THE SEWANEE MOUNTAIN
MESSENGER

Volume XLII No. 42 | *Published as a public service since 1985* | Friday, Nov. 6, 2026

SCA Spotlights Mountain Goat Trail's 20th Birthday

by Leslie Lytle, Messenger Staff Writer

What began as an idea spawned by a St. Andrew's-Sewanee School Earth Day event has evolved into one of the Plateau's most cherished assets, the Mountain Goat Trail, a paved multimodal path for pedestrians and cyclists that when complete will extend from Cowan to Palmer. At the Sewanee Civic Association Nov. 2 dinner meeting, Mountain Goat Trail Alliance Executive Director Patrick Dean shared highlights from the trail's history and a glimpse at what lies ahead. This year marks the MGTA's 20th anniversary. Based on data from the three trail counters stationed along the 12 miles completed so far, the trail welcomed 89,000 pedestrians and cyclists in the past 12 months.

The trail follows the path the Mountain Goat Railroad travelled transporting passengers and coal between Cowan and Palmer. In the 1980s, the railroad removed the tracks. SAS sophomore Ian Prunty seized on the idea of turning the railbed into a hiking trail and galvanized local support. A grant from the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) spurred completion of the first section of trail from Sewanee to Midway and the MGTA formed. A six-mile section from Sewanee to Monteagle and a six-mile section from Monteagle's DuBose Conference Center to Tracy City are now complete and plans for moving forward with the remaining sections are in place.

Construction on the long-anticipated section of trail from Sherwood Road in Sewanee to Slagtown Road in Cowan is expected to begin any day. Dean projected a Christmas Eve completion date for the 6.5-7 miles of trail. The Tennessee Department of Transportation will bring the trail across I-24 in Monteagle when the bridge is replaced, completing a section of trail from Village Wines and Spirits to the Depot with construction likewise projected to begin in the near future. With completion, those two projects will open up 20 miles of trail for public use, with just over 15 miles remaining of the 35 miles called for in the final plan.

Going from Tracy City to Palmer, another TDOT grant will pave a mile and a half section departing from Tracy City. The MGTA has secured the property and funding for the next five miles to Coalmont. Dean expects construction will begin next year. Dean acknowledged there were "some property issues" for the remaining section between Coalmont and Palmer. "The railbed travels through people's yards," Dean said. "We're counting on good community relations to work things out. We don't want to be in people's yards." He anticipates finding a workable alternative route. Landowners have offered to

(Continued on page 5)

Community Action Committee Thanksgiving

The holiday season is right around the corner, and CAC is preparing to support our neighbors with Thanksgiving food boxes filled with a turkey and all the fixings. Thanks to community generosity, we're partnering with Piggly Wiggly in Monteagle for the second year to collect donations. Stop by the store to purchase a bag for CAC or use our shopping list to build one yourself. We need more than 100 food boxes to help our neighbors enjoy a complete Thanksgiving meal.

Shopping list includes one box stuffing mix, two cans green beans, two cans yams, two cans cream style corn, two cans fruit cocktail, one box instant mashed potatoes, one jar of gravy, one can cranberry sauce, one can pie filling, one box of hot chocolate mix packets.

Please deliver food items to the CAC by Sunday, Nov. 15, 216 University Ave., Sewanee. Contact Sarah at <cac@stmarkstpaul.org> or call (931) 598-5927 with any questions. If you need a food box, call (931) 598-5927.



More than 100 community members gathered at the Sewanee Community Center to voice their opposition to the proposed Southeast Connector Pipeline. Photo by Austin Sauerbrei

Community Members Gather in Opposition to Newly Proposed Southeast Connector Pipeline

More than 100 concerned community members and potentially impacted landowners from Franklin and Marion Counties gathered at the Sewanee Community Center on Oct. 27, 2026, to voice their opposition to the proposed Southeast Connector Pipeline.

The proposed project, developed by Kinder Morgan through its 50 percent-owned Southern Natural Gas Company, would involve the construction of a 48-inch-diameter methane gas transmission pipeline spanning approximately 150 miles across 10 Tennessee counties: Sumner, Macon, Trousdale, Smith, DeKalb, Cannon, Warren, Coffee, Franklin, and Marion. The multi-billion-dollar project is designed to provide gas for downstream utility customers who bid into the proposal.

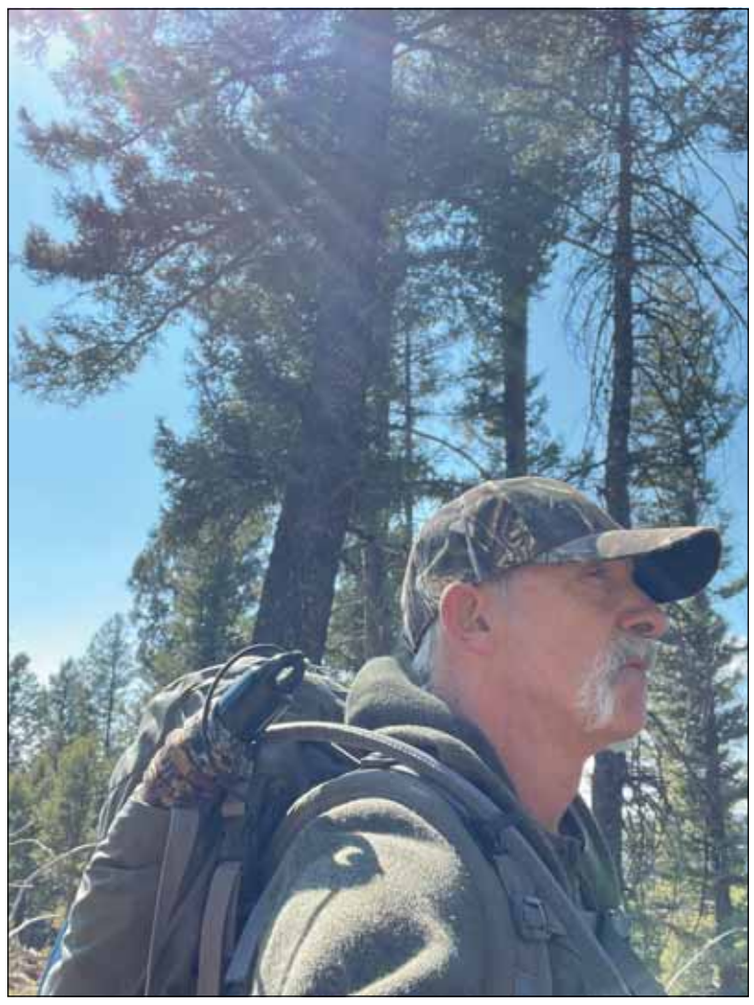
Throughout the meeting, attendees expressed concerns about the pipeline's potential impacts on their private property values as well as local groundwater, air quality, and public safety, including risks associated with pipeline leaks and explosions. Residents also raised concerns about the proposed route's proximity to local schools and other community institutions.

"It was wonderful to see our community come together on the mountain in strong opposition to the proposed Southeast Connector Pipeline, with impacted landowners, local institutions, and elected officials standing united," said Jonathan Evans, professor of biology. "As both a landowner and a scientist who has spent my career studying the ecology of the Cumberland Plateau and Highland Rim, I know firsthand the damage this pipeline could do to our water, land, and precious natural heritage. Our message to Kinder Morgan is simple: We do not want this pipeline and we will stand together to protect our land."

For residents whose families are longtime residents, the proposed pipeline raises concerns about the future of their homes and land.

"The thought of a pipeline running so close to our schools and children is deeply disturbing," said Ruth Jordan, local resident and retired special education teacher. "My family has owned this land since 1979, and it's priceless to me. We have so many good things happening in this community, and the possibility of a large corporation putting our land, safety, and way of life at risk for a project that offers us little direct benefit is heartbreaking."

A few county commissioners attending the meeting responded to questions from attendees about introducing a resolution opposing the proposed pipeline by encouraging attendance at the next Franklin County Commission meeting, scheduled at 6 p.m., Monday, Nov. 23, 2026, in the courtroom of the Franklin County Courthouse.



Sandy Gilliam, Domain Ranger.

Learning from a Renaissance Man: Sandy Gilliam

by Leslie Lytle, Messenger Staff Writer

"The students will ask me if I went to school at the University and where I learned to do all this," said University Domain Ranger Sandy Gilliam. Gilliam's answer, "I say, no, if I went to college here, I probably wouldn't be able to show you the things I'm showing you now." A hands-on-learning style teacher, Gilliam has instructed students in a diverse array of skills ranging from trail maintenance to welding, to prescribed burns, to photography, to chainsaw certification, to butchering.

Gilliam has lived his entire life in Midway and got his first job at the age of 13. After high school he went to work at Peabody Tectank in Winchester as a welder. Fourteen years ago, Gilliam signed on as the University's first Domain Ranger, given an official title for doing what he had already been doing for most of his life.

"I've always hunted in Lost Cove," Gilliam said. "I'd keep an eye out on the Domain and the outskirts. If I found things that shouldn't be happening, I pointed them out to the University."

A student injured in a fall from a remote section of bluff prompted the University to create the Domain Ranger position. "The University was working with the family trying to figure out how to keep such an accident from occurring again," said Domain Manager Nate Wilson. The agreed upon idea was to have a backcountry Domain Ranger, a non-law enforcement presence who maintained roads and trails and made sure those he encountered understood how to navigate the Domain safely. "Sandy was a natural fit," Wilson insisted. "He knew the Domain like the back of his hand, and, as Franklin County Constable, he had a good relationship with both emergency services and police."

Gilliam is responsible for everything outside the central campus, a little over 13,000 acres, the trails, campsites, lakes, ponds, roads, caves and more. He has a crew to help with weed eating and trail maintenance in the summer and work study students help out during the school year. The never-ending list of need-done tasks ranges from conducting prescribed burns to managing wildland fires to removing fallen trees blocking roads and trails. "A lot of times it may take a few years for trees to show their stress from drought or storms and die," Gilliam observed,

(Continued on page 5)

P.O. Box 296
Sewanee, TN 37375

Messenger Break Ahead

The Messenger will be on Thanksgiving break Nov. 21 through Nov. 29. We will be back in the office on Monday, Nov. 30, and back in print on Friday, Dec. 4.

For the upcoming Christmas and New Year's holidays, the Messenger will be on break Dec. 19, 2026, through Jan. 10, 2027. The staff will return to the office on Monday, Jan. 11, 2027, with the first issue of the new year on Friday, Jan. 15, 2027.

Important updates will be available on the website <http://sewaneemessenger.com> or on our Facebook page during these breaks.

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

Local Food Available

The South Cumberland Farmers' Market has breads, fruits, vegetables, eggs, coffee, meats and more available. Ordering is online from Friday at 9 p.m. to Monday at noon. Pickup is on Tuesdays, 4–6 p.m., at the Sewanee Community Center. To order go to <https://openfoodnetwork.net/south-cumberland-farmer-s-market/shop>.

