



— THE SEWANEE MOUNTAIN — MESSENGER

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‘Bright Star’ Opens Oct. 14

by Blythe Ford, Messenger Staff Writer

The University of the South Department of Theatre and Dance will present “Bright Star,” a bluegrass musical written by Steve Martin and Edie Brickell, starting Wednesday, Oct. 14 and continuing through a matinee on Sunday, Oct. 18. All performances will be in the Proctor Hill Theater in the Tennessee Williams Center.

The musical tells a story based on true events in a small town in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina in the 1920s and ’40s, and features an orchestra and cast that bridges the University, Motlow State, St. Andrew’s-Sewanee School, and the larger mountain community.

The musical’s artistic director is Jim Crawford, Professor of Theatrical Art at the University; the set is designed by Professor Jennifer Matthews, the lights are the work of Nashville guest artist Taylor Hulsey-Thomas, costumes are by University student Antonia Cuevas, Gracie Moore, C’27, is the student choreographer, Sawyer

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SCA: Glimpse of Lost Cove Trail Secrets

by Leslie Lytle, Messenger Staff Writer

“We don’t know exactly why it’s called Lost Cove, but our theory is because the water gets lost. We don’t know where it goes,” said Gracie Davis sharing one of the mysteries about Lost Cove with Sewanee Civic Association members and guests at the Oct. 5 dinner meeting. Recreation Coordinator for the University Office of Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability, Davis unveiled a glimpse of the 20-mile round trip Lost Cove backpacking trail currently under construction. Features of phase one include 180° views from Point Disappointment and a 100-foot cascade waterfall where, true to the cove’s name, the water emerges from a stone embankment and disappears into a cave at the fall’s base.

The waterfall and Rattle Snake Springs are the only sites with year-round flowing water on the 3,000-acre Lost Cove tract purchased by the University in 2007. A peninsula of land at the southeast end of the Domain, Lost Cove borders the Head of the Crow State Park. Projected for completion by the spring when it will be officially christened the Doug Cameron Memorial Trail, phase one starts at Point Disappointment, just off the Potters Ridge Trail, accessed from Bob Stewman Road, and travels cross-country five miles to the Natural Bridge. Phase two, scheduled to be under construction by next summer, travels from the Natural Bridge to a gate on Sherwood Road. Phase three will complete the trek ending at Buggy

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Monteagle: Resident Challenges Resolution Green-Lighting Petro

by Leslie Lytle, Messenger Staff Writer

“A city council cannot use a resolution to override, waive, or grant an individual exemption from a binding ordinance,” said Monteagle resident Billy Best at the Oct. 6 Monteagle Planning Commission meeting, disputing Resolution 05-26 passed by the Monteagle Council Sept. 28. City attorney Sam Elliott prepared and recommended the council pass the resolution to enable Saffron, the new owners of the Petro truck stop property, to proceed with construction. Summarizing the background circumstances at the council meeting, Mayor Greg Maloof said, “There have been issues concerning the Exit 135 [Petro] truck stop area. It has gone to court four or five times to talk about vested rights, if the building permit had expired,

etc. This [resolution] puts all those arguments to bed. We feel this is the best solution.” Building inspector and codes officer Travis Lawyer confirmed he had issued a building permit for the Petro truck stop and construction was underway.

Best maintained “the codes officer had zero legal authority to issue a master building permit,” because Monteagle ordinance stipulates the site plan must be approved before a building permit is issued. The planning commission approved the Petro site plan conditionally in 2021, pending submission of a revised plan for final approval. “The revised site plan on the RBT [Petro] site was never submitted,” Best stressed. Addressing commission chair Richard Black, Best said, “In

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Indigenous Peoples’ Day

Indigenous Peoples’ Day this year falls on Monday, Oct. 12, and Sewanee will celebrate with a variety of events throughout the day, organized by the University’s Indigenous Engagement Initiative. Starting at 10 a.m., a Sacred Fire and Water Ceremony will be held at the Sacred Turtle Space near the end of Lake Cheston Dr., led by Indigenous Spiritual Leaders Dan Hull (Ojibwe) and Christina Ulibarri (Diné). This is an opportunity for Sewanee students, faculty, and the surrounding community to gather in unity and participate in traditional ceremonial music and prayer. The Sacred Fire will remain lit throughout the day, but this specific event will conclude around noon.

Shortly thereafter, Sewanee’s Indigenous Engagement Initiative will sponsor a labyrinth on the main campus Quad accompanied by Hull and Ulibarri’s Indigenous teachings, flute, song, and drumming, beginning around 12:30 p.m. The labyrinth is an ancient Native American tradition, primarily practiced by southwestern tribes, and holds deep spiritual meaning for many Indigenous Peoples nationwide. Participants are invited to drop in anytime from 12:30-2 p.m., and stay for as long as they wish.

Finally, at 6:30 p.m., a service will be held at the Lake Cheston sacred space to welcome the spirits of the Trail of Tears ancestors back to the Land. This will again be accompanied by a sacred fire and will give attendees the opportunity to reflect on the history of Indigenous Peoples here on the Mountain without shame, blame, or guilt. This event aims to inspire healing, truth, and reconciliation as we acknowledge our history and look towards a better tomorrow.



The kids in SES’s ESP (after-school program) taught by Britni Banta decorated this goat. Each student picked out a particular element to add to it ... which was a clever way to make sure everyone had input in the project. The Tour de Goat is rescheduled for Saturday, Oct. 10, from 1–4 p.m. Register at Hannah Pickett Park in Monteagle the day of.

Radiating Humble Brilliance: Caki Wilkinson

by Leslie Lytle, Messenger Staff Writer

It’s not uncommon for a poet’s work to be informed by his or her experience as a member of a particular ethnicity or culture or social class. But Caki Wilkinson’s poems are unique for being grounded in her experiencing the world as a woman, not though, as an oppressed feminist, ranter against misogyny, or nurturing motherhood babbler. Said Sewanee Review poetry editor Eric Smith of Wilkinson’s poetry, “She reclaims what it means to be a woman unifying the chaos of human experience in a time when we are so defined by what we are not, by division, rather than unity.” “One on One,” the title of a poem, is also an apt expression for the reader experience for those who take up Wilkinson’s work. When a woman caught up in an unsavory sexual interaction decides it’s time to just get “this over with,” the reader is relieved. Smith credits Wilkinson’s poems with being, “the purest expression of what poetry can be, a participatory art.” The gift of Wilkinson’s poems is she invites readers to feel like the epiphany is theirs. On Oct. 20 and 21, the Review and University will celebrate Wilkinson returning the gift, honoring her with the 2026 Aiken Taylor Award for Modern American Poetry.

“She’s not didactic. She’s not lording her intelligence over us,” Smith stressed. Wilkinson’s work resonates with humble brilliance, unexpected genius fomented in unlikely environs, watching soap operas or visiting an exhibit featuring knives, metal buildings, MREs and other survivalist gear. She has authored three poetry collections, “Circles Where the Head Should Be” (2011), “The Wynona Stone Poems” (2015), and “The Survival Expo” (2021). “The Wynona Stone Poems,” which won the Lexi Rudnitsky/Editor’s Choice Award, step out of the crowd for being informed by womanness. Wilkinson wrote the poems during a transitional period in her life, which she described as “There’s the way you see what being a woman is going to be like when you’re growing up and there’s a big shift when you actually enter the working world.” In “The Wynona Stone Poems,” Wilkinson adopts the persona of the fictional character Wynona Stone. “I’m protective of the specific biographical details of my life,” Wilkinson acknowledged. “There was comfort and a kind of power in being able to fictionalize things and to be able to talk about what I wanted to without the feeling of being confessional.” She had been reading the poet

Maurice Manning who often spoke in a persona, a technique frequently employed by male poets. Wynona Stone answered the call.

The Wynona poems are by turns hysterical and poignant adolescent rebellion flavored with octogenarian sagacity. In “Higher Education” stuck in “Vocational Equivocation,” eating “coldcuts in bed watching the soaps,” unable to figure out who she wants to be, “Wynona moved back home to find her rhythm,” but what she’d found instead was, “the songs she’d yet to sing always sounded more like her.” Elsewhere, Wynona reflecting on herself observes, “no matter where she is, she’s looking in on someone else’s story.” These two sides of struggling to understand who we are resonate with trademark-Wilkinson ‘we’ve all been there’ insight. Asked if she ever outgrew feeling that way, Wilkinson observed, “There’s a point where you think you’re going to have stuff figured out when you’re a grownup ... That’s not how it works. I often don’t think I know what I’m doing. You go through these phases,” she confessed.

The poem “Jock” transitions readers of Wilkinson’s work from “The Wynona Stone Poems” to “The Survival Expo.” In “Jock,” the first poem in “The Survival Expo,” Wilkinson reflects on playing on the girls’ basketball team, the coach “screaming, GET YOUR MAN!” and believing “suffrage meant collective suffering.” These are brave poems. There is no fictional persona. Wilkinson urges the reader to go with her to a county fair, and when she wins a grotesque prize making a basket in a rigged game, the reader cheers, feeling like they won, too.

The collection contains five “Oracle” poems, one in each section. In the poems, each line is an anagram, containing the same letters as the other lines. Wilkinson assigned herself the task when her writing felt “stuck.” “Part of being stuck is there are infinite possibilities,” she insisted. The anagram technique supplied boundaries. “I gave myself the most intense constraint possible.” The result: “the voice felt like it was not quite mine. That was the oracle side.” In “Sinkhole Oracle” the speaker realizes, “alone in my mud pit, into big men—I’m playing me, bound not by time but by type,” and ultimately admits, “I am too dumbly in my being pent.” And aren’t we all at times. What “big men” symbolize isn’t just a girl thing.

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P.O. Box 296
Sewanee, TN 37375

Letter

HUNGER WALK

To the Editor:

The Monteagle-Sewanee Rotary Club is happy to announce that the 2026 Hunger Walk exceeded its goal, raising more than \$105,000 from 600 supporters. The club deeply appreciates the generous support of the businesses, community members and many student organizations who participated in the 2026 Hunger Walk. Congratulations to the top Greek fundraising teams: Delta Tau Delta, Phi Kappa Epsilon, Theta Kappa Phi, Sigma Nu, and Sigma Alpha Epsilon. Thank you to the other contributing student teams: Theta Pi, Alpha Delta Theta, Phi Society, Chi Psi, Lambda Chi, Kappa Delta, Student Athletics, Kappa Omega, Phi Gamma Delta, and Kappa Alpha Order. Rotary recognizes the more than 300 students and community members who walked in support of food insecurity awareness on the South Cumberland Plateau. Special thanks go to Katie Motes and Jimmy White, IFC and ISC service chairs, for encouraging participation and fundraising efforts among the student organizations, resulting in raising over \$45,000, 45 percent of the total amount raised!!! YSR!!!

