high-caliber science, published in leading scholarly journals, with the added challenge of mentoring the next generation of biologists by involving them in research projects. In this regard, she serves as a model for all of her faculty colleagues." Whitmer's scholarly work includes the authoring of two books, including the upcoming "Useful Nature(s): Science, Pedagogy and the Power of Youth in Early Modern Central Europe," and more than 20 articles, the co-editing of leading journals, and the holding of fellowships at two of the most prestigious intellectual centers in Europe: the Gotha Research Center and the Alexander von Humboldt Institute.

The Award for Excellence in Teaching was also shared by two faculty members: Teaching Professor of English Stephanie Batkie and Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies Eric Ezell. In praise of Batkie's teaching, one student wrote, "I've found [Batkie's] excitement and enthusiasm for her subject really engaging as a student, and she's always willing to go more in depth in the topics of discussion after class." Added another, "She's always encouraging us to tie the material we are discussing in class to the materials we are exploring in other classes and disciplines." About Ezell's teaching, another student wrote, "[Ezell] is so passionate and excited about the material he teaches. He invites his students to engage deeply with the material he is presenting and celebrates students of all backgrounds and disciplines. His pedagogy fosters curiosity and creativity." Wrote another, "He consistently seeks out ways to make his material applicable to many different disciplines through in-class and outside of class activities. He ensures that even if a student never does anything else with environmental studies, the class will still be meaningful."

At the ceremony, Miles also recognized the three faculty members who received external grant awards in the previous year: Professor of Biology Kristen Cecala, who received a grant from the Turtle Survival Alliance Foundation and an Appalachian Colleges Association (ACA) faculty fellowship; School of Theology faculty member Paul Holloway, professor of classics and ancient Christianity, who received an ACA Ledford Scholars grant; and Associate Professor of Biology Katie McGhee, who received a National Science Foundation Mid-Career Advancement grant.

Students in the College and faculty colleagues collectively submitted 108 nominations for consideration for this year's awards. The winners were selected by faculty committees composed of previous honorees for each award.

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SCHOOL CALENDAR

April 24, Last Day of Classes, School of Theology
 April 27–May 1, Final examinations, School of Theology
 April 29, Last Day of Classes, College
 May 1–7, Final examinations, College
 May 5, Staff Development Franklin County
 May 8, Commencement, School of Theology
 May 9, Baccalaureate, University of the South

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SES MENUS

Monday–Friday
 April 27–May 1
 BREAKFAST

All reimbursable breakfast meals must include a minimum of three items with at least one being fruit or fruit juice. A variety of fruit, fruit juice & milk offered daily. All entrees = 2 items. Every effort will be made to follow the published menu; however, last minute changes may be necessary.

Monday, April 27: Peanut butter and honey sandwich, fruit, juice, milk.

Tuesday, April 28: Bacon/egg/cheese bites, fruit, juice, milk.

Wednesday, April 29: Sausage cheese bagel, fruit, juice, milk.

Thursday, April 30: Packaged items, fruit, juice, milk.

Friday, May 1: Sausage pancake sandwich, fruit, juice, milk.

LUNCH

All reimbursable meals must include a fruit or vegetable on the tray. Students may decline 2 of the 5 meal components – meat/meat alternative; grain; fruit; vegetable; milk. Daily offerings may include Yogurt Fun Packs and/or PB&J Power Packs.

Monday, April 27: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, roll, fruit, milk.

Tuesday, April 28: Chicken fajita, tortilla chips, refried beans, corn, salsa, trimmings, fruit, milk.

Wednesday, April 29: Barbecue riblet sandwich, green beans, French fries, fruit, milk.

Thursday, April 30: Barbecue roasted chicken, creamed potatoes, green peas, dinner roll, birthday cupcake, fruit, milk.

Friday, May 1: Hamburger/Cheeseburger, trimmings, potatoes, french carrots, fruit, milk.

For meal pricing, go to <<https://franklincountytn.schoolsinesites.com/menus-mealpricing>>.



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Junior Appalachian Musicians Program JAMboree in Tracy City

Everyone is invited to our JAMboree at the Tracy City Old Roundhouse Park from 4–6 p.m., Monday, April 27, to celebrate JAMkids Grundy Area end of Spring season and hear them play their semester repertoire. Bring an instrument if you'd like to play along.

Story Time at Cowan Center for the Arts

Join us for Story Time and a craft project from 10–11:30 a.m., Tuesdays at Cowan Center for the Arts, 303 Montgomery St., Cowan. We will read seasonally themed stories and poems and experiment with many varieties of arts and craft materials, provided by support from the Tennessee Arts Commission Arts Build Community project. Kids and guardians of all ages are welcome.

If you would like to be a guest host, community partner, or volunteer for stories and activities, please contact <info@cowancenterforthearts.org>.



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Scholarship Sewanee

Scholarship Sewanee is a daylong showcase of undergraduate research, scholarship, and creative work. The event on Friday, April 24, will feature student oral presentations from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Spencer Hall, Convocation Hall, and Gailor Hall. A poster session and reception will take place from 3–5 p.m. in Harris Commons in Spencer Hall. Deborah Lawrence, chief scientist at Calyx Global, will give the McCrady Lecture, titled “Who Cares About Deforestation?” at 1:30 p.m. in Guerry Auditorium. A full schedule will be available on the Scholarship Sewanee website <https://new.sewanee.edu/academics/undergraduate-research/scholarship-sewanee/>.

A Senior Art Exhibit titled “Weight of Fragility” will be on display throughout the day in the University Art Gallery with artist talks from 9–11:30 a.m., in Convocation Hall. The day will conclude with a concert titled “Traditions and New Voices” in All Saints’ Chapel at 7 p.m. The concert will feature the Sewanee Symphony Orchestra and the University Choir and will include the world premiere of an orchestral piece by Madelyn Smythia C’26.

Meditations in Paper Inspired by Rumi

Frame Gallery Gifts and Art will host an opening reception for its next art exhibition from 5–6:30 p.m., Friday, May 1, in Sewanee. The show, “A Lamp, a Ladder, or a Lifeboat: Meditations in Paper, inspired by Rumi,” features the work of two paper-cutting artists with ties to the area, Kate Gundersen and Kim Phillips. The public is invited to attend the reception and view the exhibition, with light refreshments served. The artists will speak briefly at 5:15 p.m. about their work. The exhibit continues through May 30.

Gundersen came up with the title for the show that refers to the Rumi quotation: “Be a lamp, or a lifeboat, or a ladder. Help someone’s soul heal. Walk out of your house like a shepherd.” Gundersen says, “The Rumi quote seemed relevant and uplifting in today’s grim geopolitical landscape. I like the timeless and symbolic nature of a lamp (light), as well as encouragement to be a ‘helper’—as illuminator, booster, or refuge. I thought it would be fun to work these familiar yet metaphorical images into a variety of settings.”

Gundersen and Phillips both share diverse backgrounds and an early love of art. Holding a bachelor’s in Studio Art, Gundersen discovered paper cutting at a local Shakerag workshop in Sewanee, Tennessee, while Phillips found the art of paper cutting during a visit to Jerusalem. When she came to the South Cumberland Plateau, Kim says, “Imagine my surprise when I moved here and found there was another paper cutter on the Mountain!”

Harriet Runkle, owner of Frame Gallery Gifts and Art, says, “Paper cutting is a fascinating art form to explore and experience, and one we don’t see very often. I’m excited to see how the pieces come together to create a cohesive and engaging exhibition.”

The ancient tradition of paper-cutting first appeared during the 4th-century Han dynasty in China. While the art has evolved over the centuries influenced by cultural preferences, the Guild of American Papercutters states, “One traditional distinction most styles share in common is that the designs are cut from a single sheet of paper as opposed to multiple adjoining sheets as in collage, although one style of papercutting, découpage, or ‘cutting-out,’ builds up an image or pattern in a way somewhat similar to collage.”

Jalal ad-Din Muhammad Rumi (Rumi meaning “the Roman”) was a Persian poet and Sufi master who lived from 1207 to 1273. According to the BBC, Rumi is the most popular poet in the United States, with millions of copies of his poetry sold. His poems have gained immense global popularity by transcending religious and cultural boundaries.

To learn more about Frame Gallery’s “A Lamp, a Ladder, or a Lifeboat” artist exhibition and opening reception on May 1, visit: <www.framegals.com/events/a-lamp-a-ladder-or-a-lifeboat-opening-reception>.

