

Bedford County News

VOL. 1

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2026 · SHELBYVILLE, TENN. · BEDFORDCOUNTYNEWS.COM

AS OF 7:00 A.M.

THIS WEEK IN BEDFORD

Cascade girls start state tournament Tuesday; planners take up subdivision rules

Early voting ends Thursday. Scott Johnson's graveside service is Wednesday, and the football regular season wraps up Thursday and Friday.

Cascade's girls soccer team plays Madison Magnet Tuesday at 3 p.m. in the Class A state quarterfinals at Boyd Buchanan School in Chattanooga. The Lady Champions are 16-1-1, seeded third, and on their fourth straight trip to state.

They earned it last week. Cascade won 1-0 at Culleoka in Thursday's region final, then beat Huntingdon 3-0 at home Saturday in the sectional.

Tuesday night the Bedford County Planning Commission is set to vote on changes to the county's subdivision rules. One would cap a simple subdivision at three lots instead of five.

Before that, the county finance committee meets at 4:15 p.m. and commissioners hold a special session on their bylaws at 5.

Family and friends gather Wednesday for Scott Johnson, the county's EMA director for 17 years, who died Oct. 21. His graveside service is at 1 p.m. at Rosebank Cemetery in Flat Creek.

Early voting ends Thursday at 5 p.m., and Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 3. Fall break wraps up today for Bedford County Schools.

TODAY

TODAY	Partly sunny, high near 74	LOW 45 TONIGHT
8:30 A.M.	Election Commission meets	PUBLIC SQ. W.

THIS WEEK AND NEXT

TUE. 3 P.M.	Cascade vs. Madison Magnet Class A girls soccer state quarterfinal.	CHATTANOOGA
TUE. 4:15 P.M.	County finance committee Bylaws session follows at 5.	200 DOVER ST.
TUE. 7 P.M.	County Planning Commission Subdivision rule changes.	COURTHOUSE
WED. 1 P.M.	Scott Johnson graveside service	FLAT CREEK
WED. 6 P.M.	Webb Halloween Concert	BELL BUCKLE
THU. 5 P.M.	Early voting ends	PUBLIC SQ. W.
THU. 7 P.M.	Cascade at Community	FOOTBALL

LAST WEEK

TUE. OCT. 20	Committees set tax freeze study for Nov. 10	COUNTY
WED. OCT. 21	Zoning board OKs Cedar Glade storage use	CITY
THU. OCT. 22	Planners approve Willows Phase 2	20 LOTS
SAT. OCT. 24	Cascade beats Huntingdon to reach state	3-0 FINAL

WEATHER · SHELBYVILLE

74° / 45° PARTLY SUNNY

Partly sunny today with a high near 74. Partly cloudy tonight, low around 45. It stays dry and warm through Friday, with highs in the upper 70s. Patchy fog is possible early Thursday.

TUE	Mostly sunny	77/46
WED	Partly sunny	76/43
THU	Fog, then sun	78/45
FRI	Mostly sunny	79/53

Halloween on Saturday is mostly cloudy with a high near 77 and a 20 percent chance of showers. Showers and storms are likely Saturday night. Sunday has a 60 percent chance of showers, high near 76.

National Weather Service, Nashville office. Forecast issued 7 a.m.

INSIDE

A2 · CITY

Willows Phase 2 approved, the zoning board's Cedar Glade vote, online permits and the city calendar.

A3 · COUNTY AND TOWNS

What the committees did, Tuesday's planning vote, the Wartrace ballot, services for Scott Johnson and the county calendar.

A4 · SPORTS AND PUZZLES

Cascade's road to state, Friday's football, this week's games, a mini crossword and a word search.

COMING UP

VIETNAM VETERANS WAY DEDICATION

Thursday, Nov. 5, at 11 a.m. at the VFW building. Holland Street is being renamed Vietnam Veterans Way. The dedication was moved up from Nov. 7 on the square.

CITY · SHELBYVILLE

PLANNING COMMISSION

Planners approve 20-lot Willows Phase 2 on Dover Street

The final plat passed Thursday with no one voting against. Staff says accessory dwelling rules are due for a rewrite.

The Shelbyville Municipal Planning Commission approved the final plat for Phase 2 of The Willows on Thursday, Oct. 22. Six members were there and three were absent.

The plat covers 20 lots on 3.81 acres on Dover Street, zoned R-3. DCC Strategic Realty Partners is the owner. Staff said the developer is dedicating a 50-foot right-of-way for a public road and the plat meets city standards. It passed on a roll call vote with no one against.

Asked about an application in the new online system, staff said detached accessory dwelling units have been allowed in the city since about 2016, but the current wording leaves a lot open to interpretation. The city plans to update the rules on size, location and what's allowed.

The meeting lasted about nine minutes. A joint training for city and county planners and zoning board members is set for Monday, Nov. 9, from 5 to 7 p.m.

PERMITS

Most city permits are now online

City planning staff said Thursday that most building permit and planning applications are now in the city's OpenGov online system, and people are already using it. Annexation and rezoning forms are being finished. The planned unit development application, the most complex one, is next.