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University Job Opportunities

Exempt Positions: Athletic Trainer, Athletics; University Archives and Special Collections Instruction and Outreach Archivist, Library & Information Technology Services; Manager, University Farm, University Farm; Manager of FitWell Operations, University Wellness Center,

Non-Exempt Positions: Student Post Office Associate, Business Services, Student Post office; Assistant Manager, Cup & Gown, Business Services, Sewanee Dining; Catering Logistics Coordinator, Sewanee Dining, Catering; Dispatcher, On-Call/ Part time, Sewanee Police Department; FitWell Group Exercise Instructor, Flourishing Wellness Center; FitWell Group Exercise, Yoga Instructor, Flourishing Wellness Center; On-Call Catering Attendant, Sewanee Dining, Catering; On-Call Stable Assistant, Athletics, Equestrian Center; Police Officer (Part-Time), Sewanee Police Department; Sewanee Dining Associate, Sewanee Dining, McClurg; Sewanee Shuttle Driver, Sewanee Police Department; Commissary Chef, Sewanee Dining; Stablehand, Athletics, Equestrian Center; Coordinator, Gift & Biographical Processing, University Relations; Dispatcher, Sewanee Police Department.

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

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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. We strive to print all letters we receive, but publication is not guaranteed. Letters should be factually accurate. Letters that are deemed unsuitable for publication shall not be printed elsewhere in the newspaper, including as a paid advertisement.



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, leave it at our office, 418 St. Mary's Ln., or send your email to <news@sewaneemessenger.com>. — *KB*

THE SEWANEE MOUNTAIN
MESSENGER

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Kiki Beavers, *editor/publisher*
April Minkler, *office manager*
Emily Ricks, *proofreader*
Leslie Lytle, *staff writer*
Blythe Ford, *staff writer*

Janet Graham, *publisher emerita*
Laura Willis, *editor/publisher emerita*
Geraldine Hewitt Piccard, *founder, editor/publisher emerita*

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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
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Nathaniel P. Gallagher
Peter Green
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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@sewanee.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

MMUMC Food Distribution

Morton Memorial United Methodist Church located at 322 W. Main St., in Monteagle, will be distributing food 8–10 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 14. All in need are welcome to come. Drivers should enter the line from behind the church and park where our helpers will guide you. Volunteers will load your car for you. Expect several bags of groceries, so please make room for these shelf-stable items, some frozen items, and produce before you come. Morton Memorial distributes food the second Saturday of every month come rain or shine.

Dinner and a Movie

The Sewanee Community Fire Support presents "Chili, Hot Dogs and a Movie." The movie will be "Backdraft." The meal will be at 6 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 7. Cost is $15, and 6 years and under are free. The movie starts at 6:30 p.m. The event will be at Camp MontMilner, 3333 Jump Off Rd., Sewanee.

South Pittsburg Honors Veterans

On Wednesday, Nov. 11, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. CT, American Legion Marion Post 62 will honor Veterans at the Legion Hall, 3rd Street and Elm Avenue, South Pittsburg.

Post Commander William Stuart invites all to attend the presentations and lunch. Veterans will be the luncheon guests. Donations from other attendees will be most appreciated and used for the expenses.

Keep the Mountain Beautiful.



PLEASE DON'T LITTER.

Upcoming Meetings

Franklin County School Board

The Franklin County School Board is scheduled to meet at 6 p.m., Monday, Nov. 9, at 215 S. College St., Winchester.

Town of Monteagle

There will be a BZA meeting at 8:30 a.m., Friday, Nov. 13, 2026, in the conference room at City Hall. The purpose of the meeting is to hear the appeal from Mr. William Best of the decision of the codes department.

There will be a special called meeting of the Monteagle City Council on Nov. 23, 2026, at 9 a.m., in the conference room at city hall. The purpose of the special meeting is to swear in the newly elected officials and to have bank signatures changed.

JAMKids at the Sewanee Woman's Club

The Sewanee Woman's Club will meet on Monday, Nov. 16, at St. Mary's Sewanee. Reservations are due by noon on Sunday, Nov. 8. Reservations are by email only, <reservations.swc@gmail.com>.

Our highly anticipated speaker will be Cara Kitzrow, who will introduce us to JAMKids (Junior Appalachian Musicians) program. They teach children traditional "old-time" and Appalachian music.

Social mingling will begin at 11:30 a.m., followed by a delicious lunch ($20) at noon. Our speaker will begin at 12:25 p.m.

Come and meet new friends and old from all around our Mountain and below.

Sewanee Utility District

The Sewanee Utility District of Franklin and Marion Counties Board of Commissioners is scheduled to meet at 5 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 17, at the utility office on Sherwood Road. If a customer is unable to attend but wishes to bring a matter to the board, call (931) 598-5611, visit the office, or call a board member. The board members are Amanda Bailey, Chris McBee, Donnie McBee, Charlie Smith, and Clay Yeatman.

Cowan Commercial Club

Cowan Commercial and Community Club will meet at 4:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 19, at the Artisan Depot, 204 E. Cumberland St. We will follow up on checlist items from the New Trails Workshop, discuss updates on the Mountain Goat Trail extension, and prepare for holiday events. Membership is open to all area residents and business owners.

Franklin County Commission

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners is scheduled to meet at 6 p.m., Monday, Nov. 23, in the courtroom at the Franklin County Courthouse.

Sewanee Community Council

The next meeting of the Community Council is scheduled for Monday, Jan. 25, 2027, at 7 p.m.

We have reserved Monday, Nov. 23, 2026, as a possible meeting date and will meet then if there are urgent concerns. If there are any items for discussion that cannot wait until January, please submit them to the Provost's office by noon on Wednesday, Nov. 11.

Online and in color
<www.sewaneemessenger.com>

Sewanee Community Council Election Results

The results of the Community Council Election are listed below:
District 1 Jayme Condra: 119
District 2 Pamela Byerly: 109
District 3 Johnny Hughes: 104
District 4 Mark Webb: 149
At-Large Ben Tarhan: 324 (winner)
At-Large Michael Payne: 304 (winner)
At-Large Christopher Barton: 201

Special thanks to our elections officer, Katie Gohn, and to Sallie Green for all their hard work on Election Day and in the days leading up to the election.

Community Chest Sets Goal

The 2026-27 Sewanee Community Chest (SCC) Fund Drive is underway. Sponsored by the Sewanee Civic Association, the SCC raises money yearly for local organizations serving the area. This year's goal of $118,000 will help 15 local organizations that have requested basic needs funding for quality of life, community aid, children's programs, and those who are beyond Sewanee but still serve the entire community.

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 or to give through PayPal Giving, go to <www.sewaneecivic.org>.

Legion Appreciation Supper

You are invited to a Covered Dish Supper given to show appreciation of our military, past and present at 6 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 10, at the American Legion Hall, 36 University Ave. Please bring a covered dish to share. There will be special music. Come and hear Robert Roberson speak about being in New York on 9/11 at the 9/11 site. Everyone is invited.

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Obituary

Dr. Samuel Ruthven Williamson, Jr.

Dr. Samuel Ruthven Williamson, Jr., fourteenth Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of the South (Sewanee), passed away on Oct. 27, 2026, aged 90.

Sam was born in Bogalusa, La., on Nov. 10, 1935, the son of Samuel Ruthven Williamson, Sr. and Frances Page Williamson. He grew up in Springhill, La., and played on a state championship basketball team at Springhill High School before graduating in 1954.

He then attended Tulane University, where he served as a manager on the football team before graduating Phi Beta Kappa with a degree in history in 1958. He was a Fulbright Scholar in 1958-59 at the University of Edinburgh.

In 1961, he married Joan Andress of Minden, La., a graduate of Newcomb College and daughter of his mother Frances' close college friend, Treeby Miller Andress. This was the beginning of a partnership that had begun at Tulane and would continue for sixty-four years.

Sam earned his master's in history from Harvard University in 1960 and his doctorate in 1966. While earning his doctorate, he taught as an assistant professor at the United States Military Academy (West Point) from 1963-66. At West Point, he and Joan welcomed son George in 1964 and daughter Treeby in 1966.

In 1966, Williamson joined the History Department at Harvard as Instructor and was promoted to Assistant Professor in 1968. While at Harvard, he served as the Allston Burr Senior Tutor at Kirkland House (1968-72) and Assistant to the Dean of Harvard College (1969-70).

In 1969, Williamson published his first book, "The Politics of Grand Strategy: Britain and France Prepare for War, 1904-1914" (Harvard University Press), which won the George Louis Beer Prize of the American Historical Association for best book in international history. Son Thad was born in Cambridge in 1970.

In 1972, the family moved to Chapel Hill where Sam joined the History Department at the University of North Carolina as Associate Professor and later as Professor. From 1972-77 he was Director of the Curriculum in Peace, War, and Defense. In 1976-1977 the family spent the year in Cambridge, England while Sam spent his sabbatical at Churchill College in Cambridge.

In 1977, Williamson was named Dean of Arts & Science at UNC, a role he served in until 1985. He then served as Provost and Chief Academic Officer of the University from 1985 to 1988. He served Chancellors Ferebee Taylor and Christopher Fordham and Presidents Bill Friday and C.D. Spangler, and played a key role in starting The Arts and Sciences Foundation.

Sam became Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of the South (Sewanee) in 1988 and served in that position until 2000, a role that combined his deep Episcopalian faith and the leadership skills he had developed in his prior positions. During that time period Sewanee strengthened its academic reputation as a nationally recognized liberal arts college, and Joan and Sam were recognized for their hospitality to old friends and new guests alike.

Williamson served as a Professor in the History Department at Sewanee for five further years before his academic retirement in 2005. During this period, he began an extensive research project on the history of the University of South, in collaboration with Gerald L. Smith and later John M. McCardell, Jr., that resulted in publications of three books, including "Sewanee Sesquicentennial History: The Making of the University of the South" (2008).

Altogether, Williamson authored, co-authored, edited, or co-edited nine books: five related to the origins of World War I, three on Sewanee, and one on U.S. nuclear strategy after World War II. He also authored dozens of articles, encyclopedia entries, and reviews for scholarly publications, with a primary focus on the origins of World War I.

Williamson also was active in numerous professional organizations, including the Associated Colleges of the South, the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, the NCAA Presidents' Commission, the International Institute for Strategic Studies, and others. He served as senior foreign and defense advisor to Governor James B. Hunt during his 1984 campaign for the United States Senate.

Dr. Williamson was preceded in death by his parents, Sam and Frances Williamson, his brother, S. Page Williamson, and his brother-in-law R. Thad Andress. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Joan Williamson; children George Williamson (Vanessa Dennen), Treeby W. Brown (Robbie), and Thad Williamson (Adria Scharf); brother-in-law H. Miller Andress; and his four grandchildren Frances Brown, Wallace Brown, Sahara Williamson, and Sylvie Williamson. His children, grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews valued his humor and wisdom, as well as his attachment to his model railroad.

From 2011 until his death, Sam Williamson was a resident of the Galloway Ridge retirement community near Pittsboro, N.C., where he was active in resident leadership roles and made many new friends. The Williamson family is profoundly grateful for the care he received from Galloway Ridge, The Arbor, UNC Hospice, Sharon Lambert and the numerous doctors, nurses, and aides who supported Sam in his final years and months.

A memorial reception will be at Galloway Ridge, 3000 Galloway Ridge Road, Pittsboro, at 4 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 7. An additional memorial service will take place at Sewanee at a future point in time.

During their years at Sewanee, Sam and Joan Williamson took special interest in nurturing and supporting international students from every corner of the globe, developing close relationships with many of those students. Memorial gifts in honor of Dr. Williamson may be made to the Williamson International Fund at the University of the South or to St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in Pittsboro. For complete obituary go to <https://www.donaldsonfunerals.com/obituary/Samuel-Williamson>.