‘First Impressions’

The students of MUSC 255: Workshop for the Singing Actor present “First Impressions,” a program of staged musical theatre scenes. From ensembles large and small to intimate solos, this event showcases student performers dedicated to storytelling through song. With Vicki Collinsworth, piano. Free admission. The program will be at 7 p.m., Monday, April 27, at the Guerry Auditorium Stage.

Sounding Stone Gallery Hosts Artists Panel with Local Fiber Artists Margo Cloniger, Zak Foster, and Jessica Wohl

“To Tell A Yarn: Stories in Fiber and Cloth” continues at Sounding Stone Gallery with an Artist Talk and Panel Discussion from 4:30–6:30 p.m., Friday, May 1. The event will feature exhibiting local artists Margo Cloniger, Zak Foster, and Jessica Wohl in conversation about their creative processes and the stories embedded within their work.

Guests will hear from the artists about how their practices in fiber and textile traditions—ranging from weaving and quilting to mixed-media textile work—serve as vehicles for storytelling, memory, and hope.

All three artists live and work in the Sewanee/Monteagle area, making the conversation a glimpse into the incredible creative talent that exists in the South Cumberland Plateau region.

The discussion will take place in Stephen Hutchins’ sculpture studio, which adjoins the gallery, and will be led by the show’s curator, Christi Teasley. Light bites and wine will be served.

Curated by Monteagle artists Christi Teasley and Stephen Hutchins, “To Tell A Yarn: Stories in Fiber & Cloth” brings together seven regional artists whose work engages fiber traditions in distinctive ways. Themes of memory, grief, joy, renewal, and the creative reuse of materials emerge throughout the exhibition, demonstrating how textile practices can transform stories into acts of connection and healing. “To Tell A Yarn: Stories in Fiber and Cloth” remains on view through June 2026 at Sounding Stone Gallery, located at 74 West College Street in Monteagle.

Fine craft and traditional art take center stage at Sounding Stone Gallery, which shares space with the studio of stone sculptor Stephen Hutchins. Work created with intention, skill, and respect for materials shines through artists and craftsmen from across the Southeast and beyond.



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Session I: June 3-6, The Shakerag Workshops/MDK Knitting Getaway. Session II: June 7-13. Session III: June 14-20

For a complete list of workshops and to register, go to <<https://www.shakerag.org/workshops/summer-workshops/>>.

Announcing the SSMF 2026 Season

We're thrilled to preview the upcoming 2026 Sewanee Summer Music Festival, June 14-July 12. With expanded programs, celebrated conductors, and major repertoire, next summer promises to be one of our most exciting yet! For complete information and ticketing, go to <<https://ssmf.sewanee.edu/home/ssmf-2026/>>.

We are honored to welcome the following distinguished conductors to the podium in 2026:

Jherrard Hardeman, Tamara Dworetz, Darrin Hassevoort, Mario Alejandro Torres, Miriam Burns, and Pierre Vallet.

Orchestral highlights for the season include: Berlioz - "Symphonie Fantastique"; Tchaikovsky - "Symphony No. 4"; Prokofiev - "Symphony No. 5"; Holst - "The Planets"; Beethoven - "Symphony No. 9" (season finale).

The Concerto Lab returns in 2026 with opportunities for strings, bassoon, and percussion students to perform solo works with orchestra. This program is designed to support artistic growth, technical development, and stage experience.

We're excited to announce that the Chamber Music Intensive will now include winds and brass, alongside strings and piano. This expansion brings greater flexibility and deeper collaboration across chamber ensembles.

Launching in 2026: Two week program for pre-college string players and vocalists. These programs are ideal for students who love music but are looking for a more well rounded summer educational experience. Prep courses for standardized tests such as SAT, ACT and PSAT will be offered, along with a variety of summer camp activities outside of music.

We're assembling a choir for our grand finale performance of Beethoven's Symphony No. 9, and we'd love for you to join us! Whether you're a returning participant, local singer, or new to SSMF, we welcome your voice.

Go to <<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeyNDfBBOzTvhNZFv4dVzxi3zoTImHELt9HVCO2ip5g8iY1A/viewform>> to express interest in joining the choir.

55th Annual Spring Tennessee Craft Fair

Our 55th Annual Spring Tennessee Craft Fair returns to the Great Lawn in Nashville's iconic Centennial Park! Join us by the Parthenon for this free, family-friendly event. The Craft Fair will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Friday, May 1 and Saturday, May 2, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday, May 3. Go to <<https://tennesseecraft.org/events/craft-fairs/>> for more information.

Join the Nashville tradition of celebrating and supporting American handmade craft at this premier event on the lawn in Centennial Park. Shop one-of-a-kind, finely crafted artwork directly from the juried, award-winning artists. A unique feature of Tennessee Craft Fairs requires artists to be on-site. While shopping, you'll meet the artists, learn what inspires them and how they take raw materials like clay, wood, metal and glass and transform them into fine craft.

In addition to the array of high quality craft, visitors enjoy fun hands-on activities in our Kids' Tent, food from area vendors and demonstrations from artisans aimed to educate as they create pieces in front of your eyes.

Tennessee Craft is a nonprofit organization that champions the local fine craft movement by supporting growth and creative expression for all artists, building a platform for high-quality craftsmanship and reinforcing the importance of fine craft for the entire community. Donate to Tennessee Craft and keep the fair free and accessible to everyone in our community.

2026 National Cornbread Festival

Come join us at the National Cornbread Festival on April 25 and 26, 2026, in South Pittsburg. Get ready for a finger-licking good time celebrating all things cornbread. This in-person event is a must-attend for foodies and cornbread enthusiasts alike. Indulge in a variety of mouthwatering cornbread dishes, from traditional recipes to creative twists. Enjoy live music, family fun activities, unique arts and crafts, and a friendly atmosphere that will make your taste buds dance with joy.

Enjoy: National Lodge® Cast Iron Cornbread Cook-off; Lodge Museum of Cast Iron - Free admission during festival weekend; Cornbread Alley (sample various cornbread recipes) - Separate admission ticket required; Live music throughout the festival; Arts and Crafts from area vendors; Tours of the Lodge Cast Iron Foundry; Cornbread 5K Race; and Cornbread Eating Contests.

Play games, ride carnival rides, and enjoy wandering through the booths that line the streets of historic South Pittsburg. Enjoy cornbread, handmade arts and crafts. Taste Southern, artisan treats like honey, fudge, and rock candies. The festival is packed with great family fun - including a Kid's Corner with games, face painting, and inflatables.

Children under 5 years of age receive free admission. No pets are allowed at the festival, except for service dogs. For more information go to <<https://www.nationalcornbread.com/>>.

Social Fabric Meets at Hospitality Shop

Who is that doing handwork in the shade of the big oak tree at the Hospitality Shop? It's Social Fabric, a gathering of people knitting, crocheting, embroidering, and mending - enjoying the pleasures of stitching together. A collaboration with CAC, Social Fabric meets 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesdays on the Hospitality Shop lawn. (Bad weather? We'll find a spot at St. Mark & St. Paul on which to land.) Drop by, check us out, and bring your handwork for this time of joyful creativity. All ages, all skill levels, and all handcrafts are welcome. For more information, email Sister Felicity Parks at <maelpa11@gmail.com> or Mary Priestley at <mpriestley0150@gmail.com>.

University Choir Event

Choral Evensong will be at 5:15 p.m., Tuesday, April 28, in All Saints' Chapel. The University Choir leads this worship service under the direction of Geoffrey Ward, organist and choirmaster, with Stephanie Yoder, assistant organist.

Save the Date for the Spring Arts & Crafts Fair

The Sewanee Arts and Crafts Association's (SACA) Spring Fair will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, May 9, at Shoup Park on University Avenue in Sewanee. This event is free and open to the public and is sponsored by SACA



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Poets Changing the Conversation at Sewanee In Print

Don't miss the final event of Sewanee In Print 5 p.m., Saturday, April 25, at the American Legion Hall where two poets will read from debut collections that have already been hailed as virtuosic, stunning, apocalyptic, and wild. Both were selected for the Sewanee Poetry series published by LSU Press.