UTILITIES

Power, water and sewer board meets Tuesday

The Shelbyville Power, Water and Sewer Board holds its regular meeting Tuesday, Oct. 27, at 4 p.m. at the Shelbyville Power System office, 308 South Main Street.

HOUSING

Housing Authority board meets Wednesday

The Shelbyville Housing Authority board has its regular meeting Wednesday, Oct. 28, at noon at the Tate Street Community Center.

ZONING APPEALS

Zoning board OKs Cedar Glade storage use; Morton Street lot comes back next month

Wednesday's vote covered the use only. Site plans still go to the Planning Commission.

The Shelbyville Board of Zoning Appeals approved a special exception Wednesday, Oct. 21, for Cedar Glade Storage, a self-storage use on 9.32 acres on Cedar Glade Circle. The land is part of a planned unit development with C-2 business zoning underneath. Site design, access, a new road, landscaping and screening from nearby homes still need Planning Commission approval.

The board put off a rear-setback request for a 0.14-acre lot on Morton Street for a month, so the applicant can bring a house plan and driveway layout. A request at 601 Plum Hill Drive was withdrawn after the builder found a house model that fits the lot. The board also elected a new chair and vice chair and welcomed two new members.

CITY CALENDAR · SHELBYVILLE

TUE, OCT. 27 · 9 A.M.
Employee Benefits Review Committee
 Council Chambers, 100 N. Cannon Blvd.

WED, OCT. 28 · NOON
Housing Authority board
 Tate Street Community Center

THU, NOV. 5 · 6 P.M.
City Council study session
 Council Chambers, 100 N. Cannon Blvd.

TUE, OCT. 27 · 4 P.M.
Power, Water and Sewer Board
 308 South Main St.

MON, NOV. 9 · 5 P.M.
Joint planning and zoning training
 100 N. Cannon Blvd.
 City and county boards. Until 7 p.m.

COUNTY · TOWNS · CALENDAR

SERVICES

Scott Johnson will be laid to rest Wednesday

A graveside service for Lt. Col. Scott Lee Johnson is Wednesday, Oct. 28, at 1 p.m. at Rosebank Cemetery in Flat Creek. A reception to celebrate his life follows from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Blue Ribbon Circle on the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration grounds.

Johnson, 68, ran the county EMA for 17 years and later served a term on the County Commission. Memorial gifts can go to the Lt. Col. Scott L. Johnson Memorial Scholarship at First Community Bank of Tennessee. It will help Bedford County Schools graduates headed into public safety, education or health care who plan to serve here.

COUNTY COMMITTEES

Committees set tax freeze study for Nov. 10

Three committees met Oct. 20. Public Safety also formed a subcommittee on Cascade school traffic.

Rules and Legislative, one of three county committees that met Oct. 20, set a study session on a senior property tax freeze for 5 p.m. Nov. 10, before the full commission meets. Members said the program needs approval by December for people to apply next year. A proposed policy on nondisclosure agreements was withdrawn after the committee was told the county lacks authority there.

Public Safety watched drone video of drop-off traffic backing up at the Cascade schools on Fairfield Pike and formed a subcommittee to study a possible new access road. The sheriff's office reported a new jail library of about 1,500 donated books.

Courthouse and Property recommended naming the emergency management building on Railroad Avenue the Lt. Col. Scott Johnson Emergency Operations Center. It also sent Leadership Bedford's plan for a Leadership Park on the old sheriff's office lot to the full commission, which meets Nov. 10.

FINANCE

Finance committee meets Tuesday

The county Financial Management Committee meets Tuesday, Oct. 27, at 4:15 p.m. in Suite 110 of the Business Complex, 200 Dover Street. The agenda lists solid waste, human resources, archives, an architect and owner's representative, reports and school board surplus property.

ELECTION

Election Commission meets this morning

The Bedford County Election Commission meets today, Oct. 26, at 8:30 a.m. in its office at 100 Public Square West. Approving write-in name variations is on the agenda.

BELL BUCKLE

Webb holds Halloween Concert Wednesday

The Webb School has a Halloween Concert on its calendar for Wednesday, Oct. 28, from 6 to 9 p.m. in the chapel on campus in Bell Buckle.

COUNTY PLANNING

Planners vote Tuesday on subdivision rule changes

The Bedford County Planning Commission meets Tuesday, Oct. 27, at 7 p.m. in the second-floor community room of the Historic Courthouse.

A simple subdivision could have no more than three lots, down from five, and the same tract couldn't be split that way again for 24 months. New streets in bigger subdivisions would have to tie into county roads at least 20 feet wide, or the developer would widen them.

Also listed: a request to rename Community Crossings Road, which serves Community High School, as Robert Raulston Way.

WARTRACE

Wartrace ballot asks about liquor by the drink

Wartrace voters will see a liquor referendum on the Nov. 3 ballot. It asks whether to allow the sale of alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises in town. The mayor's seat and two alderman seats are also on the town ballot. Normandy and Shelbyville have municipal races too.