We're glad you're reading the Messenger.

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; 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.

Monday, All Saints' Chapel, 5:45 p.m., Choral Evensong, sung by The School of Theology Schola Cantorum.

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

Christ Church

This Sunday is "The Sunday within the Octave of All Saints." When you see formal invitations to Ordinations, you will often see "God Willing." Hopefully, you see that this is not something just quaint, but rather a measure of the seriousness of a call to the ordained ministry.

The Rev. Stephen Tyng Higgins has served as a Deacon at Christ Church Monteagle for two years. He was an Acolyte in his youth serving in The Episcopal Cathedral in Little Rock, Arkansas where his father was Dean. At Sewanee he was a Crucifer, an Acolyte, and a member of the University Choir. He also played Football and still loves the sport. This is the 50th Reunion of the Class of 1976.

Bishop Phillip Jones, who is the founding Rector of All Saints Anglican Church in the heart of Dallas, Texas was the quarterback on that team. He will be the Preacher at the Ordination of Stephen Higgins to the Priesthood.

We hope several other teammates and classmates of Steve can attend. Bishop John Greaves will be the ordaining bishop and Bishop William Millsaps will assist.

The service begins at 10:45 a.m. CT. We are having a very special

(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
6:30 p.m. Healing/prayer service
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Winchester
9 a.m. Worship Service, Sunday
City Light Church, Monteagle
10:30 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. Worship, Sunday
6:30 p.m. Bible Study/Prayer Meeting, 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, Kennerly Hall
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
Warren Chapel Church of the Nazarene, Decherd
10 a.m. Sunday School
11 a.m. Morning Worship, Sunday
Winchester First United Methodist
10 a.m. Worship, Sunday

Church *(from page 4)*

lunch and you are invited. Even if you have duties at another service, please stop in for lunch or just to say hello.

Morton Memorial United Methodist

The Rev. Rachael Jorstad will be preaching on Sunday, Nov. 8. The Gospel lesson appointed for the day is Matthew 25:1-13, which is the story of the ten virgins waiting to greet the bridegroom.

Children are celebrated at Morton and have time during the service with Rev. Derseweh, who will share a children's sermon "Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning."

To learn more about life in our community of faith, accept this invitation to worship. Morton is located at 322 West Main St., in Monteagle. Our service begins at 11 a.m., following coffee and refreshments in our Fellowship Center. If you are unable to attend but want to sample worship at Morton, 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

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

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

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.

Sunday Forum: This Sunday the Rev. Dr. Reed Carlson will lead a theological look at the creation accounts in Genesis chapters 1–3 entitled "God Created the World Good, Not Perfect." Sunday Forum meets at 9:45 a.m., in Kennerly Hall.

'Aging in Our Communities' Study Results

Professors Deborah McGrath, Amy Patterson, and Chris Silver will present the findings from their study on "Aging in Our Communities" at 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 18, at the St. Mark's Community Center, 481 Alabama Ave., Sewanee. The study is based on interviews and focus group discussions conducted during spring 2026 by Patterson and her students, as well as surveys conducted during summer 2026 by McGrath and Silver. The resulting report details a vibrant older population in the Sewanee-Monteagle area, as well as some challenges this demographic faces. We look forward to sharing the insights gained from the research.

Gilliam *(continued from page 1)*

commenting on a recent spate of downed trees on the Domain. With the addition of a new trail in Lost Cove from Potters Ridge to Buggy Top Cave, Gilliam's workload will increase. "It's a lot to keep up with," he conceded. "The state parks have five or six rangers to manage this much land."

Gilliam worked as a welder for 31 years before signing on as Domain Ranger. The job was a substantial cut in pay but has its own perks. Gilliam has close ties with the students and keeps in touch with many of them after they graduate. Three students have asked Gilliam to gown them.

Responding to student interest, Gilliam has led seminars in skill-based learning most park rangers lack the knowledge to offer guidance in. Students living in the Greenhouse, with a focus on environmentally sound living and exploring ecological questions, have proved to be especially eager pupils. Gilliam has introduced students to welding, deer processing, butchering, and has plans for stonemasonry class in the near future.

Gilliam learned the craft of stonemasonry from his father, who learned from his father who learned from his father before him. "My great grandpap did a lot of the stonework on the chapel," Gilliam said. Gilliam's own stonework can be seen in burial plot enclosures at the University Cemetery.

"I had a lot of opportunities in my life," Gilliam said of his many skills, "and when it came up, I would do it." Perhaps most surprising is Gilliam's skill as a photographer. He has an uncanny eye for what others pass by without seeing. He frequently worked with Art Professor Pradip Malde's documentary photography class, prior to Malde's retirement. What is Gilliam's camera of choice? "Instead of having to pack a camera around, a cellphone is what I'm using most of the time now," he acknowledged. "Most of my shots are nothing I ever went to look for. It happens, it's there in front of me, and I take the shot." Gilliam's photos are a gallery of you-would-have-needed-to-be-there moments — a rattlesnake poised to strike, a once-in-a-lifetime sunset at The Cross. Asked about a gray dove and a mostly white dove in a photograph, Gilliam explained the largely white dove was a "piebald," a genetic mutation. Like the seemingly bottomless sink in Lost Cove, there is no end to what Gilliam knows.

And, likewise, no end to what Gilliam does. In addition to his Domain Ranger and student mentoring, he works with Sewane Fire and Rescue and state park rangers when they need assistance. During his time off, Gilliam does what he has always done. During hunting season, he hunts. Gilliam also has a side job helping with the bison farm in Lost Cove. "Many, many years ago bison used to be native to here," Gilliam mentioned almost as an afterthought, offering another gem from his treasure trove of knowledge.

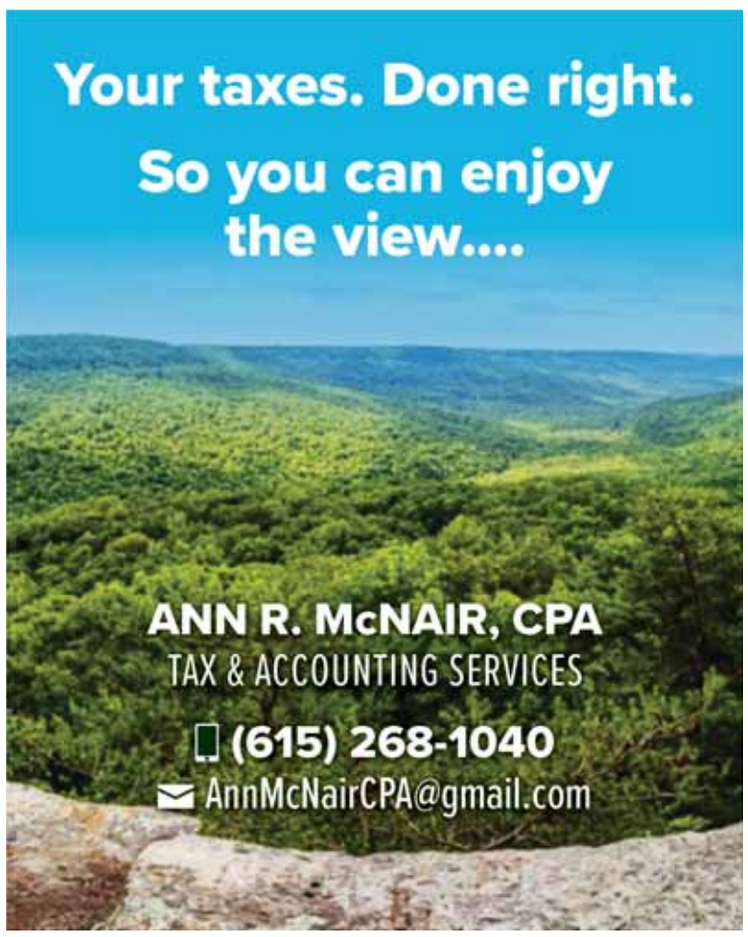
The expression Renaissance man came from the Humanist notion "a man can do all things if he will." Leonardo da Vinci is a leading example for his achievements in art, science, architecture, and invention. Now 67, Gilliam plans to retire in a few years. He suggested the University should perhaps be looking for someone to replace him, words of wisdom indeed. Filling the shoes of Sewanee's Renaissance man will be no easy task.

Bag Sale at the Hop Shop

The much-loved Bag Sale is back at the Hop Shop, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 7, at the shop's new location, 574 Georgia Ave., in Sewanee. For $5, you can fill a bag full of great clothing for men and women. Inside the shop, there will be huge markdowns on housewares and designer clothing. In case of inclement weather, the sale will be on Saturday, Nov. 14.

For more than 60 years, the Sewanee Hospitality Shop Auxiliary has served the greater Sewanee community by offering affordable access to quality clothing and home goods while providing scholarships for aspiring healthcare workers. Each year, scholarships are awarded to graduating seniors from Franklin and Grundy County high schools who are interested in careers in health and medicine.

Volunteers are always welcome and needed at the Shop. For more information email <hospitalityshopsewanee@gmail.com> or stop by the Shop during its regular hours: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., on Saturdays.



SCA *(continued from page 1)*

sell the Palmer coal mine site and surrounding property to the MGTA for a historic heritage destination point at the end of the trail.

Pointing to an added environmental plus, Dean said material made from recycled tires provides the pavement surface on three sections of trail, the connector to the Fiery Gizzard Visitor Center, the connector to the Fiery Gizzard trailhead, and the Sewanee section at the Visitor Center. Porous Pave, a 50/50 mix of stone and recycled tire rubber, allows water to seep in and, as a result, reduces the likelihood of tree roots pushing through the trail. Using Porous Pave, a cooperative effort with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, removed 8,000 tires from landfills.

The trail's signature event, the annual Mountain Goat Trail race in April has something for everyone, a two-mile walk, a five-mile run, a half marathon, and a post-race raffle hosted by Mountain Outfitters. The trail is a "family affair" writ large. Area families make frequent use of the trail, and an economic impact analysis projected the MGT will bring jobs, businesses, over $2 million in tax revenues and $2.5 million in retail sales to the area every year.

Switching hats, Dean encouraged the community to attend Yea, Sewanee Writes on Nov. 7, at duPont Library, 9–11 a.m., to chat with local authors selling and signing books. In addition to serving as the MGTA Executive Director, Dean has authored two historical biographies, "A Window to Heaven" and "Nature's Messenger: Mark Catesby and His Adventures in a New World." The books read like Crusoe-esque travelog adventures. "A Window to Heaven" is the story of Hudson Stuck, an Episcopal priest and 1892 graduate of Sewanee who went to Alaska as a missionary and with a party of four men made the first successful summit of Mount Denali, now known as Mount McKinley. "Nature's Messenger" follows 18th century British artist and naturalist Catesby who roamed the eastern frontier of the United States in the early 1700s, returned to England, and, pre-Darwin's Origin of Species, produced the first illustrated book of North American flora and fauna. Dean will also sign books at the Sewanee bookstore from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., on Nov. 7.

In the business portion of the meeting, President Ben Tarhan reported the SCA Community Chest had raised $22,000 toward the $118,000 goal. The MGTA is among 15 initiatives identified for funding, with recipients including food pantries, children's programs, animal rescue, programs serving senior citizens, health care needs, and other ventures geared to improving the quality of life on the Plateau. Send donations to P.O. Box 99, Sewanee, TN 37375 or donate online at <sewaneecivic.org/community-chest/>.