Kathy Henslee, Monteagle-Sewanee Rotary Club

Messenger Break Ahead

It is hard to imagine, but with Halloween upon us, Thanksgiving is soon and Christmas is just around the corner.

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.

University Job Opportunities

Exempt Positions: Associate Director for Public History Research and Program Development, Roberson Project on Slavery, Race, and Reconciliation at Sewanee; Athletic Trainer, Athletics; University Archives and Special Collections Instruction and Outreach Archivist, Library & Information Technology Services; Assistant Director of Alumni and Family Engagement, University Relations; Manager, University Farm, University Farm.

Non-Exempt Positions: 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



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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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418 St. Mary's Lane, P.O. Box 296, Sewanee, TN 37375
Phone (931) 598-9949 | <news@sewaneemessenger.com>

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

Mural Project at Taylor's Mercantile

The University of the South is the recipient of a \$25,000 grant for Tennessee America 250 initiatives from the Tennessee Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial. This grant will fund a vibrant new mural in the Sewanee Village, and was secured through a joint effort between the Office of Economic Development and the University Relations team. The project will feature artwork by muralist Megan Lingerfelt, who was selected by a committee of local stakeholders including community members, a student art major, a faculty member, Village business owners, members of the Sewanee Business Alliance, Sewanee Civic Association, and Do. More. Art., a public art nonprofit organization.

This initiative is also an important placemaking endeavor that is building on efforts to make the Village an even more welcoming destination and experience for those who live in and visit Sewanee. Weather permitting, Lingerfelt will paint the piece between Oct. 13 and Oct. 28 on the southern wall of Taylor's Mercantile, facing Highway 41A. The design celebrates Shakerag Hollow and its recently discovered species of wildflower, *Phacelia sewaneensis*, using a color palette of greens, browns, and purple. Be sure to visit the Village during October to watch Sewanee's new mural come to life.

SERVING WHERE CALLED

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

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Andrew Midgett
Jose D. Ramirez III
Troy (Nick) Sepulveda
Zachary Sherrill
Allison Tucker
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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@sewaneed.edu>.

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Letters to the Editor Policy

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



MESSENGER INFORMATION

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MESSENGER HOURS

Monday and Tuesday
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Wednesday
9 a.m. to noon
Thursday — Production Day
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Sewanee Community Council Election

Six elected seats have terms ending in December 2026: one seat in each of Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4, plus two at-large seats. Here is a link to the Community Council website with a district map: <<https://new.sewanee.edu/offices/university-offices/leases-and-community-relations/community-council/>>.

An elected candidate must be a registered voter in Franklin or Marion County, have a home address in the 37375 zip code, and have lived at an address within 37375 for at least two years before the election.

District candidates must live in the district they seek to represent, or on either side of a boundary street of that district.

At-large candidates may run for one of the at-large seats and represent the community as a whole.

Candidates need at least 10 signatures on a petition. For a district seat, signers must be registered voters who live in that district. For an at-large seat, signers may be registered voters from any district. Completed petitions must be received before Oct. 15, 2026.

Candidates should email a short bio and headshot to <provostoffice@sewanee.edu> care of Tabatha Whitsett.

Early Voting is Monday, Oct. 19 through Friday, Oct. 30, 2026. Voting is in-person during business hours at the Office of Leases and Community Relations, 400 University Avenue (Blue House).

Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2026. Voting is in-person at Sewanee Elementary School.

Registered voters in Franklin or Marion County with a home address in the 37375 zip code may vote in the Sewanee Community Council election. Voters may vote for candidates seeking to represent the district in which they reside, as well as at-large candidates.

Upcoming Meetings

American Legion

American Legion Post 51 is scheduled to meet at 9 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 10, at the Legion Hall in Sewanee.

Railfan Appreciation Day

On Saturday, Oct. 10, there will be a Railfan Appreciation Day at Cowan Railroad Museum, 108 S. Front St. Join us for a day of train watching, photography, fellowship, conversation, and beautiful fall scenery. Stop by anytime between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Franklin County School Board

The Franklin County School Board is scheduled to meet at 6 p.m., Monday, Oct. 12, at 215 South College St., Winchester.

Town of Monteagle

Special Meeting Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2026, at 9 a.m. Special Meeting Monday, Oct. 26, 2026, at 4 p.m. The Monteagle City Council will have a workshop meeting in the conference room at City Hall, at 4:30 p.m., Oct. 26, 2026. The regular City Council meeting will be Monday, Oct. 26, 2026, at 5 p.m.

Monteagle-Sewanee Rotary Club

The Monteagle-Sewanee Rotary Club is scheduled to meet at 8 a.m., Thursday, Oct. 15, at St. Mary's Sewanee.

EQB Club

The Sewanee EQB Club will meet on Wednesday, Oct. 14, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at St. Mary's Sewanee. A social half hour begins at 11:30 a.m., followed by a delicious lunch at noon. At about 12:25 p.m., the Lead will be given by Dr. Stephanie Barkie, whose talk is titled "Singing the Old Song: The Ethics of Community in Medieval

Carols."

Dr. Barkie holds degrees from Northwestern University (B.A. in Comparative Literary Studies) and the University of Michigan (M.A. in English, Ph.D. in English, and a Certificate in Medieval and Early Modern Studies). Her work focuses on the late medieval period. Her current book project, titled "The Ethics of Attention in Anglo-Latin England: Towards a Medieval Political Aesthetic," imagines the medieval origins of what it means to feel politically.

Members are asked to contact Dr. Stephanie Smith, Membership Coordinator, at <sbscmth@outlook.com> for a luncheon reservation (\$20/lunch). Non-members or prospective members are always welcome to come at 12:25 p.m., to hear the presentation.

Sewanee Emeriti Association

The Sewanee Emeriti Association (SEA) cordially invites the community to attend a talk and reception at 3:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 22, at the McGriff Alumni House. We are excited to host Dr. Virginia Craighill, recently retired from the English Department, for a program titled "Writing and Recovery: How Teaching a Poetry Workshop for Women at Blue Monarch Helped me Recover the Joy in Teaching." Refreshments will be served. We hope that you can join us for this inspiring talk, and fellowship. Please contact <pschneid@sewanee.edu> with any questions about the event.

Sewanee Community Council

The next meeting of the Community Council is scheduled for 7 p.m., Monday, Oct. 26. Items for the agenda should be submitted to the Provost's office by noon on Wednesday, Oct. 14.

Wedding Announcement

Miller Smith Puckette, son of Mrs. Upshur Puckette and the late Dr. Stephen Puckette, and Em Turner Chitty, daughter of the late Arthur Ben and Betty Nick Chitty of Sewanee, were married on Aug. 23, 2026, in a quiet ceremony at Morgan's Steep officiated by the Very Rev. Bruce McMillan. Their daughters, Isabelle Puckette Love and Sophie Anne Elizabeth Yates, were their attendants. The couple will reside in Paris and Sewanee.

Public Excavations at the Lone Rock Stockade

Camille Westmont will be hosting public excavations at the Lone Rock Stockade on Oct. 9, 10, and 11 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. No experience is necessary to join. We will meet at the parking lot at Grundy Lakes at the top of every hour. Participants are welcome to join for as long as they would like. Visitors should make sure they wear close-toed shoes and dress for being in the woods. For more information email <westmont@uab.edu> or call (602) 689-0147.

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, Oct. 10. 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.

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://openfood-network.net/south-cumberland-farmer-s-market/shop>>.

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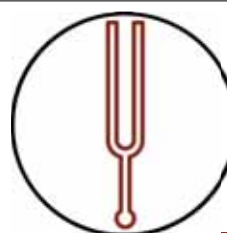


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Church News

All Saints’ Chapel

Services during the academic year: Sunday, All Saints’ Chapel, 8 a.m., Holy Eucharist, Rite 1; 11 a.m., Holy Eucharist, Rite 2; 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

On behalf of Christ Church Monteagle and the Millsaps family, I want to thank the larger community for the love and support at and after the death of Martha Lee Millsaps. The services went well and the Saturday service is on YouTube.

Martha had many gifts and especially loved teaching children to read and to paint and enjoy costumes for the many little plays and pageants she wrote or put together. She taught both children and adults to sing.

In the liturgical year we keep, this is The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity. Our Sunday services begin at 10:45 a.m. CDT. We also have a service on Wednesdays at noon.

Draw Near

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

Morton Memorial United Methodist

Morton Memorial United Methodist Church will celebrate Children’s Sabbath this week. The sermon from Rev. Melisa Derseweh will focus on this idea of Sabbath as a discipline intended for renewal and restoration.

Each week All God’s Children is a children’s sermon in the worship hour intended to spiritually feed young children, of course, but also to share the beauty of God’s ongoing story among us of all ages.

Morton has many active ministries and missions. This Saturday, from 8–10 a.m., our Food Mission team will offer substantial food baskets to approximately 250

families. To receive food, drivers should enter the food distribution line, which begins behind the church. Volunteers are also welcome, should arrive before 7:45 a.m., and are asked to park in the CVS lot next door.

To learn more, accept this invitation to worship with us. Morton is located at 322 West Main St., Monteagle. Worship begins at 11 a.m. In addition to a thought-provoking message, there is always inspirational music. If you are unable to attend and want to sample worship, the service is live streamed at Morton’s Facebook page and is available on YouTube in the week following the service.

St. Agnes’ Episcopal

On Oct. 11, St. Agnes’ Episcopal Church in Cowan will host a lesson and discussion on the Historic Episcopate during the 10 a.m. Sunday hour. This we are offering in preparation for the upcoming election of the 12th Bishop of Tennessee. The class will take place in the parish hall. Coffee, tea and pastries will be served. St. Agnes’ is located at 105 E. England St., in Cowan.

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.

Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples’ Day is Monday, Oct. 12 and church offices will be closed in observance of the holiday.

Sunday Forum: On Oct. 11 Robin Collins, Ph.D., is Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at Messiah University, will address the Sunday Forum at St. Mark and St. Paul via Zoom on “The Greatest Story Ever Told: How Theism Predicts Christianity.”

Collins believes that the story of Jesus was inevitable given a divinity that is omniscient, omnipotent, and perfectly good. If God’s greatest gift is giving God’s self to the world, then divine incarnation in a human being, a painful and humiliating death, and a resurrection are the most effective means God could use to convey this gift. Making Jesus’s story particularly powerful, Collins says, is how it follows the

contours of the universal journey of the hero story.