Early voting runs through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., at 100 Public Square West. Bring a photo ID. On Election Day, polls are open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

COUNTY, SCHOOLS AND TOWNS CALENDAR

MON, OCT. 26 · 8:30 A.M.

Election Commission
100 Public Square West
Write-in name variations.

MON-THU, OCT. 26-29 · 8 A.M.

Early voting
Election Commission, basement
Until 5 p.m. Photo ID.

TUE, OCT. 27 · 4:15 P.M.

Financial Management Committee
200 Dover St., Suite 110

TUE, OCT. 27 · 5 P.M.

Commission bylaws session
After the finance committee

TUE, OCT. 27 · 7 P.M.

County Planning Commission
Historic Courthouse, 2nd floor
Subdivision rules, road rename.

WED, OCT. 28 · 1 P.M.

Scott Johnson graveside service
Rosebank Cemetery, Flat Creek
Reception 3:30 to 6:30 p.m., Blue Ribbon Circle.

TUE, NOV. 3 · 9 A.M.

Election Day
Your precinct
Polls close at 7 p.m.

THU, NOV. 5 · 11 A.M.

Vietnam Veterans Way dedication
VFW building

TUE, NOV. 10 · 5 P.M.

Tax freeze study session
Before the Commission meeting

SPORTS · PUZZLES

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Cascade girls open state tournament Tuesday in Chattanooga

The Lady Champions won the region and the sectional last week. Shelbyville Central came up three points short at Hendersonville.

GIRLS SOCCER · LAST WEEK

SAT. OCT. 24
Cascade 3, Huntingdon 0 SECTIONAL

THU. OCT. 22
Cascade 1, Culleoka 0 REGION FINAL

TUE. OCT. 20
Cascade 5, Richland 0 REGION SEMI

TUE. OCT. 20
Culleoka 3, Community 2 REGION SEMI

TUE. OCT. 20
Ravenwood 9, Shelbyville Central 0 REGION SEMI

FOOTBALL · FRIDAY, OCT. 23

FINAL
Hendersonville 32, Shelbyville Central 29

FINAL
Marion County 42, Cascade 7

OFF
Community NEXT: OCT. 29

THIS WEEK

TUE. 3 P.M.
Cascade vs. Madison Magnet STATE

WED. 5:30 P.M.
State semifinal, if Cascade wins

THU. 7 P.M.
Cascade at Community FOOTBALL

FRI. 7 P.M.
Shelbyville Central at Coffee County Central FOOTBALL

NOTES

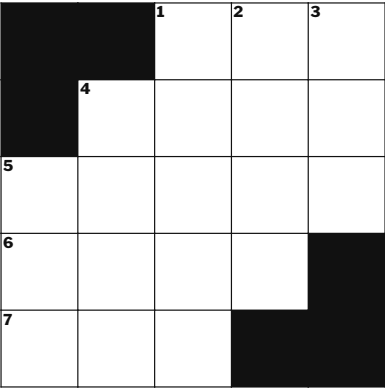
STATE BRACKET
TSSAA lists times in Eastern, so Tuesday's 4 p.m. start is 3 p.m. here. A win sends Cascade to Wednesday's semifinal at 5:30 p.m. The final is Friday at Finley Stadium.

FOURTH STRAIGHT TRIP
Cascade won District 9 and Region 5 this fall. It's the program's fourth state tournament in a row, and the team is still after its first win there.

LAST REGULAR-SEASON WEEK
Cascade goes to Unionville Thursday to play Community. Shelbyville Central finishes at Coffee County Central on Friday.

Soccer results and state bracket from TSSAA, Oct. 26. Football from MaxPreps team pages, updated Oct. 25.

MINI CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Not hers
4 Fence piece
5 How you can vote through Thursday
6 Get out of bed
7 "You ___ here"

DOWN

- 1 Walking ___ (Celebration star)
2 Small island
3 Pig pen
4 Two of a kind
5 Long stretch of time

WORD SEARCH · AROUND BEDFORD COUNTY

C H A L L O W E E N L W G
W H Y H B Y L A W S N R C
C H A M P I O N S O F W U
H S R T F W E S I K C A L
R U E R T T Y S E L O R L
R A N C A A I Y C L N T E
H V U T T V N V Y E C R O
S M S L I I B O P L E A K
I I S D S N O K O O R C A
O A B P B T G N T G T E V
I U G B T K O D A O A T V
S B A L L O T N O L G I D
W R O S E B A N K N P L K

Words run across, down or diagonally.

STATE
CHATTANOOGA
SECTIONAL
BYLAWS
SUBDIVISION
RAULSTON
WARTRACE
HALLOWEEN
ROSEBANK
CHAMPIONS
CONCERT
HUNTINGDON
CULLEOKA
BALLOT

Across: 1. HIS, 4. POST, 5. EARLY, 6. RISE, 7. ARE, Down: 1. HORSE, 2. ISLE, 3. STY, 4. PAIR, 5. ERA.