PRSRT STD US POSTAGE Issue 3 | Volume 5 **August - October 2025** PAID **EDDM** Permit #109 Knoxville, TN **Vision in Gold ECRWSS** RESIDENT Pellissippi State celebrates 50 years with gala Hardin alley LIVING **Farmers** Market Check out the new market at **HVEC Karns Fire** Department A new headquarters has opened in Hardin Valley **Marietta Church** Learn about the 187 year history of this community staple Readers Choice Awards Winners of 4th annual contest announced Hardin alley



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# Marietta Cumberland Presbyterian Church

# Active in Hardin Valley for 187 years

Marietta Cumberland Presbyterian Church at 1922 Marietta Church Road has been active in the Hardin Valley community for 187 years.

Founded March 11, 1838, Marietta has about 120 members on the roll. and of those, 70 are active members, according to Maurie Douglas, a church member who volunteers as pianist and church treasurer.

While considering itself a traditional Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Douglas said, "we're kind of a mix — we're not very big — so we have a small choir (of 12 members), mostly traditional hymns but we sometimes venture into more contemporary things. The music's just me playing the piano most of the time. We don't have a band or anything."

The church, currently led by Rev. Randall Mayfield, pastor, originally was organized "as an outgrowth of the Concord Church, which was the first Cumberland Presbyterian Church in East Tennessee," the church's website stated about its history. "It was founded by individuals who also played a role in the Hardin Valley settlement.

"The church's first location was near the Clinch River, but it was later reconstituted in 1873 at the Steele School after facing disruptions during the Civil War," the website continued. "A new church building was constructed in 1879. The church is closely linked to the history of Hardin Valley, with many early settlers and their descendants, like the Gallahers, being members.

"The Marietta Church Cemetery. located adjacent to the church, holds the graves of many of these families," it stated.

"We did History Night a few years ago, and the former pastor ... went into great detail, and he remembers back before the church was renovated," Douglas said. "We have that history we put together."

Since 1838, she said the church has had 26 pastors who served the church.

The last two pastors are the Rev. Don Hubbard, who served from 1965 to 2001, and the Rev. Randall Mavfield, who has been serving since 2001.

"The last two have made it a while," Douglas said and chuckled.

Originally from rural Southwest Missouri, Mayfield's values were greatly influenced from growing up on his family's farm, according to the church's history.

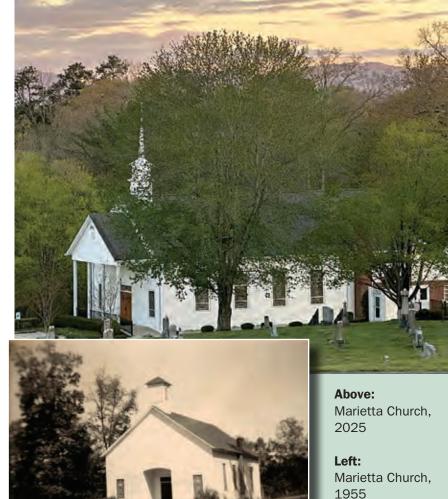
"Randall and his wife, Barbara, have lived in Knoxville for over 20 vears," the history related. "He received his undergraduate degree from Missouri State University and his Master of Divinity (degree) from Memphis Theological Seminary.

"Randall has served churches in both Missouri and Tennessee and has been pastor at Marietta since 2001," the history stated. "Additionally, he has served the Cumberland Presbyterian Church through work on presbytery boards, numerous committees and as a delegate to the denomination's General Assembly.

"Barbara worked as a special education teacher for many years and recently retired from Knox County schools," the history stated. "Randall and Barbara are blessed with three grown children — two daughters and a son- and now both a daughter and son-in-law.

"Additionally, they have a miniature Australian shepherd named Bailey who is often seen hanging out at the church office with Randall," the history stated.

"Hardin Valley's changed so much since I've been there," she observed. However, families, such as the Staffords, who are part of the Hardin family (from where Hardin Valley got its name), the Yarnells (from where the name Yarnell came) have been a church staple.



Right

In 1973, Marietta Church a porch was added as part of the churches renovation project.



Among them are Jane Stafford, whose husband, the late Jim Stafford, is a descendant of the Hardin family, from which Hardin Valley got its name; their two children; and three grandchildren, one of which moved out of the area and no longer attends Marietta.