Tarhan also urged the community to donate to Stock the Pantry, to benefit the Community Action Committee's food pantry. For those who prefer to shop online, visit <https://a.co/f6TXKX4> to view the Amazon wish list. The items ordered will be delivered directly to the CAC, 216 University Ave., Sewanee.

To join the SCA, send a $20 check to the above address, or visit sewaneecivic.org. SCA members receive a free subscription to the online community bulletin board Sewanee Classifieds. Direct questions about Classifieds to Classifieds Administrator Justin Closs at <classifieds@sewaneecivic.org>.

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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.

The Sewanee Senior Center Annual Thanksgiving Lunch will be on Tuesday, Nov. 10. Suggested donation is $10. Take-out starts at 11 a.m. Sit-down meal at noon. RSVP by Friday, Nov. 6, (931) 598-0771.

Monday, Nov. 9: Pizza, salad.

Tuesday, Nov. 10: ***Reserve by Nov. 6.*** Thanksgiving Meal ($10): Turkey, dressing, gravy, green beans, sweet potato casserole, corn salad, rolls, cranberry sauce, pecan pie.

Wednesday, Nov. 11: White chili w/chicken, toasted cheese sandwich.

Thursday, Nov. 12: Pork chops, macaroni+cheese, green pea salad, rolls.

Friday, Nov. 13: Creamed chipped beef on toast, green peas.

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. Game day is 12:30–3 p.m., every Thursday, at the Senior Center. Contact Susan Roberson by text at (516) 987-8440 for more information on chair exercise and Mahjong.

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.

Thank you for reading the Messenger!



The mural on Hwy. 41A features oversized depictions of the Sewanee purple phacelia (Phacelia sewaneensis), a wildflower recently identified as a new species by researchers working in Shakerag Hollow. Photo by Buck Butler

Mural Project

A recently discovered wildflower has found a new home on the side of Taylor's Mercantile in downtown Sewanee, in a spectacular new mural by artist Megan Lingerfelt.

The mural on Hwy. 41A features oversized depictions of the Sewanee purple phacelia (Phacelia sewaneensis), a wildflower recently identified as a new species by researchers working in Shakerag Hollow.

Sewanee Biology Professor Jon Evans and his colleague Ashley Morris, a 1997 Sewanee graduate now teaching at Furman University, led the research. Their work revealed that the purple-flowered plant, long thought to be the same species as a more common blue-flowered relative, is distinct and appears to be unique to the Cumberland Plateau.

The mural connects this scientific discovery with the landscape that made it possible, celebrating the Domain's distinctive geology and ecology and the discoveries still waiting to be made here.

The project grew out of community workshops in 2024 that identified public art as a priority for the Sewanee Village. It was made possible by a grant from the State of Tennessee as part of the nation's 250th anniversary commemoration, with project administration by Do. More. Art., a nonprofit that supports public art in small towns.

A wildflower that was hiding in plain sight is now impossible to miss. Next time you're downtown, take a closer look.

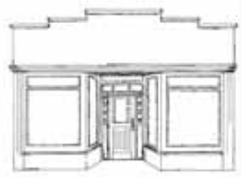
This project is funded under an agreement with the State of Tennessee administered by the Tennessee Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial.

St. Mary's Sewanee Thanksgiving

St. Mary's Sewanee: The Ayres Center for Spiritual Development is offering Thanksgiving catering to the community, and this year there is a new way to share the table. Through its first "Buy One, Donate One" effort, St. Mary's Sewanee invites neighbors to purchase a Thanksgiving meal for their own family and a second meal to be donated. The Ayres Center is partnering with Community Action Committee and Morton Memorial United Methodist Food Bank to get the donated meals to neighbors in need.

A full meal serving four to six people is $150 and includes turkey, dressing, green beans, sweet potatoes, gravy, relish, and rolls. Desserts are sold separately, with pecan pie at $30 and pumpkin pie at $25. Items may also be ordered individually: turkey, $40; dressing, $25; green beans, $25; sweet potatoes, $25; gravy, $15; relish, $15; and rolls, $5. The last day to order is Wednesday, Nov. 11, and meals are available while supplies last. All orders must be paid in full at the time of the order. Orders must be picked up on Wednesday, Nov. 25, between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. at St. Mary's Sewanee, 770 St. Mary's Lane. To place an order or donate a meal, call (931) 598-5342 or email <Reservations@stmaryssewanee.org>. Let's be thankful together!

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SES MENUS

Monday–Friday
Nov. 9–13

BREAKFAST

Every effort will be made to follow the published menu; however, last minute changes may be necessary.

Monday, Nov. 9: Cinnamon toast crunch bar, juice, fruit, milk.

Tuesday, Nov. 10: Donut hole, juice, fruit, milk.

Wednesday, Nov. 11: Breakfast pizza, juice, fruit, milk.

Thursday, Nov. 12: Meat biscuit, juice, fruit, milk.

Friday, Nov. 13: Waffles, juice, fruit, milk.

LUNCH

Monday, Nov. 9: Chicken sandwich, French fries, baked beans, fruit, milk.

Tuesday, Nov. 10: Vegetable beef soup, grilled cheese sandwich, potato wedges, fresh carrots, fruit, milk.

Wednesday, Nov. 11: Pizza, potato smiles, steamed broccoli, fruit, milk.

Thursday, Nov. 12: Chicken and dumplings, baked apples, pinto beans, steamed carrots, roll, fruit, milk.

Friday, Nov. 13: Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, green peas, roll, fruit, milk.

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



Flint Candler entered his rooster, Peacock, in the new Halloween Costume Pet Pageant at Crow Fest last weekend. The rooster, a Speckled Sussex, was dressed as Smaug and Flint was dressed as Bilbo Baggins from "The Hobbit."

'Art, Storytelling, and Creative Placemaking on the St. Mark's Heritage Trail'

The University Art Gallery—in partnership with the St. Mark's community and the Roberson Project on Slavery, Race and Reconciliation—proudly presents Art, Storytelling, Creative Placemaking and the St. Mark's Heritage Trail, on view in the UAG through Dec. 11, 2026.

Creative projects play an essential role in making the stories of the St. Mark's community visible in the landscape. "Art, Storytelling, Creative Placemaking and the St. Mark's Heritage Trail" is part exhibition and part workshop, showcasing existing projects along the St. Mark's Trail and inviting new ones. In all cases, the featured projects are marked by a shared commitment to the work of remembering and to how that work might make something new. They are shaped by a commitment to learning, and to directing that learning to community purpose.

Please join us! At 5 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 12, Guerry Auditorium, there will be an artist talk by designer Joe Veazey, illustrator of the new Sewanee Black History Map. Reception to follow.

At 5 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 17, in Guerry Auditorium, there will be a screening of "Woven Wind" with artist Vesna Pavlović, Q&A to follow.

The University Art Gallery is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, and noon to 4 p.m., on Saturday and Sunday. The UAG is closed Monday, and for academic breaks, including Thanksgiving. Read more about the project at <https://new.sewanee.edu/university-art-gallery/current-exhibition/>.

Revisiting the Greenwoods of Narnia

Friends of the Library of the University of the South invites you to attend the Ninth Annual Tom G. Watson Memorial Event at 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 18, in the Torian Room on the second floor of Jessie Ball duPont Library. This event is co-sponsored by English and Creative Writing, Library and Information Technology Services, and the School of Theology. John Gatta, William R. Kenan Jr. Professor of English Emeritus, will discuss his newest book, "Green Worlds of C.S. Lewis."

Decades after C.S. Lewis composed his "Chronicles of Narnia," these fantasy tales about a land of enchantment continue to attract readers of all ages. This talk, drawing from Gatta's recent book, reflects on what the stories still have to tell us, especially in the face of today's environmental crises. Even or especially for adult readers, the "green" inscape of the Narnia narrative can inspire and reveal much—not only about the reach of fantasy literature, as allied with Lewis's personal faith and values, but also about the ecological vision of life these tales embody.

John Gatta is an Emeritus Professor of English both at the University of Connecticut and at Sewanee, where he also served for a time as Dean of the College. He has likewise taught at the University of Missouri, as a Fulbright lecturer in Senegal, and in South Africa. His teaching and research have been devoted to American literary history and environmental literature, as well as to the interplay between religious faith and literary imagination. He is the author of many articles and of eight books, including three titles from Oxford University Press.

There will be a reception and book sale after the talk in the Ralston Listening Commons.

More information about the Friends of the Library can be found at their website: <https://library.sewanee.edu/FOL>. If you have questions about the talk or joining the Friends of the Library, please contact Penny Cowan at (931) 598-1573 or <pcowan@sewanee.edu>.

Spread Mulch at Elliott Park

Sewanee Parks needs your help spreading a load of new wood chips at Elliott Park. On Saturday morning, Nov. 7, we need volunteers to help rake and spread a truckload of wood chips to keep the ground surface safe for the kids. We're kicking off at 8 a.m., but stop in anytime before noon to say hello or pitch in for a few minutes. We'll have some tools but more are always welcome. Grab a friend, a visiting alum, wheelbarrow, or rake and come on by.

Yea, Sewanee Writes!

An alumni and local author book fair will be from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 7, in the duPont Library main lobby. Come and meet the authors. Books will be available for purchase. This event is co-sponsored by the Library and Information Technology Services and the Friends of the Library.

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Christmas in The Caverns: Symphony & Sing Off

Would you like to sing with the Sewanee Symphony Orchestra at The Caverns?

The Sewanee Symphony Orchestra is excited to return to The Caverns on Friday, Dec. 4, 2026, for another unforgettable evening of holiday music and community celebration!

As part of our free Christmas in The Caverns: Symphony & Sing Off concert, auditions are now open for The Caverns Sing Off! Singers from the South Cumberland region, or those with strong ties to the community, are invited to audition for the opportunity to perform a holiday classic with the Sewanee Symphony Orchestra on The Caverns stage.

New this year: A Youth Division for singers ages 2–17! We are especially excited to welcome young voices to this wonderful community tradition. Finalists will have the opportunity to perform live at The Caverns and compete for cash prizes of up to $1,000, along with other exciting prizes.

Whether you are a student, faculty or staff member, or have family and friends in the South Cumberland region who love to sing, we encourage you to spread the word!

Important Dates:

Wednesday, Nov. 11: Audition submission deadline

Wednesday, Nov. 18: Free ticket reservations open on The Caverns website

Friday, Dec. 4: Christmas in The Caverns: Symphony & Sing Off concert

For audition instructions and to submit your application, visit <https://TheCaverns.com/SingOff>.

Christmas in The Caverns: Symphony & Sing Off is presented by The Caverns, the University of the South, and the South Cumberland Community Fund.

Thank you for reading the Messenger!

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Monteagle-Sewanee Rotary Pancake Breakfast

Mark your calendars! The Monteagle-Sewanee Rotary Club invites you, your family, and your friends to our fifth annual Pancake Breakfast and Silent Auction. Whether you are looking for a delicious weekend breakfast, a chance to connect with your neighbors, or the perfect opportunity to bid on silent auction items, this event has something for everyone. The event will be from 8–11 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 21, at St. Mark and St. Paul Parish, 216 University Ave. Admission: $10 for adults; $8 for students.

What's on the menu? Delicious, fluffy pancakes topped with pure maple syrup and Kerrygold butter with a side of sausage. Blueberry and gluten-free options will be available. Of course, there will be plenty of coffee, tea and juice.