Collins also has a background in physics and is a leading proponent of the “fine tuning” argument, which contends that the laws and constants of physics are clues that point toward purpose in the universe. He is the recipient of a major award from the Templeton Foundation, which supports scholars who explore the intersection of science and religion.

Next week: Rob Lamborn will talk about “St. Paul in Greece.”

October Book Study: “Frankenstein,” by Mary Shelley. On Tuesdays, from 5:30–6:30 p.m., Oct. 13–27, in Brooks Hall. Please bring a drink or snack to share.

Church Calendar

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



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Bright Star (continued from page 1)

Herring is the stage manager, and the music director is Ellanna Swope, C'27. The cast is composed of twenty-five enthusiastic student actors, singers, and dancers.

"Bright Star" is a story that will feel familiar in many ways. In the present of the musical, set in the 1940s, Alice Murphy, editor of a literary magazine, meets a young writer who has just returned to his hometown following armed service in World War II; meeting an audacious young man with ambitions of being a published author reminds her of her own youth in the 1920s and she begins to recount the love and loss she experienced at that time. In the words of music director Ellanna Swope, "It's a snapshot of life in the Mountains split between the 1920s and 1940s — a story in which home is explored and defined in profound ways."

The characters in both timestamps within the musical are people you could meet in any small town today: two sets of young lovers, disapproving but well-meaning parents, an influential community member focused on his family's reputation, and a handful of teens and young adults who have bigger dreams than staying in their hometown. Choreographer Gracie Moore noted that "Being from a small, Southern mountain town myself allowed me to connect with this show in a way I did not expect. The characters feel like people I have met throughout my life." Most familiar of all will be the love, grief, hope, and reconciliation that mark each phase of this story. Even the sounds and dances are nostalgic, with musical theatre pieces that sound like bluegrass and old country music, traditional instruments, enthusiastic line and square dancing, and songs that practically beg you to sing along. Full body shivers may or may not be included, but don't be surprised if you feel a bit of a chill. Expect teary eyes and tugs at the heartstrings.

Even more than its familiarity, this production of "Bright Star" is special for its engagement of the surrounding community. Unlike most University productions, this musical is not just the effort of Sewanee students and professors; the orchestra is packed with community musicians across many ages and generations, from a high school student to a retiree, and the lights and stage setting are the contribution of an artist working in Nashville. Natalie Turnage, a University student who plays Alice Murphy's older incarnation, said, "Getting to meet local musicians from our community and hear their talents is something so special," and added that "[I]t brings the show a level of cultural relatability to the area we're performing in, specifically Southern Appalachia. The sounds you hear from the community members of our band are sounds that are present all over the region, and it's really unique to hear these instruments in a musical theatre setting... It helps make me and my fellow students appreciate just how amazing the area we live in, and the people who inhabit it are." Swope weighed in on the orchestra as well: "I am so proud of the community they have created despite meeting once a week. Bluegrass is community music, and without that strong community feeling, we would have a hard time playing music so deeply rooted in that feeling."

With community being central to this production, the cast and orchestra are infused with a great sense of camaraderie and enthusiasm. Moore commented that the majority of the cast are not trained dancers, but they still are "eager to learn and participate. It is impossible to be in a bad mood while I am teaching them choreography." This eagerness extends to the musicians. "The most wonderful part has been that those more experienced bluegrass players in the orchestra have taught the rest of us more about the genre," Swope said. One of those more experienced players will be familiar to many on the mountain: Mary Priestley, whose accordion skills fill out some of the most memorable of the musical's songs. "I never thought it would be so much fun," Priestley commented, "and how cool to have an orchestra with [a] bluegrass vibe!" She added: "It's a wonderful Appalachian story based on a true event. A super experience to work on and perform in — worth watching for sure!"

Join this amazing cast and orchestra next week, Oct. 14-18, for an incredible show. As with all of the Department of Theatre and Dance's productions, "Bright Star" tickets are free, but space in the Proctor Hill Theater is limited. To make sure you have a seat at any of the four 7:30 p.m. and two 2 p.m. performances, reserve tickets online via Eventbrite: <<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bright-star-tickets-2002104835458>>.

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Monteagle (from page 1)

a conversation with you, Richard, a couple months ago, you said as far as you were concerned the planning commission didn't think he [Petro developer Rodney Kilgore] had an approved site plan or building permit." In a correspondence dated Sept. 16, 2026, the town of Monteagle, likewise, conceded in response to a Freedom of Information Act request, "We do not currently have in our possession, an approved revised site plan."

"The city attorney is trying to claim this resolution executes an administrative override that legalizes this noncompliant plan," Best said. He presented the commission with documents verifying his argument.

Also at issue is whether the Petro project will be required to comply with the Monteagle stormwater ordinance passed in July of 2024 or, instead, grandfathered in as exempt from the rule. Talking with the Messenger after the October meeting Best said, "They need to comply with the stormwater ordinance at bare minimum."

In other business, the commission approved a plat noncompliant with minimum width and length requirements. "It's not meant to be a buildable lot," said town planner Jonathan Rush explaining why the requirements did not need to be met. The lot is slated to be used for the new sewer lift-pump station behind the Waffle House. The commission also voted to recommend the council purchase the property.

The commission will meet next Nov. 5 instead of the regular meeting day, the first Tuesday, to avoid conflict with the Nov. 3 election.

Belvidere Firemen's Fish Fry

The Belvidere Fire Department's annual Fish Fry is 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31, at the Belvidere Community Center, 349 Belvidere Rd.

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

The Belvidere Valley Lawn and Garden Pullers Association Pulling In Competition starts at noon. To enter, call Mike Moore at (931) 273-9314.

Wilkinson (continued from page 1)

"I do a ton of revising," Wilkinson said. "It takes me a long time to finish a poem." In form, her poems range from block text, to sonnets, to triplets, and syllabics with three-syllable lines. When putting a collection together, this same attentiveness to detail informs the process. She describes arranging poems within a collection as making a mixtape or music playlist. Juxtaposed poems lend each to the other to say more. In "Obstinate Gospel," a poem about a suicide with "bloody clothes left to sour in a dark corner of the laundry room," Wilkinson reflects, "undone with grief a person circles somehow back to reason, deciding... it's time to throw out anything that won't come clean." The companion poem "Hope Comes to Elvis Week" asks, "Can you imagine being loved this much?"

Wilkinson's family moved from Knoxville to Sewanee when her father received a promotion to the Blue Cross Blue Shield Chattanooga office. Her father, Ty Wilkinson graduated from Sewanee, and the family had visited, but she and her brother had their doubts, "We were like, 'Are there people there?'" Wilkinson was a rising seventh grader and attended St. Andrew's-Sewanee School for her middle and high school years. "It was a good, vibrant place to be," she said. "It changed my life more so than college." Ten years later, Wilkinson returned to Sewanee to serve on the Sewanee Writers' Conference staff.

She credits longtime St. Andrew's-Sewanee teacher Tom Gladstone with nurturing her as a poet and bringing the poems of Mary Oliver, Rilke, "the beats," and Anne Waldman into her world. "They were way over my head," she acknowledged. "I was 15. Tom took us seriously at an age when most adults didn't. I don't think I would have kept writing poetry without his encouragement."

Writing poetry began for her in fourth grade, fascinated with Shel Silverstein. "He was funny and dark, and sonically interesting. I wanted to do that." A reviewer of "The Survival Expo" compared Wilkinson to Gwendolyn Brooks and Wallace Stevens. She was beyond flattered. "Brooks and Stevens are my two favorite 20th century poets. I love them both so much. They're both poets who think a lot about sound, and they both have characters in their poems," she said, citing the influence on her work.

The reviewer suggested Wilkinson could be Brooks' granddaughter, and in that sense, receiving the Aiken Taylor Award in Modern American Poetry will be a family affair. Brooks received the award in 1992, the sixth awardee. Wilkinson will be the 40th. Physician and poet K. P. A. Taylor established the award in honor of his elder brother, the poet and story writer Conrad Aiken.

The Sewanee Review takes the lead in choosing the awardee, beginning by compiling a list of candidates. "We're very lucky at the Review in being able to encounter a wide array of writers who submit work to us, who are writing craft essays for us, who we meet through the Sewanee School of Letters and the Sewanee Writers Conference," said Smith, commenting on the selection process. "What we're looking for is the same thing we're looking for in the magazine. Work that excites us, work that makes magic of the mundane."

Sewanee Review editor Adam Ross cited two changes since he came on board 10 years ago. "I want to make sure we recognize women and poets who represent the broader perspective of American literature, not to redress imbalance, but through the Aiken Taylor to give people a more accurate picture of what American poetry looks like." The other change is Ross's intention "to make the Aiken Taylor less of a capstone, and more of an award for remarkable poets in mid-career for whom the money is not just a feather in their cap, but something that allows them to get more work done."

What's next for Wilkinson: a novel about a woman basketball player, not surprising from a poet intrigued by adopting personas. Recruited by Rhodes to play basketball, Wilkinson left the program before the first game. "I was tired and overwhelmed," she confided. "In middle school and high school basketball was what people knew me for. When I quit I felt lost. I wasn't sure who I was." The main character in the novel is seven feet tall. Wilkinson is five foot four. In the poem "Hope Brings Back a Half Rack of Ribs," Wilkinson writes, "We're all left wondering what we deserve, which twists of luck or penance make a difference." For Wilkinson, leaving basketball turned out to make that kind of 'twist of fate' difference.

Commenting on receiving the Aiken Taylor Award, Wilkinson said, "I've never expected that kind of recognition. I'm so grateful! I had no idea I was even being considered." Her readers are cheering from the sidelines.



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Four One-Eyed Giants, and Other Thoughts about 'The Odyssey' on Screen

Friends of the Library of The University of the South invites you to attend a talk at 4:30 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 15, in Naylor Auditorium in Gailor Hall. Professor Chris McDonough will talk about "The Odyssey" as it is represented in film. This talk is co-sponsored by the Friends of the Library, the Classics Department, Eta Sigma Phi, and Library and Information Technology Services.

Christopher M. McDonough holds the Alderson-Tillinghast Chair in the Humanities. He teaches a wide range of courses at Sewanee, including Latin language and literature, mythology, literature in translation, and Classics in Cinema. He has been Chair of both the Department of Classical Languages and Interdisciplinary Humanities Program. His talk will focus on the representation of the Odyssey in film from his course, The Classics in Film. The course focuses on portrayals of Greek and Roman culture in film, with readings from classical and later literature in translation as well as criticism.

Chris is the executive producer of the award-winning documentary, "Mine 21," which deals with a fatal coal mine explosion and its impact in Marion and Grundy counties. In 2022, he published "Pontius Pilate On Screen: Sinner, Soldier, Superstar," in Edinburgh University Press's Screening Antiquity series. McDonough is also the founding co-editor of the new American Journal of Classical Reception, published by Johns Hopkins University Press.

