

CLASSIFIEDS-LEGALS

News Briefs from across West Tenn.

FROM PAGE 5

Watkins continued to make the grade on his evaluation by the board, this year receiving an overall average score of 3.77 out of a possible 5.

His overall average score from the seven board members was based on his evaluation in 19 specific components of job performance. The board addressed the evaluation at its annual retreat recently, according to board chairman Fritz Fussell.

"A very good score ... doing a very good job," Fussell announced.

Board member Shannon Graham said she believes Watkins is "doing a fine job," while chair pro tem Barry Adams said he likes the fact that the schools director is "always available."

"Tim (Watkins) did a great job in doing what we had to do," board member Tim Britt said of the director's job performance over the past year.

Board member Jared Poore commended the director's efforts "through all the easy decisions and all the tough decisions," telling Watkins, "I'm glad we've got you at the helm."

"I think you've done another great job," Fussell continued, adding that he looks forward to the next school year and what is on the horizon.

Adams made the motion to accept Watkins' evaluation and extend the director's existing contract for one year, maintaining the four-year contract maximum allowed by state law. It was seconded by Fussell and approved by a 5-0 vote.

Vice chairman Keisha Hooper and board member Chris Akin were absent.

"Like we said, I think you're doing an outstanding job," Fussell told Watkins. "You work hard. I know we just went through a budget, and that's a tough time to go through. You're doing a good job on that."

Watkins expressed his appreciation to the board members for their continued support.

"I can't ask for a better work situation," he said.

He continued by voicing gratitude for the system's staff.

"I couldn't do my job without them doing theirs, so I appreciate all of them," Watkins said.

Henderson County

Property Values Show Dramatic Increase

Property owners in Henderson County have begun receiving a new property value assessment, under what the state calls "the 90 Percent Law."

The members of the Henderson County Joint Economic Development Board, which includes representatives of each of the county's municipalities, were updated on the new assessment by county Property Assessor Gary Pope on Wednesday, April 29th.

Those assessments were done by the state and began arriving in the mail on Friday, May 1st. They show that local property values have increased rather significantly over the three-year period.

Under state legislation enacted in 1993, "Current Value Updating" is used to keep property values

current in areas where there is substantial growth in the real estate market and it corrects any gross inequities in property appraisals.

Henderson County is one of only 11 counties that is on a six-year cycle for property reappraisals. The "mini reappraisal" as officials are calling it was automatically triggered because property values have increased dramatically. According to information from the Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury, the current value updating is triggered in the third year of a six-year reappraisal cycle if the overall levels of the appraisal for a jurisdiction are less than 90 percent of their fair market value. The state calls it the "90 Percent Law".

In Tennessee property reappraisals are done on two-year, four-year, or six-year cycles.

"Adjustments are based on sales," Henderson County Mayor Robbie McCready told those attending the meeting. "Once you hit a threshold, they (the state) automatically come in."

During this "mini appraisal" the state reviewed the sales data to determine the value of property.

Once property values increase beyond a certain amount, the state comes in and makes the adjustments. Local officials do not request the update.

"The state does it, not the county," Property Assessor Gary Pope said. "State comes in and does a mini reappraisal. It is the first time it has ever happened."

Three years ago, property owners saw the values of their land and homes increase by as much as 50 percent. The current mini reappraisal shows property values going up another 30 percent or more.

Any change in property tax rates will be established by the county equalization board and then adopted by the county and cities.

State law prohibits counties from "profiting" from a reappraisal, limiting them to the same revenue as previous years. If they want to increase revenue, the commission or city boards must give public notice and hold hearings and set a tax rate that is different from what the Board of Equalization recommends.

Henderson County and the city of Lexington, Scotts Hill and Sardis each have property tax. Parkers Crossroads does not collect property taxes.

"You can accept it or you can equalize it," Mayor

McCready said of the tax rates.

The notice that is arriving in the mail will show how the value has changed over the past three years.

Property is assessed according to four classifications. Homes and farms are assessed at 25 percent of their value, commercial and industrial property at 40 percent and utilities at 55 percent.

Once the notice is received taxpayers who have questions or disagree with the new value on their property can discuss the issues with personnel using the telephone number listed on the assessment change notice. If they still disagree with the assessment, they can appeal to the county Board of Equalization. The board begins its meeting on June 1st.

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Gibson County Highway Commission (Road Board) will extend the receipt of applications for Chief Administrative Officer/Superintendent of the Highway Department until 10:00 a.m. on May 26, 2026 at 1244 Manufacturers Row, Trenton, TN 38382. Applications can be obtained at Gibson County Highway Dept. or on the Secretary of State website: sos.tn.gov/elections. Candidates must meet qualifications to be certified by state board as listed on the website. A successful candidate must be a qualified voter of the county and a resident of the county for one (1) year prior to the qualifying or appointment deadline, as appropriate.

Edward Jones

Member SIPC

Your interests come first.
Call or stop by.