Also, Kave Yarnell, wife of the late Roger Yarnell, still attends the church. They have two children and one grandchild who all live in Nashville.

"(The Staffords and Hardins) go

See MARIETTA CHURCH on Page 6

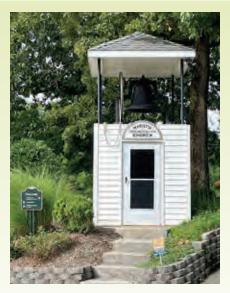
August - October 2025



**Don Hubbard Dedication** 



Micah 6:8 Trail entrance



Bell house



The Rev. Randall Mayfield and Bailey

#### **Marietta Church**

From page 5

all the way back to the beginning of anybody being here," Douglas said.

Through the years, "we've added an office to the church property, but it's a separate structure (from the church building)," she said. "We did that in 2020. We finished it and it was dedicated in 2020."

Before 2020, the church members added an education wing in the 1970s, Douglas noted.

"There are seven Sunday school classrooms, I think," she said, adding the church also has a fellowship hall.

Regarding the sanctuary, Douglas said the original one was built in 1880.

"It was at a different location," she said, explaining the original structure is located where the area was flooded and the lake was formed.

"So, it's now underwater," Douglas added. The most recent sanctuary then was built in its current location.

Describing the church before additions were made, she said, "It has a steeple now. It used to have a belfry on top and (there was) not a front porch."

However, Douglas said the stained glass windows have always been there.

"It used to have a wood-burning stove inside and oil lamps," she related. "The bell from the belfry got moved to the side of the church, and we ring it every Sunday morning.

Also, "we also recently just dedicated a new walking trail," Douglas added. "We put a half mile gravel walking trail on the property for the community to use. We've had some trouble getting the word out about that."

About 8 feet wide, the trail "starts kind of behind the church — we have a cemetery on the property — so it starts kind of off the playground, and then winds up through the wooded area — there's a prayer garden out there and some benches," she said. "You can see out over the valley, which is nice. It kind of goes over a hill, and you can look out.

"We just dedicated it in May," Douglas said. "It's the Micah 6:8 Trail, from the verse in the Bible."

Growing up attending Marietta CPC, she "was baptized as an infant there and I've played the piano for the church since I was 15," Douglas said. Her history with the church started with her parents, George and Lisa Douglas, along with her sister.

"I love the fact that it's an older church and the history, but it's really the people," she added.

"We are small, but it's really the community there and the people," said Douglas, a second-generation member. "We try to reach out in the community ... it's really a wonderful group of people."

Before COVID pandemic, when the church was hit hard, she said the church had a mentoring program at Hardin Valley Elementary School from 2009 to 2020.

"It was through an organization called Kids Hope USA," Douglas said. "We had mentors from the church go into the school and meet with the kids for hourly (sessions).

"When COVID happened, we weren't able to continue that," she said. So recently, "we did the walking trail as kind of an outreach."

Douglas added people are welcome to use the trail anytime during daylight hours, as the trail is not lighted. "We have brief rules posted on the trail." she added.

Additionally, the church currently has a small group that works with Second Harvest Food Bank of East Tennessee every month.

Also the church has been involved with Miracle Lake and The House that Mercy Built missions.

"Miracle lake is a residential Christian training center for men struggling with life controlling addictions.

"The House that Mercy Built is a non-profit, faith-based residential program seeking to provide a safe environment for women to rebuild their lives outside of chaos, lack of boundaries and instability.

"In 2019, we began donating requested items for these ministries and implemented a special offering collected on each fifth Sunday

throughout the year to support these organizations," Douglas said.

The church also holds a fall festival, which will take place this year from 3 to 5 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 19, at the church.

Along with the pastor, the church has volunteer Sunday school teachers. It's services are 9:45 a.m. Sundays, with Sunday school beginning at 11 a.m. on Sunday and a Wednesday prayer meeting at 6 p.m.

"We recently did a new website at mariettacpc.org and we do livestream our services every Sunday," Douglas said. Marietta also has a YouTube channel and a Facebook page.

However, rather than the big screens, "we still stick to the old-school hymnals and Bibles in the back of the pews." she said.