Chelsea Whitton's "Wonder Wheel" was just published this spring with poems on millennial identity, friendship, desire, and the mythmaking of family history and patriarchy. These poems whirling in sonic circles include elegies for Patsy Cline, June Cash, Whitton's father, and others. "Whitton's voice is virtuosic, knocking off poetic forms with a seemingly effortless bravado, while also slipping into the confessional intimacy of a late night on Brooklyn bar stools sharing clove cigarettes. This is a stunning debut that is profoundly joyful and deeply serious" (Jason Schneiderman, "Nothingism: Poetry at the End of Print Culture").

Jonathan Farmer's "Lyndon Johnson" will be published in the spring of 2027 to advanced praise: "This book is WILD. . . I am overwhelmed by the sheer formal stamina of this poem/story/historical re-imagining (but also the research, the sheer magnitude of the knowledge here is stunning) of a story and a figure we thought we knew. . . I think this book, when it enters the world, will be a whole new world of possibility for us poets." (Gabrielle Calvocoressi). "Lyndon Johnson" centers on Johnson's presidency (1963-69), a tumultuous time in which the promise of progressive social programs and basic human rights was countered by a war that killed millions and devastated the lives of countless more. As Johnson tried to pull the United States closer to some of its professed ideals, the country saw the further erosion of institutions, the contradictions of which we are still feeling to this day.

Sewanee In Print begins Friday, April 24, and runs through Sunday, April 25, with events at the University Bookstore, the American Legion Hall, and Angel Park. Scroll down on <<https://www.porchtn.org/swing>> to see the complete schedule

In case of rain, the Zine & Small Press Book Fest will be held inside the American Legion Hall, and the panel and all readings will be at the University Bookstore.

Get CaveFest Tickets

Now in its fifth year, CaveFest returns to The Caverns on Oct. 10-11, 2026, for a two-day, boutique festival experience rooted in Americana, bluegrass, and roots music. This year's lineup is led by Gillian Welch & David Rawlings, Peter Rowan & Sam Grisman Project, Rising Appalachia, and Keller & The Keels, alongside a wide-ranging group of collaborators, tribute performances, and artist-in-residence Lindsay Lou.

Blending music with a one-of-a-kind natural setting, CaveFest features performances both above ground at The Caverns Amphitheater and underground inside the cave. The weekend includes kids' activities, cave tours, cave yoga, a sound bath, local vendors, open jam sessions, late-night shows, and more. A 2-day ticket costs just \$99 and includes camping, while kids 12 and under are free - making it easy for families to experience it all.

CaveFest 2-day tickets are available for just \$99 and include camping. Kids 12 and under are free.

The weekend begins early with the CaveFest Kick-Off Party on Friday, Oct. 9 - an add-on event featuring a cave concert with Lindsay Lou and Slap Dragon, that includes early access to the campground. A separate ticket is required.

For more information and to get tickets, go to <<https://www.thecaverns.com/cavefest>>



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SES



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TWRA Announces Availability of 2026-27 Clean Streams Grants

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) announces the availability of grant dollars to assist cities, schools, community organizations, civic groups, watershed organizations, conservation groups, and similar groups with stream clean-up projects during the 2026-27 fiscal year.

Five grants, at a maximum of \$1,000 each, are available for each of TWRA's four regional Aquatic Habitat Protection regions (a total of \$5,000 per region). The funds will be obligated as grants; therefore, the grantee must have a nonprofit tax-exempt number. Applications can be made by completing the application located on the Habitat Programs and Grants page of the TWRA website <<https://www.tn.gov/twra/wildlife/habitat/programs-and-grants.html>>. The application deadline for this program is June 30, 2026.

The grant money could be used to buy supplies such as rakes, work gloves, and garbage bags. Additionally, it could be used to cover disposal fees for solid waste and tire removal, or to provide promotional items such as project advertisements or T-shirts, and refreshments for volunteer support.

For any questions, contact TWRA Biodiversity Division Assistant Chief Jason E. Miller at <jason.edward.miller@tn.gov>. Additionally, interested individuals may also contact a regional Aquatic Habitat Protection Biologist at the TWRA regional offices. TWRA regionals offices are Region I (West Tennessee in Jackson), Region II (Middle Tennessee in Nashville), Region III (Cumberland Plateau & Chattanooga area in Crossville), and Region IV (East Tennessee in Morristown).

Region 1
Allen Pyburn
200 Lowell Thomas Drive
Jackson, TN 38301
(731) 423-6541
Email: <Allen.Pyburn@tn.gov>

Region 2
Katie Murphy
TWRA
5107 Edmondson Pike
Nashville, TN 37204
(615)-934-6213
Email: <Katie.M.Murphy@tn.gov>

Region 3
Bobby Brown
464 Industrial Boulevard
Crossville, TN 38555
(931) 484-9571
Email: <Bobby.Brown@tn.gov>

Region 4
Rob Lindbom
3030 Wildlife Way
Morristown, TN 37814
(423) 587-7037
Email: <Dennis.Lindbom@tn.gov>

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency is responsible for protecting, managing, and conserving fish and wildlife species for the benefit of Tennesseans and visitors. The Agency also maintains public safety through law enforcement and safety education on waterways.



No Kid Hungry Applauds Tennessee's Return to SUN Bucks for Summer 2027

The Tennessee General Assembly has secured funding to reinstate Summer EBT beginning in 2027, restoring a critical source of summer nutrition assistance for families statewide. The \$7 million state investment will provide critical summer nutrition for over 700,000 eligible children, unlocking over \$84 million in federal drawdown for Tennessee families.

Summer EBT, also known as SUN Bucks, provides eligible families with \$120 per school-aged child to help purchase foods such as fruits, vegetables, grains, and protein during the summer months when school meals are not available.

In 2024, the program reached more than 700,000 children across all 95 Tennessee counties and generated over \$84 million in benefits. Those benefits produced an estimated \$134 million in economic activity statewide, with spending concentrated at grocery stores, farmers markets and small businesses. With the program's return, that impact is projected to increase to approximately \$151 million.

"No Kid Hungry Tennessee is grateful to Representative Michael Hale, Senator Paul Bailey and the co-sponsors of SB1911/HB1835 for their work to restore this program for families," said Marissa Spady, Senior Manager, No Kid Hungry Tennessee campaign. "Summer EBT helps fill a critical gap when school is out and children lose access to regular school meals."

The need for summer nutrition support remains significant. An estimated 1 in 6 children in Tennessee faces food insecurity. Summer is one of the most challenging periods for consistent access to meals, and studies show that 62 percent of Tennessee families report difficulty providing enough nutritious food for their children during the summer months. Following Tennessee's decision to opt out of the federally funded Summer EBT program, participation in the state alternative fell to approximately 18,000 children in 15 counties.

Summer EBT is designed to complement existing summer meal programs by providing flexible grocery benefits that can be used at participating retailers.

"Traditional summer meal sites play an important role, but they cannot reach every family due to transportation barriers, work schedules and limited availability in some rural communities," said Spady. "Summer EBT allows families to shop where they already buy food."

Kids who have access to healthy meals during the school year and over the summer focus better, perform better academically, stay healthier and come back to school ready to learn.

For summer 2026, families are encouraged to check with their local schools and community partners to get the latest information on the availability of summer meals programs in their area. Information is also available on the Summer Resource Hub at <NoKidHungry.org/Help> or /Ayuda.

No child should go hungry in America. But millions of kids in the United States live with hunger. No Kid Hungry is working to end childhood hunger by helping launch and improve programs that give all kids the healthy food they need to thrive. This is a problem we know how to solve. No Kid Hungry is a campaign of Share Our Strength, an organization committed to ending hunger and poverty. Join us at <nokidhungry.org>.



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sewaneecommunitychest@gmail.com
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Highpoint Health – Winchester/Sewanee Publishes 2025 Community Benefit Report

Highpoint Health – Winchester/Sewanee with Ascension Saint Thomas published its community benefit report for the 2025 calendar year. This annual report outlines the various ways the hospital is working to support the health and economic vitality of Franklin and Grundy Counties as part of its mission of making communities healthier.

"Always striving to advance our mission is how we succeed as a community leader in Franklin and Grundy Counties, and as a leader in our community, we are dedicated to supporting those who entrust us with their care, investing in our region's overall well-being and making a positive impact on our region," said Adam Martin, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Highpoint Health – Winchester/Sewanee. "This year's report highlights our continued commitment to providing high-quality, compassionate care close to home."