Before coming to Sewanee in 2002, McDonough taught at Boston College, Princeton University, Harvard Divinity School, and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Please join the Friends of the Library for a book sale and signing and reception following the talk.

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 lecture or joining the Friends, please contact Julie Rathmann at (931) 598-1265 or <jcrathma@sewanee.edu>.

Other Odyssey events on campus: Sewanee Spoken Word will host a forum for Odyssey-related readings at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 13, at the Shenanigans Speakeasy. The Classics Honor Society Eta Sigma Phi will screen an Odyssey-related film at 5 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 14, in the Ralston Listening Room. The Classics House, Barnwell Apt. 4, will host a Symposium on the theme "The Odyssey, Epics and Translations," from 6–8 p.m., Friday, Oct. 16.

SCA (continued from page 1)

Top Cave, scheduled to be under way by 2029 and finished by 2031.

Commenting on the slow construction timeline, Davis said summer construction was done by Sewanee students, with construction during the rest of the year relying on volunteers. She encouraged community members to participate in construction workdays on Nov. 15 and Dec. 13, to work on the section of trail from Natural Bridge to the base of the cove.

Asked if plans called for transferring the trail to the state park system, Davis said, "What is Lost Cove will remain Lost Cove. The University will retain the land. We're hoping the state parks help us with things like signage. We're working with the parks to plot the trail. University land goes right up to the base of the Natural Bridge. It's a collaborative relationship between our office and the state park." Much current park signage reads "Lost Cove," but will be changed to reflect specific locations such as Buggy Top and Natural Bridge.

An SCA member recounted a story about a contractor abandoning plans to build a lake in Lost Cove because the water disappeared. Asked where the water flowing from Buggy Top Cave came from, Davis acknowledged, "We don't know." The University has done extensive dye tracing, putting red dye in water sources upstream from the cave, with no evidence of the dye residue ever found in the Buggy Top waters. Davis speculated the water came from a large underground well.

In closing, Davis invited the community to the Domain After Dark ghost-stories walking tour on Oct. 26, 27, and 28. Meet at All Saints' Chapel at 8 p.m.

Taking up SCA business, President Ben Tarhan reported the SCA set the Sewanee Community Chest goal as \$118,000, with plans to fund 15 initiatives. Awardees include 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 <<https://sewanee.org/donate/>>. Alex and Kathryn Bruce will chair the 2026-2027 drive.

The summer School Supply Drive raised \$800 in cash and \$1,600 worth of school supplies via the Amazon link. Donations to the Stock the Pantry Supply Drive, held in conjunction with the Community Action Committee, can be made at the CAC office, Taylor's Mercantile, or via the Amazon Link <<https://a.co/f6TXKX4>>.

The SCA meets next on Nov. 2. Mountain Goat Trail Alliance Executive Director Patrick Dean will talk about progress toward completion of the 35-plus-mile trail following the path of the Mountain Goat railroad line once used to transport coal extracted from Plateau mines.

Sewanee Community Chest Goal

Animal Harbor, \$10,000
Blue Monarch, \$5,000
Community Action Committee, \$6,500
Early Literacy Ambassadors, \$2,000
Folks at Home, \$5,000
Fourth of July Celebration, \$4,000
Housing Sewanee, \$6,000
La Leche League, \$300
MARC, \$10,000
Mountain Goat Trail Alliance, \$1,500
SES Parent Organization, \$25,000
Sewanee Children's Center, \$18,700
Sewanee Community Center, \$3,000
Sewanee Mountain Messenger, \$9,000
Sewanee Senior Center, \$12,000

Advertising in the Messenger works. Phone (931) 598-9949 or email <ads@sewaneeemessenger.com> to find out how to make it work for you.

Poetry Reading & Conversation

On Monday, Oct. 19, Laura Candler, C'09, will give a poetry reading at duPont Library from her award-winning chapbook, "Common Name." She will be joined in conversation by poet and Associate Professor of Creative Writing Molly McCully Brown. The event will run from 5–6 p.m., in the Torian Room on the second floor of duPont Library, and will also feature live banjo music by Richard Candler. Chapbooks will be available for purchase.

"Common Name" is a collection of lyric poems selected by Aimee Nezhukumatathil as the 2026 Poets Corner Chapbook Contest winner, and published by Toad Hall Editions in September. The collection explores motherhood, identity, and the greater than human world. Candler devotes poems to single species like the Tennessee Cave Salamander and American Persimmon, while also marveling at the humorous language of her children. She moves from handmade quilts to the backyard flower garden to the ecosystem of the South Cumberland Plateau, all with an ear toward what sparks wonder. With careful attention and play, tenderness and urgency, this collection interrogates what it means to both assert and accept a sense of self during a time of personal and ecological transformation.

Candler earned a BA in Environmental Studies: Ecology & Biodiversity from Sewanee in 2009 and an MFA from Spalding University in 2026. In 2009-2010, she spent a year studying rare clouds around the world as a Thomas J. Watson Fellow. Laura works at Lodge and lives with her family in Sewanee.

SENIOR CENTER NEWS

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

Monday, Oct. 12: Pinto beans, fried cabbage with peppers and onions, cornbread.

Tuesday, Oct. 13: Pork cutlet, Brussels sprouts and cheese, mashed potato, roll.

Wednesday, Oct. 14: Barbecue sandwich, baked beans, potato salad.

Thursday, Oct. 15: Chicken salad (cold plate).

Friday, Oct. 16: Shepherd's pie, salad.

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.

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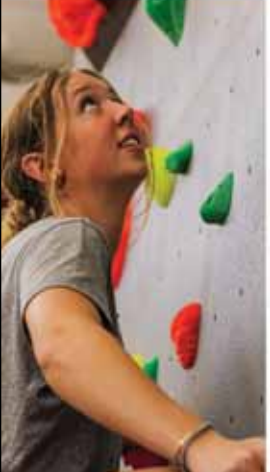
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Every effort will be made to follow the published menu; however, last minute changes may be necessary.

Monday, Oct. 12: Cinnamon toast crunch, juice, fruit, milk.

Tuesday, Oct. 13: Donut hole, juice, fruit, milk.

Wednesday, Oct. 14: Breakfast pizza, juice, fruit, milk.

Thursday, Oct. 15: Steak biscuit, juice, fruit, milk.

Friday, Oct. 16: Waffles, juice, fruit, milk.

LUNCH

Monday, Oct. 12: Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, green peas, fruit, milk, roll.

Tuesday, Oct. 13: Pasta bake, green beans, corn, roll, fruit, milk.

Wednesday, Oct. 14: Teriyaki beef dippers, steamed carrots, broccoli, fruit, milk, cookie.

Thursday, Oct. 15: Barbecue sandwich, potato smiles, coleslaw, fruit, milk.

Friday, Oct. 16: Walking pork carnitas taco, refried beans, salsa, fruit, milk.

For meal pricing, go to <<https://franklincountyttn.schoolsites.com/menus-meal-pricing>>.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Oct. 12-16, Fall Break, Marion County

Oct. 19-23, Fall Break, Grundy County

Oct. 22-23, Fall Break, College, Reading Period, School of Theology

Oct. 22-25, Fall Break, St. Andrew's-Sewanee

Nov. 6-8, Homecoming Weekend

Payne's Cove Bridge Officially Named in Honor of Iva Lee Nunley

A bridge in Payne's Cove will officially bear the name Iva Lee Nunley Memorial Bridge, honoring a woman whose life, family, and legacy were deeply rooted in the community.

A public dedication ceremony will be at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 11, 2026, at the bridge over Dry Creek in Payne's Cove. Parking will be available across from the bridge at 3436 Payne Cove Road, Pelham.

The bridge naming has been formally approved following an effort led by Iva Lee's granddaughter, Crystal Nunley, who gathered historical records, family documents, and community support showing her grandmother's connection to the bridge and surrounding property.

Iva Lee Nunley was born Iva Lee Oliver on Aug. 8, 1921, the daughter of Asa "Ace" Oliver and Otsie Magouirk. She later married Lillard Bayo Nunley, and together they raised six sons: Charles, A.C., Jody, Danny, Ernie, and Frankie.

For many in Payne's Cove, Iva Lee was more than a name in family history. Historical records and family documents show that she operated a small country store beside the bridge, serving local residents traveling through the area. The land surrounding the store and bridge was also once held in her name, tying her directly to a place remembered by generations in the cove.

Iva Lee was especially remembered for her kindness. Through her store, she helped feed families and neighbors in need. Although she kept a ledger recording purchases and debts, those who knew her recalled that she never collected what was owed.

She died on Jan. 5, 1964, at only 42 years old, but the legacy she left behind continues through her family and the community that remembers her. The Nunley family has lived in the area for generations and is officially recognized as one of Grundy County's founding

families.

Among the historical items supporting the bridge naming are the 1949 Certificate of Membership to the Sequachee Valley Electric Cooperative for the store, a lease agreement bearing the original signatures of Iva Lee and Lillard Nunley, and the original store ledger, which remains in the family's possession.

A 1947 U.S. Geological Survey topographic map of Payne's Cove also shows a concentration of structures at the road intersection and creek crossing where the bridge stands. This is consistent with the documented location of the Nunley store and the memories of longtime Payne's Cove residents.

The effort received support from the Grundy County Historical Society. Society representative Janelle Taylor personally remembers the store, and her recollection is echoed by other longtime residents, adding living memory to the written historical record.

Although Crystal Nunley never had the opportunity to meet her grandmother, who passed away decades before she was born, she came to know her through stories shared by her father, uncles, and other family members.

"I never had the chance to meet my grandmother, but through the stories told to me, I grew up knowing how much she meant to both this community and her family," Nunley said. "To me, this is about honoring her life and making sure her story is remembered."

The naming of the Iva Lee Nunley Memorial Bridge is about more than placing a name on a sign. It honors a woman whose kindness touched her community and ensures that her story, her legacy, and her connection to the land will not be lost or forgotten.

The public is invited to attend the dedication ceremony and join the Nunley family in honoring Iva Lee's life and her lasting place in the history of Payne's Cove.



The bridge in Payne's Cove, shown here with Iva Lee Nunley's great-granddaughter, stands beside property still owned by her family, reflecting their enduring connection to the land and community.

