

Snow

Continued from page 1A

"It's been surprisingly quiet," Womack said when contacted early Tuesday afternoon, prior to the afternoon rush hour. "We had a few wrecks with property damage but nothing major."

Director of Schools Bobby Cox says schools will be closed again Wednesday, leaving the school system with four bad weather days left for the year.

"We have an option of taking a educational development day and converting it later if we need it," Cox said of technically having five days left after Wednesday.

Schools have been closed all week and were also closed Friday due to cold and expected bad weather. The cold caused pipes to break at Hickory Creek Elementary last week, causing major damage to two rooms there. The fact temperatures are expected to dip into single digits Wednesday is a concern.

"We will be checking the buildings," Cox said, noting they do not want a repeat of the damage at Hickory Creek.

With the travel advisory in effect through Wednesday evening, forecasters say there will be a break in the weather Thursday when highs are expected to rebound into the 40s.



With few customers due to the snow, First National Bank employees Monica Esparza, left, and Jessi Templeton slip outside for a snowball fight on Main Street.



Gay Smith clears his back windshield Tuesday morning on Main Street as the snow picks up intensity.



With traffic at a minimum, Central Church of Christ preacher Ben Bailey takes a trip down College Street on a sled Tuesday.

Bill would add TennCare work requirements

NASHVILLE (AP) — Tennessee House Speaker Beth Harwell has filed a bill that aims to require able-bodied adults without young children to work if they want TennCare health coverage.

The proposal would accept an offer by President Donald Trump's administration for states to implement Medicaid work requirements, which Harwell said was the type of flexibility states have requested for several years.

But the effect of that change in Tennessee would be limited under TennCare's tight qualifications, House Minority Leader Craig Fitzhugh said. The main group that appears would be affected would be parents or caretakers with children from 6 to 20 years old.

To receive TennCare, you must be pregnant, a child under age 19, a parent or relative caretaker of a dependent child under age 21, disabled, elderly or uninsurable, and meet financial requirements.

The Trump administration's guidance exempts several major categories of TennCare: pregnant women, disabled people, children and the elderly. Additionally, the federal policy calls for taking into

account people from areas of high unemployment or caregivers for young children or elderly family members. "Reasonable modifications" would be made for people with substance abuse disorders.



HARWELL

Harwell's bill calls for a federal waiver to impose "reasonable" work requirements for able-bodied, working age adults without dependent children younger than 6.

"This legislation is about lifting people out of poverty, while still providing the support needed for Tennesseans to be successful and prosperous," said Harwell, a Nashville Republican.

TennCare spokeswoman Sarah Tanksley said the program is still trying to estimate how many people the change would affect. Of TennCare's 1.5 million recipients, more than half are 18 or younger.

The legislation comes amid a crowded race for governor featuring Harwell, who is running against U.S. Rep. Diane Black, former state Sen. Mae Beavers and businessmen Randy Boyd and Bill Lee in the Republican primary. Fitzhugh is running as a Democrat against former Nashville Mayor Karl Dean.

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