Entertainment provided by the Monteagle Elementary School Top of the Rock Choir.

While you eat, browse the silent auction table, packed with items, experiences and services generously donated by over 40 vendors in our community. Silent auction winners will be announced at 10:45 a.m. Bring your checkbook, cash or Venmo. Credit cards are not accepted.

Proceeds from the ticket sales and silent auction support Monteagle-Sewanee Rotary Club charitable purposes. The Monteagle-Sewanee Rotary Club supports the food insecurity programs at Community Action Committee, Morton Memorial United Methodist Church and Grundy County Food Bank, Grundy County Scholarships at the University of the South and educational needs at the Monteagle and Sewanee elementary schools and other charitable causes on the Plateau and beyond.

Support Sewanee's MLK Day of Service at An Afternoon With Teddy Roosevelt

Have you wondered how you can support one of Sewanee's newest and greatest traditions, MLK Day of Service? Then now is your chance. This weekend, plan on joining us for an Afternoon with Teddy Roosevelt to support Sewanee's MLK Day of Service. Join Teddy Roosevelt (performed by Sewanee alumnus Joe Wiegand) at 3 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 8, in Naylor Auditorium in Gailor Hall on Sewanee's campus, and learn more about his life and legacy. This event is free and open to everyone (children of all ages). We promise you will learn something and be thoroughly entertained. All proceeds collected from donations at the event will go to support our upcoming MLK Day of Service, where we partner with Sleep in Heavenly Peace and build beds and make blankets for children in our local community. This year will mark Sewanee's fifth annual MLK Day of Service where the entire community comes together to celebrate Dr. King's legacy while making a difference. So far, our community has built close to 500 beds for local children and made over 300 blankets for the kids. Please join us to support this important Sewanee tradition.

If you have any questions about this event or MLK Day of Service, please feel free to reach out to Lauren Goodpaster at <lagoodpa@sewanee.edu>. We do hope to see you all there.

Wizard School: The Sewanee Chemistry Club 2026 Demonstration

The Sewanee Chemistry Club Presents: Wizard School an evening of science mystery and magic for all ages produced with students from the FYE Truth and Memory cluster. The event will be at 6 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 12, in Blackman Auditorium.



COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE

Thanksgiving Food Boxes

CAC plans to provide Thanksgiving Food Boxes to over 100 families this season, and we need your help to make it happen!

Use the shopping list below to purchase the 14 needed items to assemble food boxes. For your convenience, preassembled food bags are also available for purchase at the Piggly Wiggly - Monteagle.

Financial contributions are greatly appreciated to support additional Thanksgiving purchases.

SHOPPING LIST

Stuffing Mix (1 box)	Instant Mashed Potatoes (1 box)
Green Beans (2 cans)	Gravy (1 jar)
Yams (2 cans)	Cranberry Sauce (1 can)
Cream Style Corn (2 cans)	Pie Filling (1 can)
Fruit Cocktail (2 cans)	Hot Chocolate Mix - packets (1 box)

PLEASE DELIVER FOOD ITEMS TO CAC BY NOVEMBER 15TH

216 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, SEWANEE, TN 37375

CONTACT SARAH AT CAC@STMARKSTPAUL.ORG OR (931) 598-5927 WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

If you are in need of a Thanksgiving food box, please call the number above.

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Voice Recital: Ellanna Swope's Liberal Arts

This junior voice recital is an exploration of the liberal arts through music, featuring a diverse array of composers from Judith Cloud and John Corigliano to Sir Arthur Sullivan and Stephen Sondheim. Join Ellanna Swope, C'28, for an afternoon of music, laughter, and togetherness, at 3 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 8, in St. Luke's Chapel. With Vicki Collinsworth, piano, and Erik Gustafson, tenor.

Voice Recital: Louise Block, C'28

A bouquet of song from a variety of styles and eras, featuring works by Lambert, Vivaldi, Bach, Handel, Strauss, and Somervell. With Vicki Collinsworth, piano, and Rebecca Van de Ven, oboe. The recital is at 6 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 8, in St. Luke's Chapel.

Cumberland Community Dance

Please join Cumberland Community Dance from 6–8 p.m., Friday, Nov. 6, at the old Gymnasium at the Littell-Partin Center in Tracy City.

There will be live music and a caller that will lead the dances.

There is also a Treat Trot, so please contact <cumberlandcommunitydance@gmail.com> if you would like to provide a cake or baked good. All are welcome to participate in a chance to take home a treat. Tickets will be available to purchase at the dance and the proceeds help us pay for this event and future ones.

Fall Vocal Showcase

The Sewanee Voice Studios present our Fall Vocal Showcase, at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 19, in Guerry Auditorium. From musical theatre to pop, soul, jazz, and art song, there is something for everyone in this popular semi-annual concert! With Vicki Collinsworth, piano. Free admission.

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Cowan Christmas Market

The annual Cowan Christmas Market will be held Friday, Dec. 4, from 3–9 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 5, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Monterey Station in Cowan. It is a great time to get some early Christmas shopping done!

Friday, Dec. 4, is filled with kids activities, food vendors, demonstrations, performances, shopping with a variety of vendors and door prizes. Country Music Artist Hannah Dasher will be on hand to participate in a Sugar Cookie Holiday Decorating demonstration, sign copies of her cookbook "Stand by Your Pan" and perform a few songs. Don't forget Santa's arrival at 5:30 p.m.!

On Saturday, Dec. 5, stop in before and after the parade to continue your shopping, win some great door prizes and make sure to bring the kids by to visit with Santa at his workshop!

The "A Holly Dolly Christmas" Parade is at 1 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 5, followed by the Grand Marshal reception at Monterey Station.

Free admission but donations of a new unwrapped toy will be accepted to assist the Cowan Police Department with their eighth annual Christmas Toy Drive. Donations can be dropped off at their Christmas Market booth during the event.

Vendor Applications can be submitted online through <https://form.jotform.com/262685037043053> or mailed to P.O. Box 454, Cowan, TN 37318.

43rd Annual Holiday Open House at Taylor's Mercantile

A time-honored tradition returns Nov. 6–8 with the 43rd annual Holiday Open House at Taylor's Mercantile in downtown Sewanee. Ken and Lynn Taylor have gone all out this year, offering carefully curated holiday gifts, elegant tabletops, and festive decorations for every taste.

The open house transforms the store into a Christmas wonderland, making it a must-visit destination between Nashville and Atlanta, as visitors come to find unique gifts, decorating items, and inspiration for their own homes.

This year's selection includes traditional Sewanee elegance of woodlands and gold, with classic nutcrackers and Santas, modern woodland décor, and angels. Angels, a beloved part of Sewanee's traditions, are featured in the advertisement artwork by the late Dick Posan, who also designed the store's logo and sign.

Taylor's Mercantile, located at 10 University Ave., is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Holiday Open House hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., on Friday, Nov. 6 and Saturday, Nov. 7, and noon to 5 p.m., on Sunday, Nov. 8. Don't miss out on the merriest event of the year. Gather your friends and family, and join the Taylors for a celebration filled with holiday magic.

Save the Dates for Lessons and Carols

We look forward to welcoming the extended Sewanee family and friends to the Festival of Lessons and Carols at All Saints' Chapel in 2026. The first service on Saturday, Dec. 5, at 4 p.m., features reserved seating. Tickets will be made available to students and employees of the University during the first week of November. The other two services on Saturday, Dec. 5, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 6, at 4 p.m., feature walk-up seating. Doors will open an hour in advance of the service, and overflow seating will be provided as needed. Doors close 15 minutes before each service, so please arrive early. Please note that large bags or backpacks will not be allowed in All Saints' Chapel.

We hope you'll also plan to participate in the greening of All Saints' Chapel on Friday, Dec. 4, beginning at 9 a.m. Come and go as you are able and help the Chapel be transformed.

For more information, go to < https://new.sewanee.edu/campus-life/believing/all-saints-chapel/festival-service-of-lessons-and-carols/>.

Christmas Tree Trail 2026

The third annual Monteagle Christmas Tree Trail will again begin our Holiday Season on Saturday, Nov. 28. Start thinking about how you want to decorate your tree.

Calling all businesses/organizations/churches/individuals to participate by completing the registration form, found online at <https://townofmonteagle-tn.gov/christmas-in-monteagle/> or by picking up a form from Monteagle Town Hall. Be creative, you might win $100!

Trees with decorations, outdoor LED lights and an extension cord should be brought to the Greenway in front of Harton Park on Tuesday, Nov. 24, between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Monteagle employees will erect and secure the trees. Each tree will have a printed sign with the name of who decorated the tree.

The Christmas Tree Lighting celebration will be at 5:30 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 28 — a great way to close out Thanksgiving weekend.

Contact Melissa at Monteagle Town Hall with questions: (931) 924-2265.

'The Thanksgiving Play'

Perspectives in Performance Presents "The Thanksgiving Play" by Larissa FastHorse (Sicangu Lakota) and directed by Sierra Rosetta (Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe).

"The Thanksgiving Play" is a sharp satirical comedy by MacArthur Genius Fellow Larissa FastHorse. When school teacher Logan is tasked with creating a "culturally sensitive" Thanksgiving pageant, she assembles a team of well-meaning collaborators: her yoga-enthusiast boyfriend Jaxton, fellow teacher and aspiring playwright Caden, and Alicia, an actress newly arrived from Los Angeles. As the group struggles to create the "perfect" production without offending anyone, their efforts spiral into increasingly hilarious (and painfully recognizable) disaster. Through biting humor, FastHorse exposes the contradictions of performative ally-ship, liberal guilt, and the ways American institutions continue to misunderstand and erase Native voices.

Performances will be at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 6–7, in the Studio Theatre, Tennessee Williams Center. The show runs approximately 90 minutes with no intermission. Immediately following each performance, there will be a panel discussion with director Sierra Rosetta and members of Sewanee's Indigenous Engagement Initiative.

This production is supported by the Department of Theatre and Dance, the Indigenous Engagement Initiative, the Performing Arts Series, the Truth, Community Healing, and Transformation Faculty Fellows, the Walter E. Dakin Memorial Fund, and the University Lectures Committee.

"The Thanksgiving Play" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. <www.concordtheatricals.com>.

Tickets are required <https://www.showpass.com/the-thanksgiving-play/>. This is a "Pay What You Can" event. You will see suggested options in the checkout area as well as a custom box where you can put your own price.

Christmas in Monteagle – Parade, Bazaar & Santa

Join us for a festive day of holiday cheer in Monteagle on Saturday, Dec. 5! The Christmas Parade begins at 10 a.m., followed by photos with Santa, hot chocolate, and cookies at Harton Park. Don't forget to visit the Monteagle Christmas Bazaar at Town Hall from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bring the family and celebrate the magic of Christmas in Monteagle.