"We have a virtual online Bible study 6 p.m., Sundays," Douglas said, adding people can join by

To join Zoom, "they would just need to reach out to the church to be put on the distribution list," she said. "There's a contact on the website."

She encourages anyone interested in the church to simply visit a church service.

"We'd love to have anybody there," Douglas said.

For more information, call 865-693-0080 or e-mail MariettaCPChurch@ gmail.com

~ Tammy Cheek

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Hardin Valley businesses and residents are anticipating the widening of Hardin Valley Road as the community continues to grow.

Knox County's engineering department currently is purchasing property so it can start the project, estimated at \$26 million, according to Jim Snowden, Knox County chief engineer.

"The project, which starts at Pellissippi (Parkway) and goes all the way to Campbell Station Road, includes the widening — from three lanes to five lanes — of Hardin Valley (Road) in two phases ... including sidewalks on both sides and a new traffic signal at Valley Vista Way," he said.

"The county has been exploring this opportunity for several years due to the traffic growth in the community," Snowden said. "Thankfully, we have recently completed the largest project ever — Schaad Road — and have resources ready to allocate (for the Hardin Valley Road project)."

Currently, "we have the design for Phase 1 complete and are buying right-of-way," he said. "We should start construction on Phase 2 spring/summer 2006 and complete in 12 to 15 months," he said. "The engineering is under way

for Phase 2 and involves many more right-of-way tracts, so it will take several more years to get to construction, estimated at 2027."

The first phase is estimated at \$8 million, and the second phase is estimated at 18 million, according to Snowden.

For businesses along Hardin Valley Road, Snowden said the project "should alleviate many of the existing peak-time congestion issues folks experience daily, as well as reduce crashes."

However, "as with any construction project, delays and inconveniences will be part of the building process, but we'll ensure all major impacts are

done outside peak times," he assured.

Snowden expects Phase 1 to be completed in summer 2027 and Phase 2 to be completed by summer 2029.

So far, he feels good about the project.

"Property owners impacted see the need for improvements and have been very receptive," Snowden added.

#### **Business reactions**

"I don't think (the project is) going to negatively impact the business,"

Hotworx manager Amanda Gentry said. "I think it's going to be tough to get through here while they're doing the construction, but I think ultimately Hardin Valley needed it a long time ago."

"I think it will be good for business," former Dickey's Barbecue Pit former owner Ronnie Jones said about the road project. "I think it will help with the flow of traffic during the busy hours when we're bumper to bumper, red light to red light.

Jones recently sold his Hardin Valley franchise to a new owner Casey Mulholland, who currently is in training with the franchise corporation.

"It will be negative at first, 100 percent," Matlock Tire & Auto Repair store manager Bo Bradshaw said about the expansion construction. "This road is congested enough as it is.

"Whenever they go putting in cones, blocking off roads and limiting use there, it's really probably going to hinder people coming in here (to Matlock)," he said. "It's hard enough to get in here as it is, so when it gets worse, it's probably going to push people away from Hardin Valley Road during that time."

However, "eventually it will be a benefit," Bradshaw said. "Easier ins and outs at the entrance down here, more traffic flow, not so backed up.

"Right now, there can be a continuous line in both directions," he said.

~Tammv Cheek

Property owners impacted see the need for improvements and have been very

receptive."

~ **Jim Snowden**, Knox County chief engineer







The Board of Directors of the Karns Fire Department and the members of the department announced the completion and opening of the new Karns FD headquarters station at 10521 Waterville Lane in Hardin Valley.

The design of the new headquarters and its capacity allowed for relocation of business personnel from the existing building on Oak Ridge Highway. Additionally, this new building allowed for the addition of a new rescue truck purchased in 2023. This building will house a ladder truck, rescue truck, a boat, a workout facility, and a training tower. The building was designed to sleep 6 firefighters, with the potential to add 4 rooms down the road if needed.

The new HQ will also serve as the 5th fire station for the department, which provides fire and rescue services in Karns, Hardin Valley, Ball Camp and Solway. The Karns Fire Department provides fire, rescue and emergency services to over 50,000 residents and commercial businesses in a 52 square mile territory in Northwest Knox County.