Highpoint Health's 2025 community benefit report highlights its continued efforts to meet the growing healthcare needs of its community through welcoming new providers, adding and expanding service lines and continually investing in its facilities and healthcare technology. For example, in 2025, Highpoint Health added providers in cardiology, pain management, general surgery, OB/GYN and family medicine; and made more than \$6.5 million in capital improvements, including the da Vinci robotic surgical system, hospital bed replacements and an upgraded ultrasound machine replacement.

Additionally, Highpoint Health provided nearly \$38.7 million in health services to those in need, demonstrating its continuous commitment to ensuring everyone has access to care, regardless of their ability to pay.

Highpoint Health is also devoted to creating environments where providers want to practice and employees want to work. In 2025, the hospital distributed more than \$65,225,495 in salaries, wages and benefits for its approximately 760 employees.

Last year, the organization paid \$29,948,203 in local and state taxes, while also continuing its support of local activities and organizations committed to serving the region, including Franklin County Schools, Grundy County Food Bank, Multi-County Cancer Support Network, United Way of Franklin County, Winchester Christian Academy, and more.

"We are proud to call Franklin and Grundy Counties our home and feel truly privileged to contribute to its well-being. We are also thankful for the hard work and dedication of our providers, employees and volunteers who make it all possible," said Martin. "As we look ahead to the future, we are so excited to continue improving the way we serve our neighbors and communities."

Highpoint Health's 2025 community benefit report is available at <HighpointHealthSystem.com> under the News section.



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Join us each Sunday at 11:00 beginning May 3 as we study the New Testament Church. We will be using a book by Frank Jamerson to guide us in our study.



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SAS Varsity Girls' Tennis Advances to Regional Competition

The SAS Mountain Lion varsity girls' tennis teams, after honoring their senior players last Thursday at home against Community High School, traveled to Chattanooga on Monday and Tuesday, where senior Vic Virkhaus won the district championship, 6-2, 6-0. Additionally, seniors Ketiah Inganji and Keziah Ingeli advanced to play for third place in the district.

At their April 16 home match, winners in singles competition were seniors Inganji, 8-0; Ingeli, 8-2; Briley Meador, 8-0; and Virkhaus, 8-2. Other winners were sophomore Catherine Barnett and freshman Savannah Blosser, both winning 8-0. Junior Lauren Ste. Croix took the only singles loss, 1-6.

In doubles play, Virkhaus/Barnett won 8-2, Inganji/Ingeli were 8-4 winners, and Blosser/Meador won 8-0. The girls finished the regular season with seven wins and only three losses (2-3 in the district). With their regular season record, the girls have already qualified as a fourth seed in the regional tournament in Knoxville on Monday, April 27.

Elrod Breaks School Record to Lead Strong Team Showing at Siegel

On April 8, St. Andrew's-Sewanee traveled to Siegel High School to compete against eight other middle school programs and delivered a strong overall performance. The girls were led by eighth grader Nora Jane Elrod, who placed third overall in the mile while setting a new middle school record and personal best with a time of 6:06.25. Maclyn Bloecher also turned in a solid race, finishing eighth in the mile.

In the 400m dash, the girls had an impressive showing, taking second (Elena Brodsky), fifth (Nora Jane Elrod), and sixth (Arabella Barry). Eva Gheeslin competed in the 100m hurdles for the first time and earned a personal best of 22.28 in a challenging event. Arabella Barry continued to contribute in the field events, placing fifth in the long jump and fourth in the shot put.

On the boys' side, Alex Glacet placed fifth in the 400m, while Will Moody earned sixth with a personal best time. In the mile, Moody led the team with a third place finish, while Fletcher Keener and Davey Allen also recorded personal bests. In the field events, Glacet placed sixth in the long jump, and Moody took fifth in the discus.

"It was great to see our athletes competing with confidence and supporting one another throughout the meet," said first-year Head Coach Mahler. "Nora Jane's record was a special moment, and we're seeing a lot of progress across the entire team as the season continues."

Men's Tennis Closes Regular Season with 7-0 Win

Sewanee's men's tennis team celebrated its senior day as the Tigers defeated Piedmont on April 19, 7-0. The Tigers closed the regular season on a 17-0 run, and 19-1 on the season.

Ben Lammert and Drew Rukavina got started fast at No. 2, dropping just one game for a 6-1 win. Lucas Wrigley and Max Verellen secured the doubles points with a 6-2 win at three, and Andre-Remi Jakobi and Samuel Schroerlucke completed the sweep with a 6-3 win at No. 1.

Schroerlucke dropped just two games at No. 3, securing a 6-1, 6-1 win, and Jakobi got the Tigers within one point of the match at one, with a 6-3, 6-2 win. Stephen Smith clinched the match for the Tigers with a 6-3, 6-3 win at No. 6. At No. 5, George Thomas Alexander dropped the first set, 3-6, but fought back, winning the next two sets, for a 6-2, 6-2. At two, Henry Hyden was down 4-1 and 5-2 in the first set, but fought back to win the first set in a tiebreaker, 7-2, and secured a 7-5 second set.

The Tigers head into post season as the No. 1 seed in the SAA Tournament and will face the winner of the No. 4 Rhodes and No. 5 Berry on Saturday, April 25.

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Catapano Ties for 13th at Deb Jackson Invite

Freshman Natalie Catapano shot a final-round 77 and senior Jane Stilz carded a 79 for Sewanee women's golf on April 19, in the second round of the Deb Jackson Invitational at West Pines Golf Club in Douglasville, Ga.

The Tigers finished eighth in the team standings, dropping one spot after the first round and one stroke behind three teams that tied for fifth – Wesleyan College [CT], Mary Hardin-Baylor and Washington University.

Catapano started slowly with a double bogey and a double on her second and third holes of the day, Nos. 17-18. The Pacific Palisades, Calif., native played the front nine in two-over with seven pars and two bogeys and recorded another bogey on 10 before a birdie at No. 12, her only one of the day. She bogeyed her final hole as well, No. 15, for a six-over 77 and a two-round total of 151, tied for 13th.

Stilz carded her second straight eight-over 79, beginning with a double bogey and two bogeys in her first three holes (15-17). The Lexington, Ky., native collected four pars with a birdie at No. 1 before two more bogeys and a double in a four-hole stretch from 5-8. She was one-over over the final six holes with five pars, posting a 36-hole score of 158, solo 27th individually.

Freshman Rachel Waters and Elizabeth Bowman and junior Olivia Bentley each carded rounds of 81.

Waters, playing as an individual, registered four pars, four bogeys and one double on the front nine. The Nashville, Tenn., native collected five pars and four bogeys on the back for a two-day total of 159, tied for 28th.

Bowman started her round at No. 13 with four bogeys and two pars to make the turn. The College Grove, Tenn., native birdied No. 1 and recorded four more pars on the front nine and another at No. 10, posting a 36-hole score of 160, tied for 30th.

Bentley improved her score by seven strokes in the second round. She also began her day at No. 13 with three pars and three bogeys. The Nashville, Tenn., native registered five pars as well as a birdie at No. 5 on the front nine but ended with three straight bogeys for a two-round total of 169, 45th individually.

Freshmen Anna Claire Gibson opened the round with two bogeys and a double before pars on 17 and 18 to make the turn. The Knoxville, Tenn., native made just one par on the front nine, shooting 45, but collected three pars and one bogey to finish the day with an 85 and a 36-hole score of 164, tied for 38th.

Sewanee opens play in the SAA Championships this coming Friday at Greystone Golf Club in Dickson, Tenn.

SAS Track and Field Update

The middle school track team traveled to CCS for a large invitational, facing some strong competition across the board. The meet kicked off with an impressive performance in the girls' 4x800 relay, where Elena, Maclyn, Arabella, and Nora Jane battled to a third-place finish in 11:30.80. On the boys' side, Fletcher, Davey, Alex, and Will placed sixth in the 4x800 with a time of 10:42.42.

There were several standout individual performances and personal records throughout the meet. Eva Gheesling had a great day, setting PRs in both the 100m hurdles (22.04) and the 200m (34.20). Oliver Keener also had a big meet, recording PRs in the 100m (16.51), 200m (35.27), and 400m (1:13.54). Alex Glacet added to the team's success with a PR in the long jump, clearing 15 feet. In the 800m, Fletcher Keener and Will Moody both ran strong races to earn PRs, finishing in 2:40.34 and 2:28.58, respectively.