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4 BR, 3/1 BA, 2610 SF, $1,675,000



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2126 Westlake Dr Clifftops, 5.21 Acres
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2241 Sarvisberry Pl Clifftops - 5.29 Acres
3 BR, 2/1 BA, 3062 SF, $1,00,000

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Pollywood Ln	$2,820,000	Myers Point	$1,375,000	Lakeshore Drive	$550,000
Stage Coach Rd	$2,240,000	Cooleys Rift Blvd	$1,225,000	Winterberry (Lot)	$550,000
Clifftops Dr	$2,195,000	Yoder Rd	$1,100,000	Morgans Steep	$475,000
Clifftops Dr	$1,975,000	Oklahoma	$1,100,000	Myers Point (Lot)	$435,000
Laurel Lake Drive	$1,975,000	Lakeshore Dr	$1,075,000	Destineys Way	$430,000
Clifftops Dr	$1,900,000	Lake Louisa (Cooleys)	$975,000	West Lake (Lot)	$425,000
Water View (Cooleys)	$1,700,000	Clifftops (Lot)	$850,000	1st Street	$275,000
Lake Louisa (Cooleys)	$1,683,500	Longview Ln	$783,000	Mountain Laurel	$205,000
Trussel Creek (Cooleys)	$1,625,500	Tulip Tree	$665,000		



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Collins and Myers Tabbed All-Conference, Tigers Place Fifth at SAA Championships

Jack Collins finished third with a time of 25:53.6, while Christian Myers crossed the finish line in seventh place at 26:28.7, as the Sewanee Tigers completed the 2026 SAA Cross Country Championships in fifth place on Oct. 31, on the campus of the University of the South.

Collins was named SAA First Team All-Conference (runners in first through fifth place), while Myers' seventh-place finish earned him Second Team All-Conference.

Trinity won the championship with 40 points, with Centre the runners-up at 65.

Austin Colvin tallied a 30th-place finish for the Tigers, completing the 8K in 27:48.3.

Price Lineweaver was timed at 28:13.3 for 37th. Declan Oberlies ran the meet in 28:24.4 for 42nd.

Jonah Norris clocked in at 30:20.3 (81st), and Adam Thomas was 88th with a time of 30:57.1. Jack Conger finished 90th (31:13.0), and Matt Walker placed 91st (31:26.1).

Gordon Love ran the event in 32:34.2 for 95th. Henry Zanone finished 101st with a time of 34:02.7. Noah Smith placed 102nd (34:39.8), with Luke Morrison finishing 104th (38:01.5).

The 2026 NCAA South Region Championships will be hosted in Earlysville, Va., on Saturday, Nov. 14.

Graham Posts All-Conference Finish, Tigers Place Seventh at SAA Championships

Eleanor Graham earned all-conference honors with a seventh-place finish, and the Sewanee Tigers finished seventh overall on Oct. 31, at the 2026 SAA Cross Country Championships on the campus of the University of the South.

Graham was named SAA Second Team All-Conference (runners who placed sixth through 10th) after completing the 6K in 23:25.7. It's the highest individual finish in the SAA championship for the Tigers since Emma Grace Hendrickson placed ninth in Hoover, Alabama in 2022.

The Trinity Tigers won the championship, scoring 19 points, while Rhodes College finished in second with 66.

Sewanee's Lilly Crigger finished the event in 26:22.9, placing 54th, while Mackenzie Smith tallied a time of 26:46.0 for 57th place.

Kate Ashby placed 65th with 27:11.7 on the timer. Page Wells crossed the finish line in 27:14.6 for 67th. Katie Biagini placed 73rd (27:58.7), and Abigail Armstrong ended the meet in 74th (28:00.8).

Olympia Cathey was timed at 29:38.0 for 80th. Mary Helen Munger ran the event in 30:16.9 for 86th, and Josie Blanton finished 89th (33:26.0).

The 2026 NCAA regionals will be hosted in Earlysville, Va., on Saturday, Nov. 14.

Field Hockey Falls to the Lynx on the Road

Kelly Firesinger recorded a defensive save for Sewanee, but the field hockey team fell to Rhodes in Collegiate Field Hockey Action on Oct. 31, in Memphis, Tenn.

Rhodes scored in the first 12 minutes, taking an early lead. The Lynx added an insurance goal in the 31st minute, securing the win.

Faith Erickson, Keagan Southall, and Shepard Ramsey each recorded a shot on goal.

Sewanee earned eight penalty corners to five from Rhodes. Each team recorded three shots on goal, as Rhodes outshot Sewanee 9-8.

Caroline Naifeh recorded two saves in goal for the Lynx and Taylor Slutzky recorded a defensive save for Rhodes.

Football Falls to Trinity on the Road

Sewanee scored 17 points in the first quarter, but Trinity pulled away in the second half to hand the Tigers a 76-17 loss on Oct. 31, at Trinity Stadium.

The Tigers opened the game with a five-play, 75-yard drive, capped by a two-yard touchdown run from Barton Mixon. Mixon broke free for a 61-yard rush earlier in the drive to help put Sewanee on the scoreboard first.

After Trinity answered with a 68-yard touchdown pass, the Tigers regained the lead on their next possession when Cam Beasley broke loose for a 48-yard touchdown run. Sewanee added to its advantage with a 38-yard field goal from Levi Dorsey, taking a 17-14 lead midway through the opening quarter.

Trinity responded with 34 unanswered points to close out the first half, taking a 48-17 lead into the break. The Tigers were unable to slow the home team's offense in the second half, as Trinity added four more touchdowns to secure the victory.

Sewanee finished with 397 yards of total offense, including 252 yards on the ground. Mixon led the Tigers with 131 rushing yards and a touchdown on 17 carries. He also added a 28-yard reception to finish with 159 all-purpose yards. Beasley contributed 58 rushing yards and a touchdown, while Maddox Franklin added 43 yards on the ground.

Franklin completed 13-of-28 passes for 145 yards through the air. Na'Shawn Holman led the receiving corps with five catches for 56 yards, while Cooper Alford added three receptions for 29 yards.

Defensively, Dallas Grooms recorded a team-high 10 tackles, while Kai Perry finished with eight stops and Brody Sanderson added seven. Camden Hill also recorded an interception, and Grooms blocked an extra-point attempt in the second quarter.

Trinity finished with 646 yards of total offense and 11 touchdowns.

Sewanee returns home to face Rhodes in the Orgill Cup on Nov. 7, at 1 p.m. at Harris Stadium.

Gibson Posts top-10 Finish, Tigers wrap up Chick-fil-A Invitational in Fourth Place

Anna Claire Gibson tied for ninth after two rounds, as the Sewanee Tigers' B team wrapped up the Chick-fil-A Invitational in fourth place at the 12-team event on Nov. 1, in Rome, Ga.

Oglethorpe won the invite with 636 strokes at 52 over par.

The Tigers shot 61 over in total at Stonebridge Golf Club, with a 35-over performance on Monday. The par for all 18 holes was 73.

Gibson carded a seven-over-80. On the front nine, she shot par on all but the fourth and sixth, tallying two bogeys to end the front nine at two over. On the back nine, the sophomore parred five times while collecting three bogeys (12th, 13th, 18th) and a double-bogey on the 16th. Gibson finished at 13-over-160 for the tournament.

Rachel Waters also tallied a seven-over-80 on Monday afternoon to put her total at 14 over, tying for 11th place. On the front nine, Waters had four pars and four bogeys, as well as a birdie on the third, making the turn at three over. The sophomore parred four of the first five with a bogey on the 12th, and she bogeyed three of the last four while parring the 17th.

Lila Weaver shot 10-over-83 to put her total at 16 over for the tournament, placing her in a tie for 14th. She began the front nine with bogeys on the first and fourth, a triple-bogey on the second, and a birdie on the third. The sophomore parred the fifth before finishing with a double bogey, a par, a bogey, and a birdie. Weaver began the 10th with a triple bogey and a bogey but parred the 12th and 13th. She bogeyed the next two but recovered with birdies on the 16th and 17th and a par to end the round.

Anna Louise Chesnut finished at 11-over-84 on Monday, ending the tournament at 18 over and a tie for 20th. After a birdie on the first, Chesnut parred the second, double-bogeyed the third, and then bogeyed five of the next six. The sophomore began the back nine with a triple bogey and a par before bogeying three of the next four. Chesnut ended the day with two pars and a birdie on the 17th.

Emilee Ferguson finished 16 over on Monday with a total of 29 over for the tournament, tying for 45th. The freshman bogeyed the first two holes before parring the next two. She wrapped up the front nine with double bogeys on five, seven, and nine, a bogey on the sixth, and a par on the eighth. On the back nine, Ferguson parred the 15th and 17th and bogeyed the others.

The Tigers have wrapped up the fall slate and will resume play when the spring season begins.

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McGowan's Goal Lifts Sewanee Past Oglethorpe

Thomas McGowan scored the game-winning goal in the 34th minute, as Sewanee closed out the regular season with a 1-0 victory over Oglethorpe in men's soccer action on Nov. 1.

After a scoreless opening 33 minutes, the Tigers broke through in the 34th minute. Luke Manley's corner found the head of McGowan, who put the ball in the back of the net to give Sewanee a 1-0 advantage.

Sewanee carried the one-goal lead into halftime and continued to hold off the Stormy Petrels throughout the second half. The Tigers limited Oglethorpe to just two shots after the break to preserve the shutout and secure the victory.

The Tigers finished with a 10-7 advantage in shots and a 6-4 edge in corner kicks. McGowan recorded the lone goal, while Manley collected the assist.

Reid Gunzenhauser played all 90 minutes in goal, helping Sewanee secure its shutout victory.

With the win, Sewanee closes the regular season with a 12-5-2 overall record and clinches a spot in the SAA Men's Soccer Championships.

Sewanee Community Cheers on the Elementary Basketball Team

What an exciting night for our girls basketball team to play surrounded by community. They faced off against Huntland in a hard battle, but the support of the community made it more meaningful than just a score. It was about school spirit and community pride.

From the tipoff, the energy at The Fowler Center was amazing. The gym was filled with classmates, parents, community partners, former students, and university athletes all cheering for our SES girls. These players knew the community was there to cheer for them.

Even though the girls fell behind early in the game, they never gave up. They continued to work together and support each other until the final buzzer. Bella Barnes led the team in scoring with 9 points, followed by Etta Freitag with 4 points, and Emma Mason scoring 2 points during the halftime game.

The girls left the game with the feeling of pride and being part of so much more than a game. We are so grateful to everyone that came and filled that gym with energy and tiger pride. This is what makes this community so special.

On Friday, the girls basketball team brought teamwork and determination to the court in a win against Decherd Elementary. The Tigers jumped to an early lead in the first period with Nora Jackson scoring 6 points, Bella Barnes scoring 4, and Etta Freitag scoring 2. Mia Casey and Harlow Hall assisted with hustle by saving balls from going out of bounds and coming up with steals.

This momentum continued into the second period as the Tigers extended their lead to 16-7 with Bella and Nora each adding two points to the scoreboard. Mia had an assist, while Ryleigh Summers played hard defensively to help Sewanee have possession of the ball.

During halftime, Emma Mason, Lella Godfrey, Ryleigh Summers, Savannah Walker, and Hope Cathell stepped on the court and continued the momentum of the game. The players worked together, and Ryleigh scored two points.

The team continued to lead in the second half with Bella, Etta, and Nora each adding four points and Harlow Hall adding two points. Stone came in with a strong presence and helped keep the effort going on the court.

The girls finished strong at the final buzzer with a score of 30-17. Every player contributed to the win with rebounds, blocks, steals, assists, and shots. These girls are learning how to work as a team to grow on and off the court.

SES Boys Beat Decherd, Fall to North Lake

The Sewanee Elementary Boys earned a hard-fought victory on Oct. 30, against Decherd. The lid was on the basket early for the Tigers, allowing the All Stars to jump out to an early 4-0 advantage. After trading buckets, Sewanee found its rhythm offensively and went on an extended run to take the lead heading into halftime. The second half belonged to the Tigers, who built a 13-point advantage before a late Decherd rally brought the final score to 24–16.