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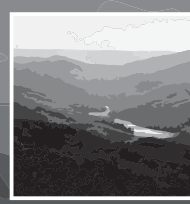
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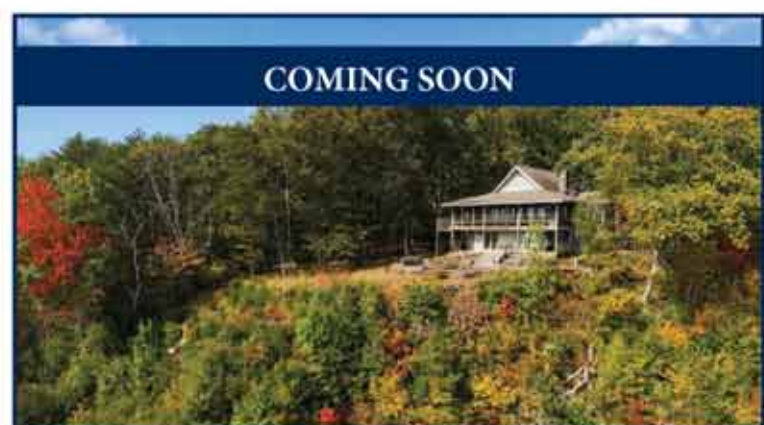
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Richard Courtney
M: 615.300.8189

richard@richardcourtney.com



Mandi Oakes
M: 423.667.7215

Shesellthesouth@gmail.com



John Morrissey
M: 615.828.9636

jomomorrissey1996@gmail.com

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Meditative Drawing with Linda Kerlin

Community members are invited to participate in a drawing workshop with Linda Kerlin from 1–3 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 11, at the SAS Gallery. No experience is necessary. Cost is \$15/person. Space is limited, so registration is required. Contact Kinion Asmus at <sasgallery@sasweb.org> to register.

According to the artist, “these pieces are all about capturing simple gestures of line and design. For me, this is a relaxing meditative evening exercise I do right from the comfort of my favorite chair using metallic markers on black paper. Come join me and discover how fun and stress-free drawing can be.”

Artist Linda Kerlin is a contemporary painter whose work explores the intersection of geography and organic forms utilizing a rich dramatic palette to capture the spirit of the natural world. Kerlin is a full-time mixed media artist working out of her rustic studio in Monteagle, Tennessee. Her formal creative path began in 1983 at Weatherford College in Texas, evolving through decades of living across seven different states. Working primarily on paper, Kerlin embraces a process of finding order within unexpected beginnings. She thrives on the challenge of creating from chaos — intricately adding and removing layers of shape, line, and color using acrylic, batik, and collage. This joyful, dynamic process has earned her a dedicated following, with her work held in private collections across numerous states and internationally.

Faculty Recital: William Yelverton, Guitar and Lute

Join Sewanee Visiting Professor of Guitar William Yelverton for a recital of works for guitar and lute in the beauty of All Saints’ Chapel. Featuring the music of Dalza, Rameau, Albéniz, Dowland, Domenico, and more. The recital will be at 7:30 p.m., Monday, Oct. 19.



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Cumberland Folk School Fall Fundraiser on Oct. 17

We hope you’ll join the Cumberland Folk School for a casual evening at Sequatchie Cove Farm from 5–8 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 17, CT (rain date Oct. 24) to celebrate and support the folk school as they transition to a nonprofit and grow their offerings. Come enjoy music by the Stones River Reelers and a casual farm-to-table dinner. October is the perfect time to witness the changing seasons at the farm and enjoy some cool weather after the long hot summer.

In addition to music and good food, we’ll also have craft demonstrations in the studio from 5–6 p.m. These demonstrations by some of our amazing teachers include Zak Foster with a sewing demonstration, Leah Larabell sharing some of her extensive knowledge of herbal medicine, Joel Larabell carving wooden spoons and Bill Keener talking about his sourdough bread making. Come meet these wonderful folks and buy some of the beautiful goods from them and other teachers at our silent auction! Proceeds from the silent auction will help the folk school cover the expenses related to becoming a nonprofit.

Mark it on your calendar, and get your tickets today. Bring your family and a blanket for picnicking. Tickets to this event are sliding scale. Children under 2 attend free. We can’t wait to see you there for an evening of community and celebration. Go to <<https://www.cumberlandfolkschool.com/classes-store-2>> for more information.

‘This Silence Echoes’ by Abigail Rose Hedley at the Carlos Gallery

The Carlos Gallery in the Visual Art Building at the University of the South is pleased to present “This Silence Echoes,” a solo exhibition by artist Abigail Rose Hedley. The exhibition will be on display through Oct. 21. There will be an artist talk and reception at 5 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 15.

Hedley is a Midwestern sculptor who reimagines the familiar in wool. By working in the slow, engaged, and tactile process of needle felting, their sculptural works are intimately familiar yet detached from this reality. Informed by storytelling and distorted recollection, objects and forms that are subconsciously attached to memories become outlets to re-examine personal histories, generational folklore, and perceptions of society.

In “This Silence Echoes,” through the exhaustive processing of wool, the relationship between what is real and what is imagined becomes intertwined, melding into

something unforeseen. Belonging equally to the physical world and an internalized speculative terrain, viewers are invited to sit comfortably with what is already known, while simultaneously collecting fleeting ideas of what could be.

Abigail Rose Hedley is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor of Sculpture at the University of the South. In addition to their gallery work, Hedley’s work has been featured in “Sculpture Magazine” and “Fiber Arts Now.” Hedley also has an extensive background in public art, working as a fabricator, conservator, and consultant in the Midwest. Hedley received their Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Northern Iowa and their Master of Fine Arts from the University of Tennessee Knoxville.

The Carlos Gallery Visual Art Building is located at 105 Kennerly Rd. Gallery hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday–Friday.

Fannie Moffitt Autumn Stomp

Altamont is gearing up for the 13th annual Fannie Moffitt Autumn Stomp, on Saturday, Oct. 10. Named for one of Altamont’s most eccentric citizens and a ceremonial Native American dance, the Fannie Moffitt Autumn Stomp is a day full of fun, food, music and all kinds of activities to suit everyone’s passion.

The day begins at 7 a.m., with the Backyard Barbecue cook-off in the Altamont Baptist Church parking lot. Contestants will be cooking whatever meat they want between 7 a.m. and 2 p.m. They will be competing for cash prizes starting at \$300! There is a \$25 entry fee. Judging will take place and prizes awarded at 2:30 p.m., at the church parking lot.

Next up is the Fannie Moffitt Autumn Stomp 5K Fun Run. Register at City Hall between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. The cost is \$10 to run and \$5 to walk. The run will start on Warren Street behind the Manor.

Starting at 10 a.m., all-daylong activities begin. The car show sponsored by the Tracy City Street Rodders, the Quilt show, pony rides, crafts, food, information and youth group fundraisers are among the day long activities. The Altamont Heritage Museum will be open as will the Manor and Woodlee House for tours and walk-throughs. Outside of the Woodlee House will be a Tag and Bag Sale with items from the Woodlee House. Many items will be in the “stuff the bag or \$5 section” and other items are modestly priced. There will be town tours on the hayrides that leave the Woodlee House Spring Street side every 15 minutes.

There will be music starting at 10 a.m., at the Gazebo in the Veterans Memorial Park on Cumberland Street. At 11 a.m., in front of the Grundy County Courthouse, the cheerleaders from North Elementary and Grundy County High School will be there, followed by a square dance at 1 p.m. Line up for the hat contest at 2:30 p.m., at the Manor. At 4 p.m., the Pioneers and Patriots 250th Celebration will be in the Florence Scruggs Auditorium in the old Altamont school.

‘Dark Waters’ at the UAG

The University Art Gallery is delighted to present Kristine Potter’s “Dark Waters,” on view through Oct. 14, 2026.

In “Dark Waters,” Kristine Potter plumbs the relationship between culture and landscape, and specifically that between gendered violence and the Southern landscape.

In her words, “Dark Waters” “attempt[s] to make visible the unseen forces through which culture, memory, and embodied perception shape our relationship to place ...”

The artist pulls together murder ballads, studio portraiture, and landscape photography. Sharp, precise images immerse the viewer in carefully observed views of Southern riverbanks, roadsides, night skies, and bodies of water. Cinematic narrative cues, the juxtaposition of potential settings and characters, and archetypal motifs all invite viewers to step in and construct a story, but who we are in that story — victim, aggressor, witness, observer — is left deeply uncertain.

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'Side by Side': Page Schley and Connie Keetle, A Mother- Daughter Exhibition

Frame Gallery presents "Side by Side," a mother-daughter exhibition of landscapes and florals by Sewanee artists Page Schley and Connie Keetle. Working across canvas and paper in acrylics, oils, walnut ink, and Dr. Ph. Martin's Tech Drawing ink, each artist brings her own voice to shared subjects, offering a rare look at the creative connection between two generations. On view through Oct. 31.

Join Frame Gallery from 5–6:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 9, for a reception honoring Page Schley and Connie Keetle, celebrating their "Side by Side" exhibition. Meet the mother-daughter artists and see their landscapes and florals in person.

'From Dolly to Zeppelin: Symphonic Pops'

Dolly Parton, Duke Ellington, and Led Zeppelin on the same program, and that's only part of it. "From Dolly to Zeppelin: Symphonic Pops" brings the music of Queen, Journey, Gloria Estefan, and more to the stage with the sound of a full orchestra. The concert will be at 7:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 9, in Guerry Auditorium. Admission is free.

Singer and Sewanee alumna Alyssa Fair joins the Sewanee Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Mario Alejandro Torres for a program spanning rock, jazz, Latin, pop, and country, with a special place for Dolly Parton's songwriting. Some of these songs may be longtime favorites; others may be discoveries. Even the ones you know by heart may have something new for you to hear.

'Be Yourself and Other Bad Advice' Book Conversation

On Saturday, Oct. 10, from 12:30–2 p.m., at the University Bookstore, Jon Meacham and Kit Walsh will join Meredith Walker for a conversation about her new book, "Be Yourself and Other Bad Advice: A Teen Girl's Guide to Unlearning the Rules." The three friends are all members of the class of 1991 and have remained close ever since.

Meredith Walker began her career at Nick News, working with legendary journalist Linda Ellerbee on the Peabody and Emmy Award-winning series. As a producer, she traveled the country interviewing young people, experts, politicians, and artists. She went on to head the Talent Department at Saturday Night Live, where she met Amy Poehler. The two later created Amy Poehler's Smart Girls, an organization dedicated to helping girls know themselves better and become more curious about the world around them.

Walker's work with young people has taken her from classrooms and refugee camps to the White House and the United Nations. She served as a journalism envoy for the U.S. Department of State, was a William J. Clinton Distinguished Lecturer at the Clinton School of Public Service, hosted the White House Champions of Change for Computer Science Education, and served as a panelist at the White House Summit on Breaking Down Gender Stereotypes in Media and the inaugural United State of Women Summit.