Features and benefits of this new HQ and station include:

- Large training room to host training, meetings, and conferences
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Dan & Tammy Doyle, members of Hardin Valley Church of Christ, presented \$1400 in gift card donations made by church members to **Stephanie Erb** (left), Chief Development Officer for **Knoxville Family Justice Center**. Stephanie accepted the donation Monday, February 17, 2025. The cards will be distributed by the Justice Center to "family violence victims to assist with needs, such as groceries, gas and child and infant care items." Based on statistics, the donations are expected to last about four months. The Knoxville Family Justice Center is Knoxville's and Knox County's hub for domestic violence services and support, including legal help and social services for victims and their children. The center is designed as a one stop shop to help victims quickly and efficiently access the help they need.

To contact the **Knoxville Family Justice Center**, call 865-521-6336. If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence, HELP IS AVAILABLE. No appointment is necessary and all services are free.

Our Food Pantry is open the second Monday of each month and serves those living in the 37931 and 37932 zip code regions.





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### **Hardin Valley Youth**

A Ministry for 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Minister: David Schilling david@hvcoc.org

HVVKnox.org

#### WEEKLY RHYTHM

#### SUNDAYS

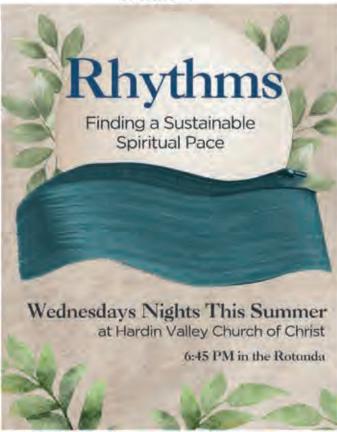
Worship 8:45am & 11:00am Bible Class 10:00am Devo 6:00-8:00pm

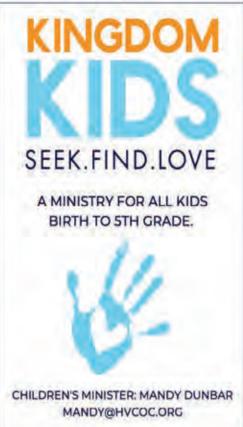
#### Mondays

High School Bible Study-7:00-8:30pm

#### Wednesdays

Class & Worship 6:45-7:30pm





# Chews & Brews



# Come one, Come all

Hardin Valley Event Center welcomes the community and beyond to enjoy the activities coming to its center.

The center, located close to Beaver Creek at 2620 Willow Point Way, is made up of two buildings: the pavilion and the hub, which is the adjacent enclosed building.

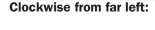
It has been hosting a weekly farmers market, which brings "a monster crowd out," owner Dale Atkins said. "For the first night (June 5), we probably got close to 1,000 people ... I think they had 48 vendors. ... (The facility, I think, can hold 90 (vendors).

"We purposefully chose to be in the Thursday night slot because, for the most part, everybody else was Saturday mornings," he said. On Saturday mornings, "there are plenty of markets in that time slot, but if you have kids in sporting activities, you can never attend a farmers market.

"So, we chose a Thursday night because we are covered and we have lighting and when it gets to be winter time and gets dark at 6 o'clock, you can still come to this market, the lights are on and you







Jodie Moore sells meat at the farmers market.

Ricky Bailey of Old Bailey Farms sells honey.

Dave and Karen Barreira sample some honey.

Ryan Holliday of Windemar Farm in Rockwood sells baked goods.

can still do the farmers market,"

HVEC will host Pavilion Farmers Markets from 4 to 7 p.m., every Thursday until Sept. 30.

Atkins said.

There is also a homestead convention coming Friday and Saturday, Sept. 12-13.

"The Knox Homestead Alliance is a local group that gets together and

they pull resources to have demonstrations about how to on everything homesteading ... anything you want to do on a farm."

Also, "One of the other events we're trying to put together is a big huge trunk or treat," Atkins added.