On April 18, St. Andrew's-Sewanee varsity boys' and girls' track teams traveled to CCS for a large invitational and delivered strong performances against a deep and competitive field.

Several athletes turned in standout efforts and personal records. Arthur Glacet had a big breakthrough in the 2-mile, dropping 40 seconds to place seventh. Grayson Clark also had an impressive race in the mile, running a 12-second PR to finish 14th. Reuben Cloniger continued his progress with a PR in the 100m.

In the middle-distance events, Micah Moody placed sixth in the 800m with a season-best time while Beatrice Pate ran a PR in the same event. Annanoel Sparacio added another PR on the day, cutting off more than 30 seconds in her mile run.

On the sprint and hurdle side, Timi Stefanut took eighth in the 400m dash, and Leah Moody set a PR in the 300m hurdles.

In the field events, Aubrey Blosser cleared a PR height of 4-6 in the high jump, and Keely Kendrick had a huge performance in the discus, setting a PR.

HOME GAMES

3:45 p.m., Friday, April 24, SAS Varsity Track and Field, SAS Meet No. 2
noon, Saturday, April 25, Baseball vs. Southwestern, DH
noon, Saturday, April 25, Women's Lacrosse vs. Rhodes
11 a.m., Sunday, April 26, Baseball vs. Southwestern

Tigers Top No. 25 Mary Washington, 5-2

Hanna Davis clinched the match as the No. 24-ranked Sewanee women's tennis team defeated No. 25-ranked Mary Washington, 5-2, to close out the regular season at home.

Lucy Lee and Emma Foster got the day started for the Tigers at No. 2 doubles, with a 6-2 win. However, the Eagles claimed the doubles point with a 6-4 win at No. 1 and a 7-4 tiebreaker at No. 3.

Sewanee responded in singles, as Harper High tied the match back at one all in under an hour with a 6-1, 6-1 win at No. 2. Emma Foster followed with a 6-0, 6-3 victory at No. 5, and Lucy Lee earned a 6-3, 6-4 win at No. 4 to put the Tigers within one point of the match.

Davis secured the clincher at No. 6 with a 6-4, 6-3 win. At No. 1, Mariella Congeni fell to regionally ranked Addison Felts, dropping the first set in a tiebreaker, 7-4, and the second, 6-3 in two hours and 14 minutes.

At No. 3, Ivy Wilson battled through a three-set match, dropping the first in a tiebreaker (7-3) before responded with a 6-4 seconds set and an 11-9 win in the match tiebreaker to cap the 5-2 victory.

Sewanee enters the SAA Tournament as the No. 2 seed and will face the winner of the No. 3/No. 6 matchup on Saturday, April 25, at 1 p.m. CT in Memphis, Tenn.

Armstrong Wins 800m, Tigers Finish Fourth at Mountain Laurel

Abigail Armstrong won the 800-meters leading the Sewanee women's track and field team to a fourth place finish at the Mountain Laurel Invitational on April 18.

The Tigers were highlighted by two event victories, as Armstrong won the 800-meters in 2:29.31 and Gracie Schmidt claimed first in the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 1:11.43. Sewanee also saw success in the relays, as the 4x100-meter relay team of Grace Potter, Schmidt, Erin Graffeo, and Page Wells finished second.

In the distance events, Eleanor Graham led Sewanee in the 1500-meters with a fifth place finish in 5:01.57, followed by Elizabeth Cook in eighth and Sam Ude in ninth to give the Tigers three top-10 finishers.

On the track, Graffeo added a second place finish in the 100-meter hurdles (18.08), while Wells placed fourth in the 400 meters (1:05.96) and Mary Helen Munger followed in fifth.

In the field events, Grace Potter paced the Tigers with a fifth-place finish in the high jump (1.43m) and added a fourth place mark in the javelin (16.98m).



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Baseball Falls in Series Finale

Owen Andress posted two hits with a run and Aidan Petrocco scored three times, but Sewanee was unable to hold an early lead, dropping an 11-6 decision to Trinity University in the series finale in baseball action Sunday in San Antonio, Texas.

The Tigers (17-15-1, 7-8 SAA) led 5-1 after the top of the second inning but Trinity plated five runs in the bottom of the frame to even the contest. Zach Fortman drove in a pair of runs and the top three hitters in the Tigers' lineup – Petrocco, Charlie Teel and Fortman – collected a combined three hits, six walks and scored five runs.

Trinity (21-12, 12-3) recorded a single run in the fourth and two runs in the fifth before adding two more insurance runs in the eighth. Joey Hagen (1-0), the fourth of five Trinity pitchers, worked 4.2 scoreless innings of relief for the home team, allowing just one hit with three walks and one strikeout. Kyle Hoggatt got the final five outs for the save, striking out three.

Ryan Moll (0-2), the third of seven Sewanee hurlers, suffered the loss, allowing four runs on four hits in three innings.

Petrocco doubled to leadoff the game and Teel reached on a throwing error on a sacrifice bunt attempt. Petrocco scored on a wild pitch but Teel and Fortman, who walked, were stranded in the inning.

Andress singled with one out in the second and Sebastian Leinberger walked before a two-out walk to Teel loaded the bases. Fortman delivered a two-run single to right and Teel and Fortman both later scored on passed balls for a 5-0 advantage.

Sawyer Hines started the bottom of the second with a single up the middle, Mattias Rytting walked and the runners stole second and third. Hines scored on a wild pitch, but Sewanee starter Jack Merrill struck out John Ramsey and Khlafani Coney. Merrill hit Evan Kuhl, ending his day, but reliever Eli Potter was wild as well, hitting Kaleb Woodward and walking Anthony Suscha, forcing in a run.

Will Baker then singled through the left side, plating two runs, and Grant Anderson's soft single to left scored another, knotting the game at five.

Petrocco, Teel and Fortman all walked with two outs in the third inning and Petrocco came across on a balk, but Trinity evened the game again in the bottom of the frame with a two-out double by Ramsey and a run-scoring single from Coney.

In the fourth Suscha drew a leadoff walk and moved to second on Baker's groundout. He went to third on a balk and scored on Anderson's sacrifice fly to right.

Trinity added two more runs in the fifth when Rytting was hit to start the inning and moved to second on a sac bunt by Ramsey. With two outs Kuhl singled to right, driving in a run, and he eventually came across on a pair of wild pitches for a 9-6 Trinity lead.

The Tigers managed only two total baserunners from the fourth until the seventh inning, with one erased on a doubleplay and another on a caught stealing. Pinch-hitter Landis Fluck and Petrocco both walked in the eighth but were stranded after strikeouts by Teel and Fortman and Hoggatt retired the side in order in the ninth.

SAS Varsity Soccer Stuns Soddy-Daisy With Goal In Last Six Seconds

On April 17, the SAS Mountain Lion boys' soccer team traveled to Soddy-Daisy High School to take on the Trojans. An intense, physical, and competitive match ensued that ended in a 2-2 tie.

Soddy-Daisy scored first with only 4 minutes left in the first half. SAS bounced back and dominated the second half, playing a high energy, intense, quick tempo game predominantly in Soddy-Daisy's half of the pitch. Their efforts paid off 10 minutes after the second half started when senior Sam Goodpaster set up his younger brother sophomore Max Goodpaster on a perfectly placed free kick that Max Goodpaster headed home to tie up the match 1-1. SAS continued to press hard, but a defensive miscommunication in the back gave Soddy-Daisy a second chance to score, and they made the most of it 20 minutes into the second half, bringing the score to 1-2 in favor of Soddy-Daisy.

The Mountain Lions didn't get up, however, and continued to press for the equalizer all the way up to the final possession of the game. With only 32 seconds left on the clock, sophomore goalkeeper Konrad Knoll took possession of the ball in his box. Knoll's tremendous 80-yard punt sent the ball deep into the Soddy-Daisy defensive third, where freshman Bryant Karunda challenged for it and forced a Soddy-Daisy defender to play it out of bounds. A quick-thinking Mark Rogers rushed up from his right full back position to take the throw in, threw it short to Max Goodpaster, who quickly collected the ball on his foot and flicked it up and over his head into the "sweet spot" in front of the goal. With only six seconds left on the clock, Sam Goodpaster sent a decisive header into the bottom far corner for the tying goal.