She has also served on the Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders Advisory Council, the Obama Foundation's Global Girls Alliance, the Common Sense Advisory Board for Gender Equality, the UN Women Global Innovation Coalition for Change, and the CARE Action Advisory Council.

Her book, "Be Yourself and Other Bad Advice," helps readers question the messages they're getting from the world around them, think for themselves, and figure out who they are and what matters to them.

Crafting Space For Ourselves: A Conversation

Bonnie Smith Whitehouse, C'97, and Leigh Anne Couch will be in conversation at The University Bookstore at 11 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 17 to discuss Bonnie's new book, "In Our Hands: A Maker's Manifesto for Changing the World through Creative Practices" (Hachette). "In Our Hands" is a compassionate manifesto for crafting space for ourselves in a troubled world. To make things with our hands is to participate in creation and, therefore, hope. When we create — especially in moments of pain or disempowerment — we remember that we belong to a lineage of those who have used their hands to claim and shape their lives. Through crafting, we are beckoned to slow down, listen inward, and create not just objects but autonomy and legacy.

Debbie Millman, author and host of the "Design Matters" podcast, calls Whitehouse's newest, "A luminous and deeply humane manifesto for reclaiming agency in a fractured world." Mari Andrew, New York Times bestselling author and illustrator adds, "With her signature sanctification of the ordinary, Whitehouse declares that craft supplies are holy, letter-writing is resistance, and creating anything — even a page-margin doodle! — is sacred work. . . . This radiant handbook is hope made doable."

There will be books, door prizes, refreshments, and a meaningful craft activity for the young and the young at heart!

Bonnie is Professor of English and Senior Scholar of the Global Honors Program at Belmont University in Nashville. Her previous books include "Seasons of Wonder: Making the Ordinary Sacred through Projects, Prayers, Reflections, Rituals," "Afoot and Lighthearted: A Journal for Mindful Walking," and "Kickstart Creativity: 50 Prompted Cards to Spark Inspiration." Couch is the co-founder and editor of SWING, a literary magazine in print (with covers drawn by hand) published by The Porch, and the co-editor of the LSU Press series, Sewanee Poetry. Her books of poetry include "Every Lash" and "Houses Fly Away."

48th Annual Fall Tennessee Craft Fair

The 48th Annual Fall Tennessee Craft Fair returns to Centennial Park, bringing together more than 200 juried artists from Tennessee and across the country for three days celebrating exceptional handmade craft. The fair will be Oct. 9–11, in Centennial Park, Nashville.

This nationally juried fair is your opportunity to discover one-of-a-kind work in clay, fiber, glass, jewelry, leather, metal, painting, photography, printmaking, wood and more — all while meeting the artists who made it. Shop directly from the makers, hear their stories and experience the creativity and craftsmanship behind every piece.

This year's Fall Fair will feature our largest group of exhibiting artists yet. Discover even more Tennessee talent as Tennessee Craft's regional chapters showcase artists and craft representing communities from across the state. Meet the next generation of makers as participants in Tennessee Craft's juried Emerging Artist Program put their training into action with booths of their own. Watch craft come to life through live demonstrations, introduce young makers to creativity in the free Kids Tent, enjoy local food trucks and spend a fall day surrounded by remarkable handmade work.

And every purchase matters. The Spring and Fall Tennessee Craft Fairs generated an estimated \$1.5 million in sales for participating artists in FY26 — putting dollars directly into the hands of working artists.

Hours are Friday, Oct. 9, 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 10, 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 11, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Free admission, free parking and free shuttles.



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Tigers Fall to Millsaps, 1-0

Millsaps scored in the 15th minute and held off a strong second-half push from Sewanee as the Tigers fell to the Majors, 1-0, Oct. 4, at Puett Field.

Ellis Dykes put Millsaps on the board at 14:40, scoring his third goal of the season on an unassisted shot.

Sewanee created several opportunities in the opening half, recording five shots, including two on target, but Millsaps goalkeeper Edward Steinwand kept the Tigers off the scoreboard.

The Tigers faced an early setback in the second half when Domenic Desmond was issued a red card at 46:42, leaving Sewanee with 10 players for the remainder of the match.

Despite playing a man down, Sewanee continued to pressure the Majors and outshot Millsaps, 11-4, in the second half. Grayson White, Morgan Rhodes, Isaac Rasheed, and Brady Lloyd each put shots on target, but Steinwand made several saves to preserve the shutout.

Sewanee finished the match with a 16-9 advantage in shots and put seven attempts on target. Reid Gunzenhauser made four saves for the Tigers, while Steinwand recorded seven saves for Millsaps.

With the loss, Sewanee falls to 7-2-2 overall and 0-1-1 in Southern Athletic Association play.

Tigers Roll Past Millsaps, 7-0, on Senior Day

Tori Botthof scored twice and six other players found the back of the net as Sewanee celebrated Senior Day with seven unanswered goals, including three in the opening 45 minutes, to defeat Millsaps Oct. 4, at Puett Field.

Sewanee controlled possession throughout the match, creating several early chances before opening the scoring in the seventh minute.

Stella Martin sent a corner kick into the box, where Katye Dullye headed the ball into the back of the net to give the Tigers a 1-0 lead at the 6:10 mark.

Just 45 seconds later, Amelia Comeaux played a ball to Sonia Djurasovic, who sent a shot past the Millsaps goalkeeper to extend the lead to 2-0.

With just over three minutes remaining in the first half, Claire Alexander sent a cross into the box, where Tori Botthof headed the ball into the back of the net for her first goal of the afternoon.

Sewanee carried its momentum into the second half, as Greer Brantley assisted Pope Scurlock on a goal just 2:06 into the period to make it 4-0.

With just over 20 minutes remaining, Lauren Hill added to the Tigers' lead with an unassisted goal at the 69:50 mark.

Botthof found the back of the net for the second time in the 79th minute, finishing a ball from Cara Chaffin to make it 6-0.

In the 85th minute, Ansley Alexander played a ball to Fiamma del Balzo, who slotted it past the goalkeeper to cap the scoring at 7-0.

The Tigers finished with a 30-1 advantage in shots and a 12-0 edge in corner kicks.

With the win, Sewanee improves to 5-1-3 overall and 1-0-1 in SAA play.



Pictured with Coach Tim Wallace, back right, are seniors Close (#17), Mitchell (in goalkeeper red), and managers Maina and Wimbish in front.

SAS Celebrates Varsity Girls' Soccer Seniors with End of Game Soccer Win

With only four minutes left in a zero-all match at home, SAS junior Leonora Pate of Sewanee scored a goal, and the Mountain Lions defeated Huntland School. The match was their last of the regular season. Earlier that evening, they celebrated their two senior players and managers: Annabelle Close of Sewanee, Arabella Mitchell of Estill Springs, Triumph Maina of Memphis, and Emannuel Wimbish of Memphis.

Mountain Lion Mountain Biking Team in Second Place in the State

On the heels of a recent victory and heading into a race at Raccoon Mountain this weekend, the SAS Mountain Biking team is firmly in second place overall in the state. Junior Grayson Clark is in third place in varsity boys, senior Theo Schrader is in fourth place, and senior Harper Thompson holds 19th place. Recently, the team's three seniors were celebrated at home: Schrader and Thompson, both from Sewanee, and Son Vo, from Vietnam.

Other rankings include sophomore Rosalind Thompson, fifth place in JV1 girls; Martin Brodsky, fifth place in JV1 boys; freshman Alex Glacet, ninth in JV3 boys; and eighth grader Arabella Barry in fifth place for eighth grade girls.

Haskell Scores Twice As Tigers Open CFHC Play with 5-1 Win Over Centre

Molly Haskell scored twice, as the Tigers opened their conference slate with a 5-1 victory over Centre on Oct. 3, at Puett Field in field hockey action.

Sewanee struck with just 38 seconds left in the first period. The Tigers earned a penalty corner, and Caroline Bridges sent the initial shot toward goal. Centre goalkeeper Eliza Hensley made the save, but Molly Haskell collected the rebound and sent it into the back of the cage to give Sewanee a 1-0 lead heading into the second period.

The Colonels answered early in the second period off a penalty corner of their own, as Abbie Woolley redirected a pass from Ashley Hamilton into the back of the cage to tie the game at 1-1.

Just over eight minutes later, Bridges drew another corner, and Keagan Southall inserted the corner. Patty Arwine sent the ball toward goal, and Southall tipped it past the keeper to give Sewanee back the lead at 2-1.

The Tigers added another goal off a penalty corner with just 1:10 remaining in the second period. Bridges sent the ball toward goal, and Catherine Crane finished the opportunity to extend Sewanee's lead to 3-1 heading into halftime.

Sewanee added to its lead in the third period, as Shepard Ramsey assisted Alex Schoener with 11:48 remaining in the quarter. Schoener's goal gave the Tigers a 4-1 advantage and was the only goal of the period.

Haskell added her second goal of the game with 7:04 remaining in the fourth period. Ramsey took the initial shot off a penalty corner, but Hensley made the save before Haskell collected the rebound and found the back of the cage for the final goal of the game.

The Tigers controlled possession throughout the game and played a majority of the contest in their offensive half, outshooting the Colonels, 19-3, including a 16-2 advantage in shots on goal. Sewanee also earned six penalty corners to Centre's three.

Hensley collected 11 saves for Centre, while Ryleigh Cabral did not record a save for Sewanee. Kylie Carter added a defensive save for the Tigers.

Sewanee will host Ohio Wesleyan for their senior day on Saturday, Oct. 10, at 11 a.m. before returning to conference play against No. 22 Mary Washington on Sunday at noon.

READ THE NEWSPAPER ON THE GO.
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Tigers Complete Day Two of ITA Regionals

Samuel Schroerlucke advanced to the quarterfinals of the ITA South Regional Championship on Oct. 3, as the Tigers completed day two in Memphis.

In Flight A Singles, No. 7-ranked Samuel Schroerlucke advanced to the quarterfinals with a 6-3, 6-3 victory over No. 10 Aaditt Rishi of Emory. In the quarterfinals, Schroerlucke fell to No. 2 Mitchell Deames of Emory, 6-2, 7-5.

No. 8 Henry Hyden fell to No. 12 Sammy Nieder of Emory, 6-2, 6-0, while No. 14 Lucas Wrigley dropped a 6-3, 6-3 decision to No. 4 Ajay Kartik of Emory.

In Flight B Singles, Andrew Perez advanced to the quarterfinals with a 6-0, 6-2 victory over Sandro Roman Aiangregorio Alarcon of Mississippi University for Women. In the quarterfinals, Andrew Perez defeated teammate August Allen, 6-4, 6-4. Perez will play in the semifinals of the Flight B singles on Sunday.