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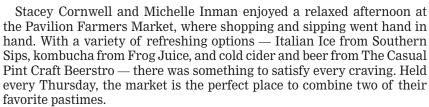
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# **Chews & Brews**





















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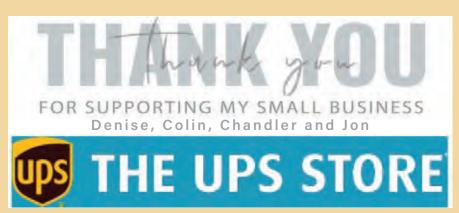


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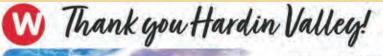
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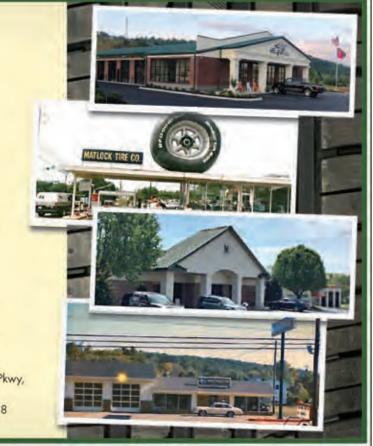
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# Vision in Gold

# Pellissippi State celebrates 50 years

Pellissippi State Community College capped off a yearlong celebration of learning, leading and serving Thursday with the "Our Vision in Gold: 50th Anniversary Celebration" gala, presented by West Chevrolet.

The gala, hosted at the Mill and Mine in downtown Knoxville, brought together Pellissippi State alumni, students, faculty and staff, as well as elected officials, community members and other stakeholders for a formal event that ultimately garnered over \$570,000 in donations – the greatest amount the college has ever fundraised in a single event.

"I'm grateful for the role each and every one of you has played in the success of this institution and our students," President L. Anthony Wise Jr. told attendees. "We could not have done it without you."

More than 80% of Pellissippi State's nearly 100,000 alumni live and work in Knox, Blount and Anderson Counties, Wise said, demonstrating how the college's students have shaped the success of their community.

The event showcased student success with featured filmed testimonials from alumni and first-generation students – a large portion of the student population – and live performances by the Pellissippi State Student Quartet and alumnus Julius Blue.

During a cocktail hour at the event's onset, Tennessee Regent Danni Varlan praised the college for creating relationships with employers that benefit students and strengthen the workforce.

She emphasized all that Pellissippi State offers students – financial benefits, small classroom sizes and athletics – as well as the positive effect of its partnership with other higher-education institutions in Tennessee.

Student speaker Louis Rey Valenzuela described his own experience coming to Pellissippi State, where he returned to college after more than 10 years in the workforce with the goal of building a better future for his family.

Valenzuela had completed only nine credits when he and his wife dis-

See VISION IN GOLD on Page 22



Anthony Wise, Jeanette Mills and Harry Boston

Audrey Williams and Liz Ross







It's refreshing to actually find a dentist office who is transparent and honest. I surely hope this seems to do a great job! All staff is friendly and helpful! Truly a great dentist office, can't recommend

Just left my first visit with Blue Dog. WOW! My teeth have never felt this clean. I feel like maybe I have been missing out on a good dentist until now. The entire staff and doctor were fast, extremely thorough, and pleasant. Excellent communication, an office with amenities, and I didn't have to wait. Highly recommend.

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~ S Gentry

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#### Vision in Gold

From page 20

covered their unborn daughter had a tumor on her heart and was in heart failure. When a children's hospital in Pennsylvania offered a surgical solution, Valenzuela believed his education was over.

But the Pellissippi State Foundation intervened so Valenzuela could continue his education and balance it with full-time work and fatherhood. He has since become treasurer for the Student Government Association and a force in the community.

"If you had told me years ago that I would face one of my hardest trials of my life and one of the strongest (supports) that I would ever get would be from a community college - I would never have believed you," he said. "But Pellissippi State is the very definition of community. The support, the encouragement – the belief in the students like me – is something I would never experience anywhere else."

For the first time in his life, Valenzuela said he feels as though he has worth.

"Tonight, we come together to celebrate 50 years of Pellis-- 50 years of opening doors. creating opportunities and changing lives," Valenzuela told the audience at the gala.

General fundraising through bids on exclusive experiences including premium game tickets, field passes and a signed helmet from the Cleveland Browns and a private suite at the new Knoxville Smokies stadium - was mediated by local personality Dino Cartwright.