SAS had 10 shots, seven on frame, to Soddy-Daisy's 15 shots, 12 on frame. Knoll continued his dominant performance in the goal for SAS with 10 saves and six collections in the penalty box.

Coach Marion Knoll praised her team saying, "This was one of those games where you decide what you care about and decide what type of player you want to be. We started a bit soft, but the boys decided at half time to play strong and play with determination for the second half. We battled back after half-time, showing grit, determination, and resilience. For most of the second half, we dominated play and kept the ball in Soddy-Daisy's half. I'm excited to see what these boys can do in our upcoming matches."

The Mountain Lions are currently 5-3-1 on the season.

Tallman, Collins Pace Tigers at Mountain Laurel

Parker Tallman won the 800-meters while Jack Collins and Christian Myers each recorded top-three finishes in the 1500 to lead the Sewanee men's track and field team to a third-place finish at the Mountain Laurel Invitational on April 18.

Tallman led the Tigers with a first-place finish in the 800-meters, crossing in 1:57.99. Sewanee also had a strong showing in the 1500-meters, as Collins placed second (4:05.48) and Myers followed in third (4:09.12).

Collins added a third place finish in the 800m (2:04.47), while Brandon Christ finished fourth with the same time. Jonah Norris placed ninth, and Gordon Love added a 15th place result.

In the sprints, Ethan Kline finished sixth in the 100 meters (11.10), while Lane Gamble placed fourth in the 400 meters with a time of 51.43. The 4x100-meter relay team of Jacob Heilpern, Kline, Max Finn, and Gamble finished fourth.

In the field events, Sam Leonard cleared 1.97 meters to place fourth in the high jump, with Darryl Williams finishing fifth (1.87m). Elliott Allen added a fifth place finish in the pole vault (4.10m).

In the throws, Gavin Potter led the Tigers with a third-place finish in the javelin (44.77m), while Lukus White placed fourth in the shot put (13.71m). Potter also competed in the hammer throw, placing 10th, while Joshua Locklear and White added top-15 finishes.

The Tigers head to Rome, Ga., for the SAA Conference Championships, hosted by Berry College on April 24-25.

Tigers Clinch SAA Regular Season Title with 15-7 Win

Manoli Loupassi recorded six points, Charles Moran added four, and Harrison Fuller finished with a hat trick as Sewanee defeated Rhodes, 15-7, on the road to clinch the 2026 SAA Regular Season Championship. The Tigers completed a perfect 6-0 conference slate for the first time since 2014.

Sewanee used a four-goal run early and a six-goal second period to take control and never trailed.

Loupassi led the Tigers with four goals and two assists while adding three ground balls. Moran posted a hat trick with an assist, two caused turnovers, and a ground ball. Will Kennedy totaled three points on a goal and two assists, while Sage Cookerly added two goals. Fuller scored three times, and Hank Walsh and Robert Freeman each found the net once.

Tyler Clary recorded a career-high nine ground balls, and Max Bensing added five while going 8-of-14 at the faceoff X. Gus Albright, James Bogusky, and Henry Westfall each collected two ground balls, with Albright also causing a turnover.

Freeman opened the scoring with 9:57 remaining in the first quarter, finishing after a ground ball by Cookerly. Fuller added a second goal following a defensive stop and ground ball by Clary, giving Sewanee a 2-0 lead after one.

The Tigers struck quickly in the second, capitalizing on a Rhodes penalty as Loupassi scored a man-up goal less than a minute into the period. Cookerly extended the lead to 4-0 before Rhodes answered with back-to-back goals. Sewanee responded 38 seconds later, with a goal from Moran. Rhodes tacked on a third goal in three minutes, but Sewanee again had an answer, as Loupassi scored just under a minute later. After another Rhodes man-up score cut into the lead, Bensing won the faceoff and sparked a quick connection from Kennedy to Moran. Fuller capped the half with a goal off a Loupassi assist, sending Sewanee into the break with a four-goal advantage.

After a scoreless opening stretch in the third, Sewanee broke through as Moran set up Fuller for his third goal. Rhodes answered quickly, but Loupassi responded with back-to-back goals—both no-look, behind the back goals—to push the lead to 11-5 entering the fourth.

Sewanee put the game away with four straight goals to open the final period. Walsh scored following a caused turnover by Beau Burnette, and Moran added his third goal minutes later. Kennedy assisted on goals by Moran and Cookerly during the run, extending the lead to eight. Rhodes added two late goals, but Sewanee closed out the 15-7 victory.

The Tigers limited Rhodes to 13 shots on goal while forcing the Lynx into a 13-of-22 performance on clears. Sewanee finished with 31 shots on goal and went 21-of-24 on clears.

Sewanee enters the SAA Tournament as the top seed and will face the No. 4 seed in the semifinals on Thursday, April 30, in Danville, Ky., at 4 p.m. ET / 3 p.m. CT.

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State Park Offerings

To confirm that these events will occur as listed and to register, go to Fiery Gizzard State Park <<https://tnstateparks.com/parks/events/fiery-gizzard>>, (931) 924-2980; Head of the Crow State Park <<https://tnstateparks.com/parks/head-of-the-crow>>, (615) 762-5917; Savage Gulf State Park <<https://tnstateparks.com/parks/events/savage-gulf>>, 931-692-3887. All times are central.

Summer's First Buggytop Tour — Head of the Crow State Park, Friday, May 1, 9 a.m.–1 p.m. \$15. Register for event. Meet at Buggytop Cave Trailhead. May 1 brings the beginning of State Parks' caving season, and what better way to celebrate this exciting time of the year than with a tour of Head of the Crow's own Buggytop Cave. Featuring one of Tennessee's most impressive cave openings and a year-round flow of water via Crow Creek, Buggytop Cave provides an excellent cave experience for those looking to test the waters of caving, while still offering impressive features.

The hike to and from Buggytop totals 3 miles, in and out, and proves a strenuous hike with significant elevation change. Be sure to wear appropriate footwear and bring plenty of water. Helmets and headlamps will be provided, but feel free to bring a light source.

Finally, we will be practicing White Nose decontamination protocol, so be sure to bring a change of clothes for after the program. For more information on White Nose Syndrome, see this link: <<https://www.whitenosesyndrome.org/>>.

Guided Hike to Stone Door — Savage Gulf State Park, Monday, May 11, 10:30 a.m.–noon. \$5. Register for event. Join Ranger Jamie on an approximate 2-mile round-trip hike to the Great Stone Door. The hike is rated easy and will be relatively flat. We will chat about what we see and discuss some of the history of the park. We will meet at the Stone Door Trailhead, 1183 Stone Door Rd., Beersheba Springs to begin the hike. Bring along desired water and food, as these are not provided. Wear sturdy shoes in which to hike! Weather permitting. The areas around overlooks and waterfalls can be treacherous in terms of keeping your footing. The potential to slip and fall exists, and extreme care is needed. Attendee cancellations must be made no later than 24 hours prior to the program's scheduled start in order to receive a refund. Events outside the park's control may necessitate program cancellation (weather, illness, park emergencies, etc). You will receive a text, email, or call with as much advance notice as possible, depending on the situation. Refunds will be processed for such canceled programs. Allow up to 7 business days for refunds.

Junior Ranger Weekend Camp — Head of the Crow State Park, Saturday, June 6, June 13, June 20, 9 a.m.–3 p.m. \$50. Register for event. Meeting place for each day in description. Join Head of the Crow staff as we share the history, ecology, and recreation of the park with intrepid young Junior Rangers. Our Junior Ranger program caters to children age 8-12 who are curious about parks, rangers, and Tennessee's beautiful outdoors. At the end of this three day camp, we'll hold a graduation to honor Head of the Crow's 2026 Junior Rangers. Sign-up for the full Day Camp will close on June 1. Campers will be dropped off at the day's location at 9 a.m. and picked up at 3 p.m. from the same location. Campers should bring plenty of water (64-plus ounces) and a packed lunch for each day!

Day 1: Meet at Buggytop Parking Lot at 9 a.m., June 6. Campers will join park staff on a trip into Buggytop Cave, where they'll have the opportunity to safely experience the excitement of subterranean exploration with a Ranger. Helmets and lights will be provided. Besides the cave, we'll have time to learn about (and try!) nature journaling. We'll learn how journaling can instill an appreciation and understanding of the world around us, and how we can take the time to get to know our surroundings.