Ren Elrod scored a game-high 13 points, including the highlight of the night, a buzzer-beating jump shot from the left wing as time expired in the third quarter. John Austin tallied 7 points, while Malcolm Tate added 4 to go along with a stellar night on the offensive and defensive glass. Miles Bruscato and Bryson Barnes anchored the defense, while Eli Young, Charlie Wells, and Noah Rowe provided key minutes off the bench. Calvin Watson and Cooper Green also saw action to help close out the win.

On Monday night, the Tigers dropped their second game of the season to North Lake by a score of 32–18. The Leopards capitalized on outside shooting to build an early advantage and weathered multiple Sewanee comeback attempts to earn the win.

Six Tigers found the scoresheet, with John Austin leading the way with 6 points. Malcolm Tate scored 4, Ren Elrod added a triple, and Miles Bruscato dropped in a basket. Eli Young and Bryson Barnes each scored their first career points for SES. Young sank a mid-range jumper, while Barnes converted a free throw.

Sewanee Elementary returns to the court on Nov. 12, for a 7:30 p.m. tilt against Cowan at Franklin County High School.

Women's Soccer Closes Regular Season with 2-1 Victory Over Oglethorpe

Pope Scurlock scored the game-winning goal in the 81st minute, as Sewanee closed out the regular season with a 2-1 victory over Oglethorpe in Southern Athletic Association (SAA) women's soccer action on Nov. 1.

Greer Brantley put the Tigers on the scoreboard early, finding the back of the net in the eighth minute off an assist from Eden Maxwell to give Sewanee a 1-0 advantage.

Oglethorpe answered in the 19th minute, as Mikayla Stuart evened the score at 1-1 off an assist from Evan Thomas.

The teams remained deadlocked through the first 35 minutes of the second half before Scurlock broke the tie in the 81st minute, scoring an unassisted goal to put the Tigers ahead, 2-1. Sewanee held on over the final nine minutes to secure the victory.

Sewanee finished with an 18-7 advantage in shots, including an 8-3 edge in shots on goal. Lauren Hill led the Tigers with five shots, while Amelia Comeaux added four. Brantley and Scurlock each recorded a goal.

Ashley Vinck played all 90 minutes in goal, making two saves.

With the victory, Sewanee closes the regular season with a 10-4-3 overall record and a 5-2-1 mark in SAA play. The Tigers will enter the SAA Tournament as the No. 3 seed.

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Kearns Qualifies for NCAA Regionals

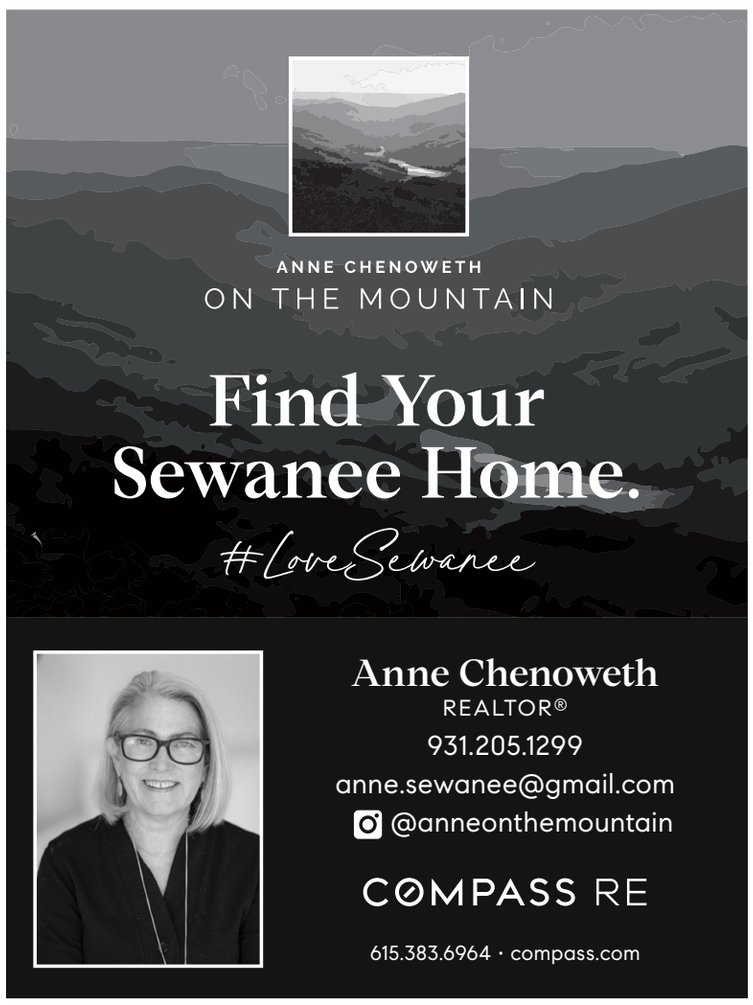
Sophomore Jonah Kearns picked up his second qualifying score in the 3-meter dive (six dives), earning him a spot at the NCAA regionals in 2027, as the Sewanee Tigers defeated the SAA's Southwestern Pirates 120-83, on Oct. 30.

During an afternoon diving session, Kearns scored 315.30 points, well past the qualifying line of 285. Entering his final dive, Kearns executed a back 1 1/2 somersaults with 1 1/2 twists in the free position, scoring a 50.40, to cross the threshold.

It was his second qualifier in as many meets, as he had tallied 296.18 at Emory two weekends prior. Since he has reached the mark twice, Kearns will compete at regionals in Danville, Ky., from Feb. 26-27, with a chance to go to the national championships for the second time in his career.

HOME GAMES

6 p.m., Nov. 6, Women's Volleyball vs. Covenant College
1 p.m., Nov. 7, Football vs. Rhodes
5 p.m., Nov. 13, Men's Basketball, Lon Varnell Classic
5:30 p.m., Nov. 13, SAS Varsity Girls' Basketball vs. Oakwood Christian Academy
6:30 p.m., Nov. 13, SAS Varsity Boys' Basketball vs. Oakwood Christian Academy
7 p.m., Men's Basketball vs. Piedmont University
2 p.m., Nov. 15, SAS Swimming vs. Rockvale High School, Coffee County Central High School, Fayetteville High School





NATURENOTES

by Yolande Gottfried



Campus nuts.

Nuts on Campus 2026

This is a reprint of a Note from 2014. This special Homecoming edition of Nature Notes features nuts on campus — walnuts, that is, and hickory nuts and acorns.

Between the Chapel and McClurg there are two black walnut trees that have covered the ground with an amazing number of green balls — their fruit, containing the ridged black nut visible when the outer covering is smashed. I watched a squirrel take a good 15 to 20 minutes to gnaw its way through that nut — it must have been worth it! Sometimes the globe-shaped fruit is still hanging in the leafless trees.

Next to the Chapel is a post oak. (Sadly, this particular tree is no longer there.) Some say they are planted near churches because of their somewhat cruciform leaves. The acorns on the ground below are not numerous and are quite small, perhaps smaller than normal. In any case, they are usually somewhat smaller than those of the white oak, of which there are many in that same area between McClurg and the Chapel. White oaks and post oaks are closely related to chestnut oaks. A trip out to one of the views will lead you to their acorns, much larger still and often colorful with red, yellow, green, and brown when fresh, almost like little Easter eggs. All of these usually separate from their caps when they fall.

Further along University Avenue, in Elliott Park, are some good specimens of hickories. On the far side of the area, next to a retaining wall below the Phi Gamma Delta house, is a good-sized sand or pale hickory. Its fruits are easily recognized by the yellowish scales on the husk, which split to the base, revealing the thin-shelled, pale nut. Nearer the Japanese garden is hickory with similar fruits, but they are smooth and green. This is the mockernut, so-called because of the small nut within the thick husk.

State Park Offerings

To confirm that these events will occur as listed and to register, go to <https://tspg.itinio.com/register/> and select the park. All times are central.

Fiery Gizzard State Park

Intro to Rock Climbing, Sunday, Nov. 8, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Have you ever wanted to try rock climbing? Join park staff for an introduction to the exciting sport of outdoor climbing at Foster Falls. Participants will learn basic climbing equipment, safety procedures, climbing commands, knot tying, and beginner climbing techniques. After a safety briefing and gear orientation, everyone will have the opportunity to climb beginner-friendly routes under ranger supervision.

This program is designed for first-time climbers and beginners with little or no experience. All climbing gear will be provided. Climbing shoes are limited but we have sizes ranging from 5-11. Helmets and harnesses are provided as needed. Participants should wear comfortable clothing suitable for outdoor activity and bring water and a snack for the program. Climbing activities are weather dependent and may be canceled in the event of rain, lightning, or unsafe climbing conditions. We will meet at the pavilion at Foster Falls trailhead parking lot.

Savage Gulf State Park

7-Mile Loop Hike, Thursday, Nov. 19, 8:30 a.m.– 12:30 p.m. Join Ranger Jamie on a 7-mile loop-hike to experience some of the beautiful overlooks in Savage Gulf. We will meet for this hike at the Savage Gulf North Trailhead by the Stone Door Ranger Station at 8:30 a.m. to begin the hike. We will begin on the 2.9 mile Laurel Trail then take the 3.2 mile Big Creek Rim trail on the way back to the great Stone Door. We will spend a short amount of time at Stone Door before heading back to the ranger station. We will take the 0.9 mile Stone Door Trail back to the Stone Door Ranger Station/Savage Gulf North Trailhead to complete the loop hike. These trails are considered moderate; however, given the distance and terrain- please be prepared for a challenging hike.

Please make sure you have sturdy hiking shoes, plenty of water and snacks, and are completely capable of completing the entire 7-mile loop. We will take frequent, short breaks as needed but will also be walking for extended periods of time during the hike.

We will hike through the ecologically diverse forestland and observe beautiful overlooks during the hike. We will chat about the park and what we see along the way. Accessory items to help you enjoy the hike such as cameras and binoculars are encouraged but not required.



Huckleberry



Whitey

MARC's Mountain Adoptables: Huckleberry & Whitey

Hi, my name is Huckleberry. I am probably a Hound/Heeler mix and I weigh about 45 pounds. I have a sleek white coat with small muted black spots and black ears. I am told that I am quite handsome plus very lovable. I am friendly, playful, and wonderfully easygoing. I get along with people and all kinds of animals. My foster family has several ferrets and I like to cuddle with them. I really enjoy being part of a family and having fun. My sweet, gentle nature and puppy personality make me the perfect family companion. Please come meet me and maybe even take me home for a visit or just for a day outing. Maybe we will fall in love.

Hi there! I'm Whitey, a handsome young guy with a mostly white coat and a few handsome liver-brown markings. I'm about a year old and weigh around 50 pounds. I can be a little shy when we first meet, but give me a little time and I'll warm right up. Once I know you, I'm all about the human attention and affection. I love hanging out with other dogs, so having a canine sibling might be right up my alley. I also enjoy playing, having fun, and making the most of every day. I seem to have my house manners down, too. Why not come take me for an outing? We can get to know each other, share some fun, and maybe discover that we're meant to be best friends. I'm ready for my next adventure, and I hope it's with you.