"Tonight, we come together sippi State Community College to celebrate 50 years of Pellissippi State Community College - 50 years of opening doors, creating opportunities and changing lives."

~ Louis Rev Valenzuela

A paddle-raising auction followed, raising thousands of dollars specifically for first-generation scholarships at Pellissippi.

Former Maryville mayor Steve West, who attended the event, reflected on Pellissippi State's impact on Blount County and overall.

"As it's grown, it's expanded," said West, whose son and West Chevrolet President Charles West gave the presenting sponsor address at the event. "It's offered more things to the kids. And I think that more families are deciding that it's okay not to get a four-year college degree."

Wise rounded out the evening praising faculty and staff for their investment in students.

"When our successors gather from the 100th anniversary of this special community college, I hope they will recognize the commitment of this institution to learning, to leading and to serving in a way that allows students to achieve their goals and graduates become productive citizens in a community that's still a great place to live, to work and raise a family," Wise said.

The college pivots students easily from the classroom to real-life work environments, he added, pointing to recent student involvement in the running of Knoxville's Big Ears Festival.

Wise said. We want to be known "as an institution that helps each student find an academic pathway full of curricular and co-curricular learning ... that builds career development into the learning experi-

Louis and Brailey Valenzuela with Nicole Flory



Jerome and Debbie Moon

Stella Bridgeman and Fannie Turner





"We hope to do so going forward as a career-immersion college," ence from the start of the application to the completion of the degree."





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# Hardin Valley Academy has a new addition

With the beginning of the 2025 school year, Hardin Valley Academy freshmen have classes in the school's new addition.

"We're very excited," HVA principal Dr. Kirk Renegar said. "I think it's going to have some much needed classroom space, and provide some outstanding opportunities for our students."

"Beautiful," Buddy Heins, vice president of Merit Construction Inc., said. "We were actually a little early, it was going so well."

The two-story addition totals 43,861 square feet.

"The space will be dedicated to the school's Freshmen Academy and its health science academy," Carly Harrington, Knox County Schools chief of communications said. "It will include 20 general education classrooms; a special education suite; lab spaces for science, health sciences and engineering; an ICC-500 compliant storm shelter; satellite administrative area; teacher work room and a secured exterior courtyard."

For freshmen, "there will be freshmen academy classes — some of our English, math, science, social studies we dedicate to our freshmen — will be housed there," Renegar said.

Regarding their work on the HVA addition, "We're delighted," Heins said. "People moving into the community need services ... we're happy to meet those needs."

"A building addition not only offers more space for students and teachers, it also adds a level of excitement for the freshman that it will serve," said Betsy Henderson, Knox County School Board chair and District 6 Board representative, which includes Hardin Valley.

"This building addition will inspire creativity, encourage engagement, and foster a renewed sense of pride in the school community."





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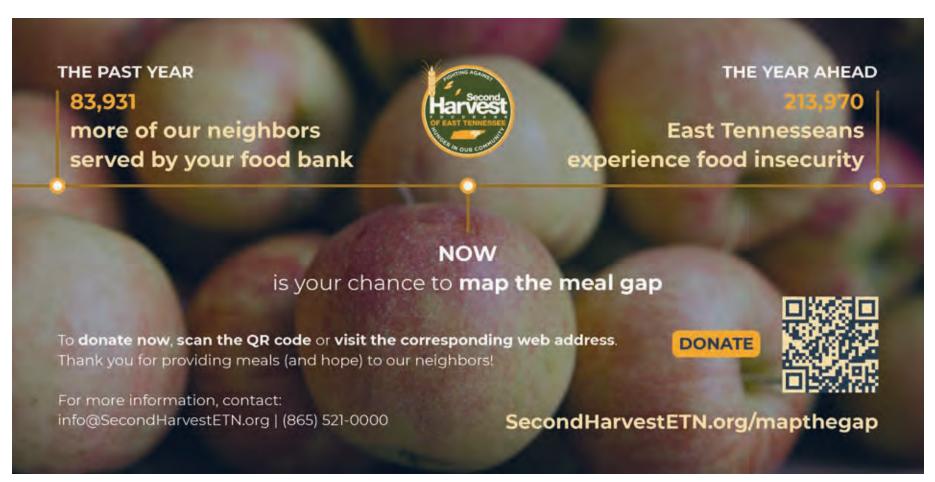
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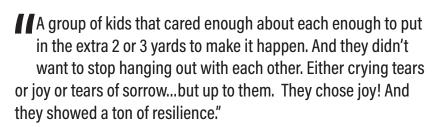






Congratulations to the Hardin Valley Academy Hawks, who capped a great season with the soccer program's second state crown on May 23, 2025.