Day 2: Meet at Pack Hollow Parking Lot at 9 a.m., June 13. This is a day for survival. By that, campers will learn the basics of a map and compass, and try their hand at orienteering. Then, we'll go over all the "wants" and "needs" anytime you venture into the wilderness. The afternoon will be a look to the past, as we'll go over two historic tools used for hunting, skinning, and so much more! Campers will even get to try their hand at launching an atlatl.

Day 3: Meet at Pack Hollow Parking Lot at 9 a.m., June 20. In the morning, campers will join trained professionals at some of our parks small rock faces for some beginner rappelling! All gear will be provided and is inspected before use. After a thrilling morning on the rocks, we'll slow down with a hike in the afternoon. We'll discuss the geology and how the plateau (and the rocks we just climbed) came to be, and how they shape the entire environment of the region. At 3 p.m., we'll have the Junior Ranger graduation, where campers will receive their badges, certificates, and T-shirt for completing the program! Campers who complete one of the two Junior Ranger options will have the opportunity to join Head of the Crow staff in the Sewanee Fourth of July Parade to help represent the park, and show off their newly earned status as Junior Ranger graduates!

Contact Ranger Matthew Thomas <matthew.j.thomas@tn.gov> with shirt sizes for signed up campers, and reach out with any questions.

WEATHER

DAY	DATE	HI	LO
Mon	April 13	81	63
Tue	April 14	77	61
Wed	April 15	81	60
Thu	April 16	81	63
Fri	April 17	82	56
Sat	April 18	82	63
Sun	April 19	76	40
Week's Stats:			
Avg max temp =		80	
Avg min temp =		58	
Avg temp =		69	
Precipitation =		0.75"	
Reported by Sandy Gilliam Domain Ranger			

Nature Journaling Continues

The Nature Journaling group, sponsored by the Sewanee Herbarium, meets Thursdays, 9-11 a.m. Grab a pencil and paper and plan to join us. Email <mpriestley0150@gmail.com> for more information and meeting location.

Thank you for reading the Messenger!

NATURENOTES

by Yolande Gottfried

Whip-poor-will and Luna Moth

The Lottis heard a Whip-poor-will on April 15. This bird is only here in the summer — it winters from the Gulf of Mexico to Honduras. It is rarely seen as it hunts at night, feeding on moths and other night insects which it catches on the wing. By day it roosts on a low branch or on the ground where its coloring blends perfectly with the fallen leaves. It lives in dry oak and pine forests.

Lin Cameron spotted the Luna Moth on the trail to Lake Jackson. So beautiful! It is one of the giant silkworm moths. The Luna Moth is one of the largest moths in North America and Mexico, with a wingspan of four and a half inches or more. The adult only lives for 7-10 days in order to mate and lay eggs — it doesn't eat at all and has no mouth parts or digestive system. The fat, lime-green caterpillar, on the other hand, eats voraciously, growing to between two and three inches in two months. Favorite foodplants include various forest trees such as hickory, walnut, pecan, persimmon, and sweet gum. The moth in the photo is apparently a male — its large feathery antennae are used to detect the pheromones of the female, whose antennae are narrower. Check out the online edition of the Messenger to see the moth on all its glory.



Luna moth. Photo by Lin Cameron



Sienna



Azure

MARC's Mountain Adoptables: Meet Sienna & Azure

Sienna's journey may have started when she was found abandoned at a local library, but she is ready to write a beautiful new chapter with a family of her own. She is the perfect mix of "play" and "stay" always down for an outdoor adventure or a walk in the fresh air, but equally happy to settle in for a long cuddle session. With her soft fluff and soulful brown eyes, Sienna has an endless amount of love to give. Sienna is around nine months old and weighs about 32 pounds. If you're looking for a loyal companion who just wants to be part of the pack, Sienna is waiting for you!

Azure's journey started when she was found abandoned at a local library, but she hasn't let that stop her from being the happiest girl around! With striking blue eyes and an even more beautiful soul, Azure is a professional cuddler who truly thrives on human affection. Whether she's out for a walk or enjoying some playtime, her eyes light up with pure joy. She is very food-motivated, making her a star student who is already picking up her commands quickly. Azure is around nine months old and weighs about 32 pounds. If you're looking for a loyal companion who wants to be by your side through it all, Azure is your girl!

If you would like to learn more about Sienna or Azure, please fill out an Adoption Application on the MARC website <www.marc4change.org> and/or contact Sue Scruggs, (423) 619-3845.

All MARC animals ready for adoption are spayed or neutered and up-to-date on their vaccines and preventatives. MARC has a trainer available to work with dog adopters and dog fosters as needed.

MARC - Marion Animal Resource Connection is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit animal welfare organization. It is not a shelter and relies on foster homes to save animals.

Tune Up Your A/C Before the First Heat Wave

There is nothing worse than the first truly hot day of summer, flipping on the air conditioner and getting nothing but warm air.

After sitting idle all winter, your cooling system has some catching up to do. A little attention now can help keep your home comfortable and your energy bills in check when temperatures begin to climb.

Start with the easiest step, changing your air filter. A dirty filter restricts airflow and forces your system to work harder and run longer than necessary. That not only wastes energy but can also lead to unnecessary wear and tear. During the cooling season, most homes should replace filters every one to three months.

Next, check the outdoor unit. Leaves, pollen, grass clippings and dirt often collect around the condenser. Clear away any debris and make sure there are at least two feet of open space around the unit so air can circulate properly.

Inside your home, take a moment to inspect your vents. Furniture, rugs or curtains can block airflow without you realizing it. Keeping vents open and unobstructed helps your system cool your home more evenly and efficiently.

Finally, consider scheduling a professional inspection. A licensed technician can check refrigerant levels, inspect electrical components and ensure the system is operating safely and efficiently. They can also provide guidance on how well your unit is performing and whether it may be time to plan for a future upgrade.

Through SVEC's partnership with the Tennessee Valley Authority, members may also qualify for a \$50 rebate on a professional HVAC tune-up when using a TVA-approved Quality Contractor. To learn more or get started, visit <energyright.com/residential/rebates/duct-sealing-hvac-tune-up/>.

Taking a few minutes for basic maintenance now can help you avoid problems later and keep your home comfortable when summer heat sets in.

Messenger Classifieds

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THE SEWANEE HOSPITALITY SHOP AUXILIARY: Seeks a Management Trainee to begin May 1 at 5 hours a week with a plan to increase to full time by Dec. 15, 2026. Retail experience a must. Contact Julia Bates, at <jrbates217@gmail.com> for details and application form. Search closes April 22.

FOR RENT

HOUSE FOR RENT: 3BR/2BA. 1700 s/f. Large back and front yard. 3 mi. from Campus, Sherwood Rd. For more info call (931) 607-0418 or email <rwunley381@gmail.com>.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE: There will be a workshop of the Monteagle City Council and the CPA at 9 a.m., Monday, May 11, for the 2025-2027 Budget.



WHERE DO I RECYCLE THIS?

Special Garbage:
Items for drop off only at Franklin County Solid Waste Management, 419 Joyce Lane, Winchester:

- Electronics
- Computers and Monitors
- Televisions
- All Other Electronics
- Ink Cartridges
- Rechargeable Batteries
- Books, hard back and paper back

Special Waste:

Waste Oil and Waste Antifreeze: Used oil (oil must be oil only and not contain any gas, water or antifreeze) and antifreeze is collected for recycling at Franklin County Solid Waste Management located on Joyce Lane in Winchester and at the following Convenience Centers: Alto, Capitol Hill, Center Grove, Cowan, Estill Springs, Lexie Crossroads, Old Salem, Sewanee and Winchester Springs.

Don't clog up your pipes and sewer lines; take your used cooking oil to 419 Joyce Lane, Winchester.

Commercial waste must be disposed of at the Republic Transfer Station, 9577 Tullahoma Hwy., Estill Springs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
<https://www.franklincotn.us/solidwaste.html>

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FOR SALE: Travel trailer, Keystone Ultra-light Passport. Bunkhouse camper edition. Loaded. Located in Sewanee. (931) 213-0387

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Mountain Mini-Dozer Services
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References gladly provided

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Arthur Knoll
Sewanee Spring Clean-up
Saturday, May 2, 9-11 A.M.
("Deluge Date" Sunday, May 3, 1-3 P.M.)