Allen also advanced with a 6-0, 6-4 victory over Jake Bravo of Rhodes. Aidan McVeigh fell to Alvar Alonso Herreros of Mississippi University for Women, 5-7, 6-1, 10-2, while Stephen Smith dropped a three-set battle to Antonio Nunez of Asbury, 4-5 (3), 4-2, 12-14.

In Flight A Doubles, Aidan McVeigh and Andrew Perez fell to No. 4-seeded Daniel Kim and Joshua Lai of Emory, 6-0. No. 5-seeded Henry Hyden and Drew Rukavina also fell to No. 3-seeded Juno Pethe and Mitchell Deames of Emory, 6-0.

In the Flight A Doubles consolation draw, Charlie Pizzuti and Silas Montana defeated Archibald Maryn-Smith and Ryan Rosalin of the University of the Ozarks, 6-3, after receiving a bye in the Round of 16. The duo then fell to Luis Andre Olivia and David Simenez Salas of Mississippi University for Women, 8-6, in the quarterfinals of the back draw.

In Flight B Doubles, William Lewis and Stephen Smith defeated Antonio Nunez and Jose Ignacio Murillo of Asbury, 7-5. August Allen and Gabriel Cytron fell to Andy Zhang and Alec Anghel of Emory, 6-4.

Zhang and Anghel then defeated Lewis and Smith, 7-5, in the Flight B Doubles back draw final.

HOME GAMES

Oct. 9, Equestrian (NCEA) vs. University of Lynchburg
3 p.m., Oct. 9, Women's Soccer vs. Washington and Lee
4 p.m., Oct. 9, Swimming and Diving vs. Centre
Oct. 10, Equestrian (NCEA) vs. Sweet Briar
11 a.m., Oct. 10, Field Hockey vs. Ohio Wesleyan
noon, Oct. 10, Swimming and Diving Relay Meet
4 p.m., Oct. 10, Men's Soccer vs. Huntingdon
noon, Oct. 11, Field Hockey vs. Mary Washington
5:30 p.m., Oct. 15, SAS Cross Country, Invitational at Sewanee
1 p.m., Oct. 17, Football vs. Millsaps



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Volleyball Splits Doubleheader at Berry SAA Pod

Suna Merkler and Savannah Gann combined for over 40 kills on Oct. 3, as the Sewanee Tigers were swept by Berry and beat Oglethorpe in four at the Vikings' SAA pod.

In the first match, Merkler paced the Tigers with 10 kills. Jordan Krise tallied 13 assists, with Estela Gonzalez not far behind at 12.

Sewanee held set point in the first frame, as Mollie White recorded a kill that put the Tigers up 24-23. But the Vikings finished with a 4-1 run to win 27-25.

Sewanee found itself down only 17-16 after a 3-0 run in the second. Berry then used an 8-2 run to take a 2-0 lead in the match. The Tigers hit .250, their highest of the match.

The Vikings took the third frame 25-13.

Against Oglethorpe, Gann led the way with 14 kills. Merkler collected 12 kills, and Sydney Thaxton added nine. Sophia Caruso paced Sewanee with 21 digs, while Jane McAuley had six block assists.

The Tigers hit a match-high .300 in the first frame. They strung together three 4-0 runs, with Merkler recording two aces in one of them and three consecutive kills in another. Sewanee won 25-16.

Down 22-17 in the second set, Sewanee put up a 6-0 run capped off by three consecutive kills from Gann. But the Stormy Petrels ended with three straight points.

Holding a 9-8 advantage in the third, Sewanee pulled away, eventually taking a 24-15 lead off a 4-0 run highlighted by three Gann kills. The Tigers won 25-18.

In the fourth, Sewanee led 19-18 late, but the Tigers used a 6-1 run to put the match away. During the run, Jane McAuley tallied four kills and a block assist. Sewanee won 25-19.

Sewanee travels to Georgetown, Texas, for an SAA pod at Southwestern. The Tigers will start with a meeting with Trinity on Saturday, Oct. 10, at 1:15 p.m. CT.

Graham Finishes Second at Mountain Goat Invitational

Eleanor Graham led the Sewanee women's cross country team on Oct. 3, finishing second individually, leading Sewanee to a fifth place finish at the Mountain Goat Invitational.

Graham posted a time of 23:30.16 to finish runner-up, while Adeline Barbour followed in 17th with a time of 25:33.08.

Abigail Armstrong placed 29th in 26:46.66, followed by Katie Biagini in 43rd at 27:43.51 and Page Wells in 45th at 27:53.47. Mackenzie Smith finished 46th in 28:17.28.

Hannah Erickson crossed the finish line in 30:30.10 to place 59th, while Kate Ashby finished 62nd in 30:43.72. Josie Blanton rounded out the Tigers' finishers, placing 72nd with a time of 35:22.52.

Southwestern Tops Sewanee in Tigers' SAA Opener

Barton Mixon recorded 226 all-purpose yards and threw a 51-yard pass, but the Tigers fell in their first conference game of the season to Southwestern, 42-21, on Saturday afternoon.

Maddox Franklin made his first career start, throwing for 199 yards and three touchdowns.

For the third straight game, Mixon tallied over 200 all-purpose yards. He had three catches for 130 yards and two scores while rushing for 96 yards. He also found Brennan Reed on a long ball after taking a lateral from Franklin.

On the defensive side, Cooper Jones, Logan McGinnis, and Peyton Martin each forced a fumble. Isaiah Copeland, Champ Hatfield, and James Gibbs made recoveries. Additionally, Jaden Gnagy blocked a field goal at the end of the first half.

Jones led the way with nine tackles (six solo, three assisted). He and Gnagy paced the Tigers with 1.5 tackles for loss.

The Pirates opened the scoring on a 25-yarder from Jaxon Sims to Reece Cutrer in the first quarter.

Five minutes into the second quarter, Franklin connected with Mixon on a deep 63-yard touchdown pass. He later floated the ball to the right side of the end zone to Trevon Garden from 18 yards out to give Sewanee its first lead.

The Pirates tied the game with under two minutes left on a 29-yard pass from Jaxon Sims to Parker Threats.

Midway through the third, Mixon scored his second touchdown, a 57-yard catch-and-run off a checkdown. Sims then connected with Graydon Thompson from 36 yards out to tie the game at 21 with 5:07 left in the period.

Late in the third quarter, the Pirates' defense collected an interception and forced a fumble on back-to-back drives, giving their offense the ball in the red zone both times. Sims threw a 20-yarder to Thompson, while Evan Carroquilla added a three-yard rushing touchdown to give the Pirates a 35-21 lead off the two turnovers.

A seven-yard rushing touchdown from Jonathan Martin Jr. sealed the game with 2:11 left in the fourth.

Sewanee travels to Maryville on Saturday, Oct. 10. Kickoff is scheduled for 1 p.m. ET/12 p.m. CT.

Collins, Myers Lead Tigers to Fourth-place Finish at Mountain Goat Invitational

Jack Collins and Christian Myers finished inside the top five, as the Sewanee men's cross country team placed fourth at the Mountain Goat Invitational on Oct. 3.

Collins led the Tigers with a second-place finish, crossing the finish line in 26:24.99. Myers followed in fourth at 26:40.42, while Declan Oberlies placed 16th in 27:44.29.

Price Lineweaver finished 28th in 28:23.42, followed by Austin Colvin in 29th at 28:31.92. Jack Conger placed 57th in 30:35.89, while Jonah Norris finished 58th in 30:36.89.

Matt Walker crossed the finish line in 31:15.04 to place 63rd, followed by Adam Thomas in 65th at 31:23.70. Gordon Love finished 69th in 32:00.50, with Henry Zanone placing 71st in 32:59.98.

Noah Smith finished 76th in 37:01.13, while James Thompson rounded out the Tigers' finishers in 80th at 41:56.29.

Sewanee finished fourth as a team with 79 points. Berry won the team competition with 48 points, followed by Rhodes with 54 and Covenant with 76.



The Sewanee Elementary Girls' and Boys' basketball teams for the 2026-2027 school year were announced during our morning assembly. Girls: Mia Casey, Bella Barnes, Nora Jackson, Caroline S., Lella Godfrey, Harlow Hall, Etta Freitag, Savannah Walker, Ryleigh Summers, Hope Cathell, Emma M. Boys: Miles Bruscato, Ren Elrod, Noah Rowe, Malcolm Tate, Walker Reynolds, Bryson Barnes, Charlie Wells, Eli Young, Birch McAnally, John Austin, Owen Jackson, Cooper Green, C.W., G.S., Seager Roberts.



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NATURENOTES

by Yolande Gottfried



Gentians. Photo by Mary Priestley

Gentians in Blue Bloom

Mary Priestley found Soapwort or Bottle Gentians on the beach at the Res at the end of September. This beautiful blue flower is one of our latest bloomers. They have been reported as late as November in recent years. The water’s edge is a good place to look for these and other late bloomers, such as White Turtlehead and Nodding Ladies’ Tresses. The “Bottle” name for the gentian comes from the shape of the flowers, which appear not to be open. Bumblebees have to push their way in through the closed tips of the petals, although they sometimes just chew a hole in the side. The gentian flower has a color signal at the tip of the petals so that the bumblebee knows which ones still contain nectar and it doesn’t waste its effort. Blue flowers in general seem to attract bumblebees. The “Soapwort” name comes from the soapy sap. Gentians of various species have been used to treat a myriad of ailments. Angostura Bitters contains gentian.

Moving from the water’s edge to the sandstone bluff, Al Partee found this Small-Headed Blazing Star, seen in the photo next to Opuntia cactus. It is also an attractive lavender color and attracts butterflies rather than bumblebees.



Small-headed blazing star. Photo by Al Partee

WEATHER

DAY	DATE	HI	LO	Week’s Stats:	
Mon	Sept 28	78	53	Avg max temp =	83
Tue	Sept 29	81	52	Avg min temp =	59
Wed	Sept 30	84	56	Avg temp =	72
Thu	Oct 01	87	63	Precipitation =	1.05”
Fri	Oct 02	87	66		
Sat	Oct 03	88	67		
Sun	Oct 04	74	65		

Reported by Sandy Gilliam
Domain Ranger



Athena



Chevy

MARC’s Mountain Adoptables: Athena & Chevy

Athena is a tiny bundle of curiosity, courage, and cuddles. She is all white with bright blue eyes. At around 13 weeks old and weighing just 3.5 pounds, this little girl may be petite, but she has a BIG personality. Nothing seems to scare Athena. She’s curious about everything and approaches the world with a “What’s over there?” attitude. But after a little exploring, she’s always ready to settle in for her favorite activity—being loved on. Athena is a true snuggle bug and seems to have a built-in motor because she’s almost always purring. Give her a cozy lap, some affection, and a little attention, and she’ll be one happy kitten. If you’re looking for a sweet, fearless, purr-filled little companion, Athena might just be your girl.