~ Ray Dover, HVA Boys soccer head coach







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# Kids' Corner





The winners of the Find the Hawl contest for the May 2025 edition of Hardin Valley Living are

# Delaney & Piper McDonald, age 11

The winners received a gift card from **Chick-fil-A!** (Turkey Creek and Overlook Center locations)

Thank you to Chick-fil-A for their sponsorship of the Hawk contest, and congratulations to our winners!



# **Double Word Puzzle**

Unscramble the words to reveal the sentence.

SREIT

1 2 3 4

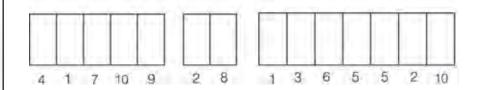
AFTS

5 6

NRUTK

7 8 9

RCSA





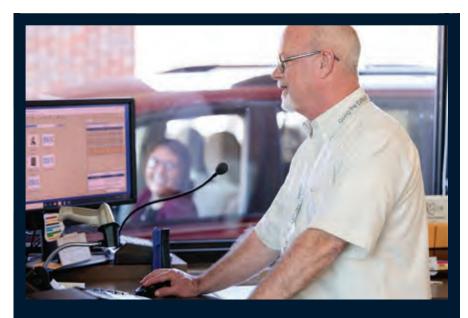
This hawk has been hidden in this issue of "Hardin Valley Living!" Search through the pages to find the hawk. When you do, fill out this form and mail or bring it to: farragutpress, 11863 Kingston Pike, Farragut, TN 37934

**Location of Hawk** (page number, description of hiding place):

Name:	Age:
Parent Name:	
Phone Number:	
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If correct, you will be entered in a drawing for prizes to be held **October 10, 2025**. Winner to be announced in the next edition of Hardin Valley Living. (Ages 12 and under are eligible.)





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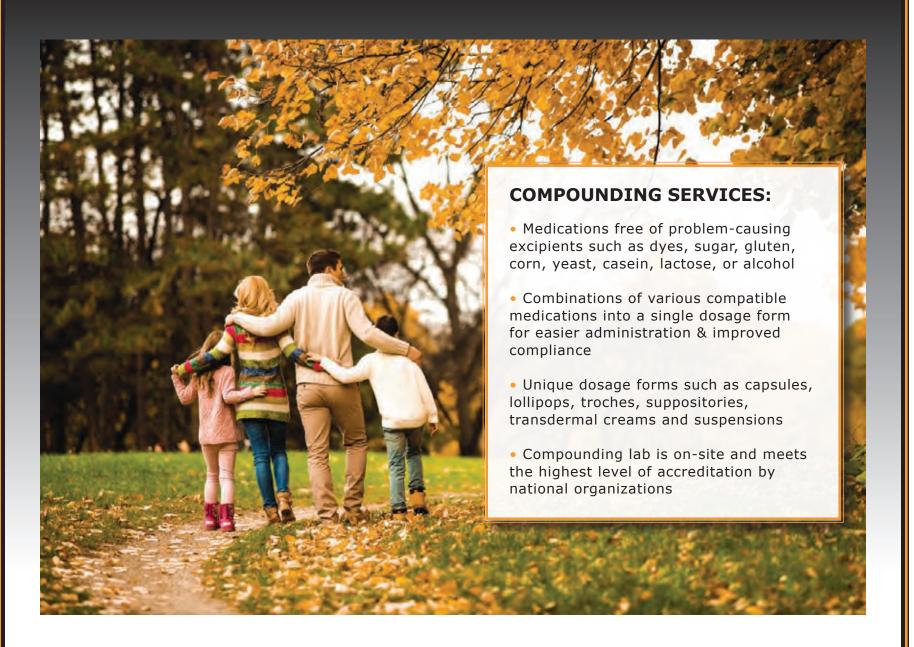






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