9:00 — Meet at Mtn Goat Trailhead
11:00 — Free Snacks at Lunch
11:15 — Platinum Beauty Ring Award Ceremony at Angel Park

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FROM BARD TO VERSE

by Robin Bates

Hummingbirds Arrive

I can imagine, in some otherworld
Primeval-dumb, far back
In that most awful stillness, that only gasped and hummed,
Hummingbirds raced down the avenues.

Before anything had a soul,
While life was a heave of Matter, half inanimate,
This little bit chipped off in brilliance
And went whizzing through the slow, vast, succulent stems.


I believe there were no flowers, then
In the world where the hummingbird flashed ahead of creation.
I believe he pierced the slow vegetable veins with his long beak.

Probably he was big
As mosses, and little lizards, they say were once big.
Probably he was a jabbing, terrifying monster.

We look at him through the wrong end of the long telescope of Time,
Lucky for us.

--D.H. Lawrence, *Hummingbird*

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May 1-3

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Introduction to Labyrinth Walking (FREE)
May 2nd

The Undoing Workshop
May 9th

Living with Equanimity
May 13th-17th

www.stmaryssewanee.org
931-598-5342



Community Calendar

Friday, April 24 • Arbor Day

Last Day of Classes, School of Theology

- 8 a.m. Scholarship Sewanee oral presentations, Spencer Hall, Convocation Hall, Gailor Hall, until 1 p.m.
- 9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
- 1:30 p.m. McCrady Lecture, "...Why the World Needs All of Us," Deborah Lawrence, Blackman Auditorium
- 3 p.m. Scholarship Sewanee poster session, reception, Harris Commons, Spencer Hall, until 5 p.m.
- 5:30 p.m. SEWANEE IN PRINT (S.I.P.) Conversation, Oliver Munday/Adam Ross, University Bookstore
- 5:45 p.m. Kundalini Yoga, Breathwork, Meditation, Nati, Sewanee Community Center, until 7:15 p.m.
- 7:30 p.m. Concert, "Traditions and New Voices," Sewanee Symphony Orchestra/University Choir, All Saints' Chapel

Saturday, April 25

National Cornbread Festival, through April 26

- 9 a.m. Grief Recovery Group, Wesley House, MMUMC, 322 W. Main St., Monteagle
- 10 a.m. CCJP Electronics Recycling Event, Sewanee Community Center, 39 Ball Park Rd., until 5 p.m.
- 10 a.m. S.I.P. Panel Discussion, Magazine Design, Anna Lena Phillips Bell/Oliver Munday, American Legion Hall
- 10 a.m. Hospitality Shop open, until 2 p.m.
- 11 a.m. S.I.P. Zine and Small Press Book Fair, Angel Park lawn, until 4 p.m.
- 11 a.m. Belvidere Firemen's Fish Fry, (adults/\$15, children 4-12/\$5); 349 Belvidere Rd. until 5 p.m.
- 1 p.m. S.I.P. Open Mic, Angel Park Stage
- 2 p.m. S.I.P. Poetry Reading, Anna Lena Phillips Bell, University Bookstore
- 3:30 p.m. S.I.P. Voices from SWING magazine, Kelsey Mahaffey/Ankita Chatterjee/Troy Coll, American Legion Hall
- 5 p.m. S.I.P. Poetry Reading, Chelsea Whitton/Jonathan Farmer, American Legion Hall

Sunday, April 26

- 1 p.m. Knitting Circle, Mooney's, until 3 p.m.
- 4 p.m. Hatha Yoga, Helen, Community Center

Monday, April 27

Final exams, School of Theology, through May 1

- 9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
- 9 a.m. Pilates, intermed, Kim, 293 Ball Park Rd.
- 10:30 a.m. Chair Exercise, Susan, Sewanee Community Center, until 11:30 a.m.
- 4 p.m. JAMBoree, Tracy City Old Roundhouse Park, until 6 p.m.
- 4:45 p.m. Monteagle Public Hearing, Ordinance 3-26, conference room, City Hall
- 5 p.m. Monteagle City Council, conference room, City Hall
- 6 p.m. Franklin County Commission, Franklin County Courthouse
- 6:30 p.m. Kundalini Yoga with Pippa, Sewanee Community Center
- 7 p.m. "First Impressions" concert, (free), Guerry

Tuesday, April 28

- 8 a.m. GC Food Bank, 114 S. Industrial Park Rd., Coalmont, until 10 a.m.
- 9 a.m. Coffee w/Director of Athletics John Shackelford, McGriff Alumni House; livestream <sewaneetigers.com/watch/>
- 9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
- 10 a.m. Hospitality Shop open, until 1 p.m.
- 10 a.m. Story Time, Cowan Center for the Arts, until 11:30 a.m.
- 10 a.m. Pilates, beginner, Kim, 293 Ball Park Rd.
- 11 a.m. Social Fabric Group, Hospitality Shop lawn, until 1 p.m.

- 11:30 a.m. Grundy County Rotary, Dutch Maid Bakery, Tracy City
- noon Pilates, intermed, Kim, 293 Ball Park Rd.
- 1 p.m. F@H Caregivers Support Group, Brooks Hall, St. Mark & St. Paul's until 2 p.m.
- 4 p.m. S. Cumberland Farmers' Market pickup, Community Center, until 6 p.m.
- 5:15 p.m. University Choir, Choral Evensong, All Saints' Chapel
- 5:30 p.m. Plateau Democratic Party Meet & Greet, Shenanigans, until 7:30 p.m.
- 5:30 p.m. Yoga, Pippa, 293 Ball Park Rd.
- 6:30 p.m. University Jazz Ensemble Spring concert, St. Luke's Chapel

Wednesday, April 29

Last Day of Classes, College

- 9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
- 9 a.m. Pilates, intermed, Kim, 293 Ball Park Rd.
- 10 a.m. Art Wednesday, (free), Artisan Depot, 204 E. Cumberland St., until noon
- 10:30 a.m. Chair Exercise, Susan, Sewanee Community Center, until 11:30 a.m.
- 5 p.m. Yoga to Release Myofascial Tension, Tom Camp, 293 Ball Park Rd., until 6:15 p.m.
- 5:30 p.m. Hatha Yoga, Helen, Community Center

Thursday, April 30

- 9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
- 9 a.m. Nature Journaling, email <mpriestley0150@gmail.com> for details/meeting location
- 9:30 a.m. Body Recall, Judy, conference room, Monteagle City Hall
- 10 a.m. Hospitality Shop open, until 1 p.m.
- 10 a.m. Pilates, beginner, Kim, 293 Ball Park Rd.
- noon Pilates, intermed, Kim, 293 Ball Park Rd.

Friday, May 1

Final Exams, College, through May 7. Reservations due for SCA Annual Membership meeting

- 9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
- 4:30 p.m. Artists' Panel, Cloniger/Foster/Wohl, "To Tell a Yarn..." Sounding Stone Gallery, 74 W. College St., Monteagle
- 5 p.m. Art Reception, Frame Gallery, until 6:30 p.m.
- 5:45 p.m. Kundalini Yoga, Breathwork, Meditation, Nati, Sewanee Community Center, until 7:15 p.m.

Local 12-Step Meetings

Friday

7 p.m., AA, open, Christ Church, Tracy City

Saturday

7 p.m., NA, open, Decherd United Methodist

Sunday

6:30 p.m., AA, open, the Wesley House, Morton Memorial United Methodist Church

Monday

5 p.m., 12-Step Women's Study Group. Call (931) 327-5551 for information and for the Zoom link

7 p.m., AA, open, Christ Church, Tracy City

Tuesday

11 a.m., Grundy Recovery Alliance Community Endeavor Open Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

7 p.m., AA, open, First Baptist, Altamont

7 p.m., AA, open, Trinity Episcopal Church, Winchester

7 p.m., AA, open, the Wesley House, Morton Memorial United Methodist Church

Wednesday

10 a.m., AA, closed, Clifftops, (931) 924-3493

6 p.m., NA, community room at 187 Raulston Ave., Monteagle

7 p.m., NA, Decherd United Methodist

Thursday

6 p.m., Life's Healing Choice, Grundy County Recovery Alliance, Coalmont

7 p.m., Serenity in Sewanee AA, open, Brooks Hall, Sewanee

7 p.m., Al-Anon, First UMC, Winchester

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