Chevy is a handsome white-and-red hound with a personality that’s as fun as his name. He may be an American Foxhound/Treeing Walker Coonhound mix—or maybe a little bit of several great hound breeds—but whatever he is, he’s one good-looking boy. At about 3½ years old and 60 pounds, Chevy is the perfect combination of playful, smart, and ready for adventure. He’s a quick learner who picks up commands in no time. Of course, like any good hound, Chevy believes his nose knows best. Give him a scent to follow and he’s ready to investigate. Chevy is friendly, playful, and gets along well with other dogs. He can be energetic when it’s time for fun, but he also knows how to settle down and relax once he gets comfortable in his surroundings. An active household where he can enjoy walks, exploring, and plenty of sniffing adventures would be right up his alley. Healthy, happy, smart, and ready to roll, Chevy is looking for a family who will keep his body busy, his mind engaged, and his tail wagging. Put this handsome hound in your passenger seat and let the adventures begin. I bet Chevy is just who you have been looking for.

If you would like to learn more about Athena or Chevy, 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.

MARC - Marion Animal Resource Connection is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit animal welfare organization. It is not a shelter and relies on foster homes to save animals. MARC also provides low cost spay/neuter procedures for animals and is available for teaching humane care of animals in schools and to community organizations.

Sewanee Herbarium Fall Events

Trees of the Sewanee Campus, Saturday, Oct. 24, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Sandy Baird. Come walk among the trees! Join Sewanee alumna and forestry graduate Sandy Baird for a leisurely tour of some of the campus’s most remarkable trees. Learn to recognize common species, hear a few memorable stories, and enjoy a morning outdoors. Children and well-behaved dogs are welcome. Meet in the parking lot behind Fulford Hall.

Hike to the H-Tree, Saturday, Oct. 31, 9:30 a.m., Mary Priestley. “H” is for Halloween! Are you up for a mysterious Halloween adventure? Come visit this unusual duo of white oaks that grows on the mountain-side below the War Memorial Cross. The trees once bonded (but how??) to form an “H,” now reduced to lowercase “h.” Meet at the Cross. The distance is not great, nor is the encounter scary. But the hike back up can be strenuous.

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.

The herbarium-sponsored nature journaling group meets Thursdays, 9–11 a.m. All are welcome. Email Mary Priestley at <mpriestley0150@gmail.com> for more information.

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.

Savage Gulf State Park

Trail Run, Tuesday, Oct. 13, 8:30–9:30 a.m. Join us on a 3(ish) mile (round trip, approximate) trail run on the Savage Day Loop. We will be doing a combo of running/walking. The anticipated pace will be between 10-15 minute miles. We may go slower as needed, but not faster (typically towards the slow end of the pace scale). Bring along desired water and food, as these are not provided. Wear sturdy shoes that can handle running off road! Weather permitting.

Coffee With a Ranger, Sunday, Oct. 18, 8:30–9:30 a.m. Curious about the park or interested in learning more about what park rangers do? Enjoy informal conversation over coffee with Ranger Jamie at the Laurel Gulf Overlook. We will meet at the Savage Gulf North Trailhead by the Stone Door Ranger Station at 8:30 a.m. to begin the program. We will begin the program by taking a short walk (approximately a quarter of a mile) along a paved trail to the Laurel Gulf Overlook. The coffee station will be set up at the Laurel Gulf Overlook, where seating is also provided. Coffee, hot cocoa, creamer, and sugar will be available at the station. Complimentary coffee and hot cocoa will be provided for registered participants. We’ll have disposable cups available, but feel free to bring your favorite mug. Participants can also purchase a souvenir mug at a discounted price. We invite you to sip coffee, chat with a ranger, and take in the natural beauty of the Laurel Gulf Overlook!

Fall Foliage Hike to Three Forks Lake, Saturday, Oct. 31, 1:30–3:30 p.m. Join Ranger Jamie on an exclusive guided hike to Three Forks Lake to witness the astonishing fall foliage in the park. This is an approximate 3-mile round-trip guided hike and is considered moderate. We will discuss why leaves change color and interesting natural phenomena we see along the way. We will meet at the Savage Gulf North Trailhead (Stone Door Trailhead) at 1:30 p.m. to begin the hike. Bring along desired water and food, as these are not provided. Wear sturdy shoes in which to hike! Weather permitting.

The terrain at the park can vary based on the topography and can be treacherous in terms of keeping your footing. The potential to slip and fall exists, and extreme care is needed.

Attendee cancellations must be made no later than 24 hours prior to the program’s scheduled start in order to receive a refund.



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FROM BARD TO VERSE

by Robin Bates

Indigenous Peoples’ Day

Remember the sky that you were born under, know each of the star’s stories.
Remember the moon, know who she is.
Remember the sun’s birth at dawn, that is the strongest point of time. Remember sundown and the giving away to night.
Remember your birth, how your mother struggled to give you form and breath. You are evidence of her life, and her mother’s, and hers.
Remember your father. He is your life, also.
Remember the earth whose skin you are: red earth, black earth, yellow earth, white earth brown earth, we are earth.
Remember the plants, trees, animal life who all have their tribes, their families, their histories, too. Talk to them, listen to them. They are alive poems.
Remember the wind. Remember her voice. She knows the origin of this universe.
Remember you are all people and all people are you.
Remember you are this universe and this universe is you.
Remember all is in motion, is growing, is you.
Remember language comes from this.
Remember the dance language is, that life is.
Remember.

--Joy Harjo, Remember



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Community Calendar

Friday, Oct. 9

- 8:30 a.m. Lone Rock Stockade Excavations, meet at Grundy Lakes parking lot, until 4:30 p.m.
- 9 a.m. F@H Vaccination Clinic, American Legion Hall
- 9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
- noon YouFit with Betsy Miller, registration required <https://www.bodyworksyouniversity.com>
- 5 p.m. Artist Reception, Frame Gallery, until 6:30 p.m.
- 7:30 p.m. “From Dolly to Zeppelin” concert, Guerry

Saturday, Oct. 10

- 8 a.m. Railfan Appreciation Day, 108 S. Front St., Cowan until 4 p.m.
- 8 a.m. MMUMC Food Distribution, until 10 a.m.
- 8:30 a.m. Lone Rock Stockade Excavations, meet at Grundy Lakes parking lot, until 4:30 p.m.
- 9 a.m. American Legion Post 51 meeting
- 10 a.m. Hospitality Shop open, until 2 p.m.
- 12:30 p.m. “Be Yourself and Other Bad Advice” book conversation, University Bookstore, until 2 p.m.
- 1 p.m. Tour de Goat, start at Hannah Pickett Park, Monteagle

Sunday, Oct. 11

- 8:30 a.m. Lone Rock Stockade Excavations, meet at Grundy Lakes parking lot, until 4:30 p.m.
- 1 p.m. Kerlin workshop, SAS Gallery, register at <sasgallery@sasweb.org>
- 1 p.m. Knitting Circle, Mooney’s, until 3 p.m.
- 1 p.m. YouFit with Betsy Miller, registration required <https://www.bodyworksyouniversity.com>
- 2:30 p.m. Iva Lee Nunley Memorial Bridge dedication, 3436 Payne Cove Rd., Pelham
- 4 p.m. Hatha Yoga, Helen, Community Center

Monday, Oct. 12 • Indigenous Peoples’ Day • Columbus Day

- 9 a.m. Intermediate Pilates, Kim Butters, registration required <https://www.bodyworksyouniversity.com>
- 10 a.m. Indigenous Peoples’ Day Sacred Fire and Water Ceremony, Lake Cheston Dr.; 12:30–2 p.m., labyrinth on the main campus Quad; 6:30 p.m., service, Lake Cheston
- 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, Oct. 13

- 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.
- 9 a.m. Special Called Meeting, Town of Monteagle, conference room at 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.
- 10 a.m. Story Time, Cowan Center for the Arts, 303 Montgomery St., until 11:30 a.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>

Wednesday, Oct. 14 • Early Voting Begins for the State and Federal General Election

- 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.
- 11:30 a.m. EQB Club, St. Mary’s Sewanee
- 5 p.m. Yoga for Release of Myofascial Tension, Tom Camp, registration required <https://www.bodyworksyouniversity.com>
- 5:30 p.m. Hatha Yoga, Helen, Community Center
- 7:30 p.m. “Bright Star” bluegrass musical, Proctor Hill Theater. Reserve free tickets on <eventbrite.com>

Thursday, Oct. 15

- 8 a.m. Monteagle-Sewanee Rotary, St. Mary’s Sewanee
- 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.
- 4:30 p.m. Friends of the Library talk, McDonough, Naylor Auditorium
- 5 p.m. Artist talk and reception, Carlos Gallery
- 7:30 p.m. “Bright Star” bluegrass musical, Proctor Hill Theater. Reserve free tickets on <eventbrite.com>

Friday, Oct. 16

- 9 a.m. CAC office open, until 11 a.m.
- noon YouFit with Betsy Miller, registration required <https://www.bodyworksyouniversity.com>
- 4 p.m. Farm to Table, Manigault Park
- 7:30 p.m. “Bright Star” bluegrass musical, Proctor Hill Theater. Reserve free tickets on <eventbrite.com>

Local 12-Step Meetings

- Friday**
7 p.m., AA, open, Christ Church, Tracy City
- Saturday**
7 p.m., NA, open, Decherd United Methodist
- Sunday**
6:30 p.m., AA, open, the Wesley House, Morton Memorial United Methodist Church
- Monday**
5 p.m., 12-Step Women’s Study Group. Call (931) 327-5551 for information and for the Zoom link
- 7 p.m., AA, open, Christ Church, Tracy City
- Tuesday**
11 a.m., Grundy Recovery Alliance Community Endeavor Open Narcotics Anonymous Meeting
- 7 p.m., AA, open, First Baptist, Altamont
- 7 p.m., AA, open, Trinity Episcopal Church, Winchester
- 7 p.m., AA, open, the Wesley House, Morton Memorial United Methodist Church
- Wednesday**
10 a.m., AA, closed, Clifftops, (931) 924-3493
- 6 p.m., NA, community room at 187 Raulston Ave., Monteagle
- 7 p.m., NA, Decherd United Methodist
- Thursday**
6 p.m., Life’s Healing Choice, Grundy County Recovery Alliance, Coalmont
- 7 p.m., Serenity in Sewanee AA, open, Brooks Hall, Sewanee
- 7 p.m., Al-Anon, First UMC, Winchester