If you would like to learn more about Huckleberry or Whitey, please fill out an Adoption Application found on the MARC website <www.marc4change.org> and/or contact Sue Scruggs, cell phone (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.

Sewanee Herbarium Fall Event

Homecoming Greenhouse Open Hours, Friday-Saturday, Nov. 6-7, 3-5 p.m., Jonathan Ertelt. The Webb Greenhouse will have open hours for visitors and alumni to come and see the increasingly diverse collection. Jonathan Ertelt, C'78, will be on hand to point out special plants and answer questions.

All are Central Time. Wear appropriate shoes on these walks. Risks involved in hiking include physical exertion, rough terrain, forces of nature, and other hazards not present in everyday life. Picking flowers and digging plants are prohibited in the above-mentioned natural areas.

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WEATHER

DAY	DATE	HI	LO
Mon	Oct 26	73	46
Tue	Oct 27	69	46
Wed	Oct 28	72	51
Thu	Oct 29	74	50
Fri	Oct 30	76	50
Sat	Oct 31	82	48
Sun	Nov 01	69	48

Week's Stats:

Avg max temp =	74
Avg min temp =	48
Avg temp =	61
Precipitation =	0.52"

Reported by Sandy Gilliam
Domain Ranger

Messenger Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

HOSPITALITY SHOP SEEKS NEW MANAGER: The Sewanee Hospitality Shop Auxiliary seeks a new manager to lead the organization. Duties include scheduling and supervising volunteers; managing the flow of donated goods; and working with the board. Successful candidates will have proven organization skills and volunteer management experience; excellent communication skills; and ideally, have an interest in thrifting and experience in retail sales. Position is 25–30 hours/week, beginning this Fall. Full details available by applying via email to <hospitalityshopsewanee@gmail.com>. The Hospitality Shop seeks to promote the well-being of the greater Sewanee community by providing affordable access to quality goods while raising money to support scholarships for people studying for careers in healthcare. It is open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., on most Tuesdays and Thursdays; and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., most Saturdays, at 574 Georgia Ave., Sewanee.

FOR LEASE

FURNISHED ONE BEDROOM APARTMENT: Now available with short-term lease. Utilities, Wi-Fi included. Large, private wooded lot. Pet negotiable with deposit. Short drive to campus. Text (865) 604-4164.

FOR LEASE: 3BR/2BA premium duplex in Monteagle. Call (931) 212-6535 for info.

FOR SALE

FIREWOOD FOR SALE: Available for wood stove, fireplace or fire pit. (Please designate your preference). $125/rick, delivered. (423) 681-2362 or (931) 212-2585.

FOR SALE: Travel trailer, 32 ft long. Excellent condition. Located in Sewanee. Call (931) 213-0387.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE: In Coalmont area. Can deliver. Leave voicemail (931) 800-9809.

GARAGE SALE

GARAGE SALE: Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 7 and 8. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. 247 Oliver Lane, Monteagle. Follow signs.

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PSYCHOTHERAPY SERVICES: Teens, adults and couples. Stephanie Hoylman, LCSW. <www.SewaneeTherapy.com>.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE: The Sewanee Utility District of Franklin and Marion Counties Board of Commissioners is scheduled to meet at 5 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 17, at the utility office at 150 Sherwood Road. If a customer is unable to attend but wishes to bring a matter to the board, call (931) 598-5611, visit the office, or call a board member. The board members are Amanda Bailey, Chris McBee, Donnie McBee, Charlie Smith, and Clay Yeatman.

NOTICE: There will be a BZA meeting at 8:30 a.m., Friday, Nov. 13, 2026, in the conference room at City Hall. The purpose of the meeting is to hear the appeal from Mr. William Best of the decision of the codes department.

NOTICE: There will be a special called meeting of the Monteagle City Council on Nov. 23, 2026, at 9 a.m., in the conference room at city hall. The purpose of the special meeting is to swear in the newly elected officials and to have bank signatures changed.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF ELECTION: Franklin County NAACP Branch 5616 Electronic Election Scheduled For November 17, 2026, 3–7 p.m. CT, Via Election Buddy Mandated By Our National Office. The Election will be held for the following offices: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Executive Committee At-Large. Ballots will be sent from the national NAACP office via email or text. To be eligible to vote in election you must be a member in good standing 30 days prior to election (Oct. 17, 2026). Only One vote can be cast from an email or cell phone device. If you have any questions, please feel free to email branch secretary at <FCTNBRANCHNAACP@gmail.com>.

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STOP THE KINDER-MORGAN PIPELINE!

We are landowners, residents, and concerned Tennesseans who stand opposed to the construction of Kinder Morgan's natural gas pipeline. If it moves forward, this pipeline would trample through our homes, our backyards, our schools, our parks and our treasured community spaces and provide no direct benefit back to us.

Our goals are to:
1. Protect our property rights,
2. Safeguard our local water sources
3. Ensure the safety of our communities

Sign the petition to voice your opposition to the pipeline and get involved!

bit.ly/stopkindermorganpipeline

This petition is created and managed by Statewide Organizing for Community eMpowerment www.socm.org

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FROMBARDTOVERSE

by Robin Bates

America the Beautiful

Do you remember our earnestness our sincerity
in first grade when we learned to sing America

The Beautiful along with the Star-Spangled Banner
and say the Pledge of Allegiance to America

We put our hands over our first grade hearts
we felt proud to be citizens of America

I said One Nation Invisible until corrected
maybe I was right about America

School days school days dear old Golden Rule Days
when we learned how to behave in America

What to wear, how to smoke, how to despise our parents
who didn't understand us or America

Only later learning the Banner and the Beautiful
live on opposite sides of the street in America

Only later discovering the Nation is divisible
by money by power by color by gender by sex America

We comprehend it now this land is two lands
one triumphant bully one still hopeful America

Imagining amber waves of grain blowing in the wind
purple mountains and no homeless in America

Sometimes I still put my hand tenderly on my heart
somehow or other still carried away by America

--Alicia Ostriker, Ghazal: America the Beautiful

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Bring this ad in to the store to get 10% off on purchases of $100 or more! Good through 12/31/26.
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Mon–Thu 9 a.m.–10 p.m.; Fri–Sat 9 a.m.–11 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m.–8 p.m.



Community Calendar

Friday, Nov. 6 • Homecoming Weekend
RSVP for Sewanee Senior Center Thanksgiving Lunch
9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
10 a.m. Annual Holiday Open House, Taylor's Mercantile, until 4 p.m.
noon YouFit with Betsy Miller, registration required <https://www.bodyworksyouniversity.com>
3 p.m. Homecoming Webb Greenhouse Open Hours until 5 p.m.
5:45 p.m. Kundalini Yoga, Breathwork, and Meditation w/ Nati, Sewanee Community Center
6 p.m. Cumberland Community Dance, Littell-Partin Center, until 8 p.m.
7:30 p.m. "The Thanksgiving Play," Studio Theatre, Tennessee Williams Center, tickets at <https://www.showpass.com/the-thanksgiving-play/>

Saturday, Nov. 7
10 a.m. Hospitality Shop open, until 2 p.m., come for the Bag Sale
10 a.m. Annual Holiday Open House, Taylor's Mercantile, until 4 p.m.
6 p.m. Dinner and a movie, Camp MontMilner
7:30 p.m. "The Thanksgiving Play," Studio Theatre, Tennessee Williams Center, tickets at <https://www.showpass.com/the-thanksgiving-play/>

Sunday, Nov. 8
noon Annual Holiday Open House, Taylor's Mercantile, until 5 p.m.
1 p.m. Knitting Circle, Mooney's, until 3 p.m.
1 p.m. YouFit with Betsy Miller, registration required <https://www.bodyworksyouniversity.com>
3 p.m. Voice Recital, Swope, St. Luke's Chapel
3 p.m. An Afternoon with Teddy Roosevelt, Naylor Auditorium
4 p.m. Hatha Yoga, Helen, Community Center
6 p.m. Voice Recital, Block, St. Luke's Chapel

Monday, Nov. 9
9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
9 a.m. Intermediate Pilates, Kim Butters, registration required <https://www.bodyworksyouniversity.com>
10:30 a.m. Chair Exercise, Susan, Sewanee Community Center, until 11:30 a.m.
noon YouFit with Betsy Miller, registration required <https://www.bodyworksyouniversity.com>
5:30 p.m. Intermediate Pilates, Kim Butters, registration required <https://www.bodyworksyouniversity.com>
6 p.m. Franklin County School Board meeting, 215 S. College St., Winchester
6:30 p.m. Kundalini Yoga with Pippa, Sewanee Community Center
7 p.m. Sewanee Chorale rehearsals, Lloyd Forum, until 8:30 p.m., contact Sally Hubbard <sally@hubbard.net>

Tuesday, Nov. 10
8 a.m. GC Food Bank, 114 S. Industrial Park Rd., Coalmont, until 10 a.m.
9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
10 a.m. Beginning Pilates, Kim Butters, registration required <https://www.bodyworksyouniversity.com>
10 a.m. Hospitality Shop open, until 1 p.m.
11 a.m. Social Fabric Group, Stirling's, until 1 p.m.
11:30 a.m. Grundy County Rotary, Dutch Maid Bakery, Tracy City
noon Intermediate Pilates, Kim Butters, registration required <https://www.bodyworksyouniversity.com>
4 p.m. S. Cumberland Farmers' Market pickup, Community Center, until 6 p.m.
5:30 p.m. Gentle Flow Yoga, Pippa Browne, registration required <https://www.bodyworksyouniversity.com>
6 p.m. Covered Dish Supper, American Legion Post 51, Sewanee

Wednesday, Nov. 11 • Veterans Day
Last day to order Thanksgiving meal from St. Mary's Sewanee. Auditions due for The Caverns Symphony and Sing Off
9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
9 a.m. Intermediate Pilates, Kim Butters, registration required <https://www.bodyworksyouniversity.com>
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.
5:30 p.m. Hatha Yoga, Helen, Community Center

Thursday, Nov. 12
8 a.m. Monteagle-Sewanee Rotary Club, Mountain Top Restaurant
9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
9 a.m. Nature Journaling, for details/meeting location email <mpriestley0150@gmail.com>
9:30 a.m. Body Recall, Judy, conference room, Monteagle City Hall
10 a.m. Beginning Pilates, Kim Butters, registration required <https://www.bodyworksyouniversity.com>
10 a.m. Hospitality Shop open, until 1 p.m.
noon Intermediate Pilates, Kim Butters, registration required <https://www.bodyworksyouniversity.com>
12:30 p.m. Mahjong, Susan, Senior Center, until 3 p.m.
5 p.m. Artist talk and reception, Veazey, illustrator of the new Sewanee Black History Map, Guerry Auditorium
6 p.m. Sewanee Chemistry Club Demonstration, Blackman Auditorium
7:30 p.m. DanceWise: "Human Nature," Proctor Hill Theatre, tickets <eventbrite.com>

Friday, Nov. 13
8:30 a.m. Town of Monteagle BZA meeting, conference room, City Hall
9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
noon YouFit with Betsy Miller, registration required <https://www.bodyworksyouniversity.com>
5:45 p.m. Kundalini Yoga, Breathwork, and Meditation w/ Nati, Sewanee Community Center
7:30 p.m. DanceWise: "Human Nature," Proctor Hill Theatre, tickets <eventbrite.com>

piggly wiggly
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8 a.m. to 9 p.m. 7 days a week

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
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