Gage M Schneeberger
Financial Advisor
1920 Hwy 45 By-Pass
Humboldt, TN 38343
731-240-4179

EJB-19325-A-EA-D-2

edwardjones.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

STATE OF TENNESSEE
CHANCERY COURT OF GIBSON COUNTY
AT TRENTON, TENNESSEE
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
TCA 30-2-306
Estate of: Melissa Kay Smith
DOCKET: 25978P

Notice is hereby given that on the 24th day of April, 2026, Letters Testamentary in respect of the estate of **Melissa Kay Smith** deceased, who died 08/15/2025 were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court of Gibson County, Tennessee.

All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file same with Clerk of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1) (a) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) Months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or

(b) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication (or posting) as described in (1) (A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.
This 24th day of April, 2026.

Signed:
Executor Shiela Kay Smith Jones
Randy Camp
Estate of **Melissa Kay Smith**
Katelyn Orgain, Clerk & Master
BY: Marcie Denton, DCM

Randy Camp
1414 Main St.
Humboldt, TN, 38343

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

STATE OF TENNESSEE
CHANCERY COURT OF GIBSON COUNTY
AT TRENTON, TENNESSEE
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
TCA 30-2-306
Estate of: **Betty Joanne Stegall**
DOCKET: 25825P

Notice is hereby given that on the 24th day of April, 2026, Letters Testamentary in respect of the estate of **Betty Joanne Stegall** deceased, who died 02/27/2026 were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court of Gibson County, Tennessee.

All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file same with Clerk of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1) (a) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) Months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or

(b) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication (or posting) as described in (1) (A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.
This 24th day of April, 2026.

Signed:
Executor: **Betty Anne Stegall**
Lauren Jones
Estate of **Betty Joanne Stegall**
Katelyn Orgain, Clerk & Master
BY: Marcie Denton, DCM

Lauren Jones (Flippin Law Group)
1302 main Street
Humboldt TN, 38343

NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 67-5-508, Tennessee Code Annotated, the property assessment records of Gibson County will be available for public inspection at Room 202, Gibson County Courthouse during normal business hours. Any person desiring to inspect these records may do so at the appointed time and place.

The Gibson County Board of Equalization will begin its annual session to examine and equalize the county assessments on June 1, 2026. The Board will meet each weekday from the hours of 9:00am to 3:00pm in Room 202, Gibson County Courthouse.

Any owner of property who wishes to make a complaint or appeal to the County Board of Equalization must appear before said Board at this time personally or by personal appearance of an agent for the owner bearing the owner's written authorization. Failure to appear and appeal an assessment will result in the assessment becoming final without further right of appeal.

PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF THREE WAY, TENNESSEE PROPOSED BUDGET Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2027			
The City of Three Way, Tennessee, hereby provides certain financial information for the 2026-27 fiscal year budget in accordance with the requirements of Tennessee Code Annotated Title 6, Chapter 56, Section 206.			
There will be a public hearing concerning the budget on Monday, June 1, 2026 at 6:45 pm. The hearing will be held at 190 Three Way Lane at City Hall. All citizens are welcome to attend the meeting and to participate. The budget and all supporting data are public record and available for public inspection at Three Way City Hall located at 190 Three Way Lane, Three Way, TN 38343.			
	ACTUAL FYE 2025	ESTIMATED FYE 2026	PROPOSED FYE 2027
GENERAL FUND:			
Estimated Revenue:			
Local Taxes	\$ 679,633	\$ 677,200	\$ 685,000
State of Tennessee	270,347	267,800	269,800
License & Permits	790	300	300
Fines, Forfeits, & Penalties	0	50	50
Contributions	4,880	6,000	6,000
Miscellaneous Revenues	16,802	16,000	14,000
TOTAL	\$ 972,452	\$ 967,350	\$ 975,150
Estimated Expenditures:			
Salaries	\$ 189,660	\$ 196,618	\$ 223,981
Other Costs	813,487	\$ 1,936,371	\$ 884,601
TOTAL	\$ 1,003,147	\$ 2,132,989	\$ 1,108,582
Estimated Fund Balance:			
Beginning	\$ 2,313,470	\$ 2,282,775	\$ 1,117,136
Ending	\$ 2,282,775	\$ 1,117,136	\$ 983,704
Bonded and Other Indebtness:			
Debt Principle	\$ 69,000	\$ 71,000	\$ 73,000
Interest Requirements	\$ 34,138	\$ 32,344	\$ 30,498
Full-Time Equivalent Employees	3	3	3
STATE STREET AID FUND:			
Estimated Revenue:			
State of Tennessee	\$ 63,213	\$ 67,000	\$ 67,000
Other Sources	295	160	160
TOTAL	\$ 63,508	\$ 67,160	\$ 67,160
Estimated Expenditures:			
Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other Costs	137,717	66,500	87,000
TOTAL	\$ 137,717	\$ 66,500	\$ 87,000
Estimated Fund Balance:			
Beginning	\$ 118,158	\$ 43,949	\$ 44,609
Ending	43,949	44,609	24,769

GCP MARKETING

Be a know-it-all!

Visit us online at www.hchronicle.net

Local News

School & Education

Job Market

The BECKLES Family Podcast with Mike Needham • Off My Front Porch with Steve Wilton • The Heart of Gibson County hosted by Mike Needham • Talking BIKER with GSP • IWE star Mark Canterbury • She's Strong with Tiffany Needham • Gettin' Dirty with The Dirty White Family • week day wit

M I K R O G R O U P
Podcasting