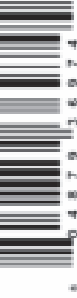


**Head Start
open house**
Monday; see page B2

**"House for
Rent"**
Fri., Sat.; see page B3

**At. Mr. Coble's
HCHS**
YESTERYEAR, page B4



Hickman County Times 50¢

**18 PAGES
2 Sections**

Monday, April 22, 2019

Volume 72 -- Number 16 Centerville, Tennessee

County Population 24,690 -- Centerville Population 3,644
(2010 Census)

Aetna, Bon Aqua, Brushy, Bucksnot, Coble, Farmer's Exchange, Gray's Bend, Grinders Switch, Little Lot, Locust Creek, Lyles, Nunnally, Only, Pinewood, Pleasantville, Primm Springs, Shady Grove, Shipp's Bend, Spot, Swan, Totty's Bend, Vernon, Wrigley

"Open dumpster" or just private? Property use is at heart of clean-up plan

By BRADLEY A. MARTIN

Ron Marks has lived in a neighborhood off Oak Springs Road, in Nunnally, for 25 years, back to when the road was little more than dirt.

"A lot of these people weren't even here; this development has more than doubled," he says.

More nearby residents may be good — but for some time now, Marks has not been encouraged by what he's been seeing:

Trash, and not just roadside litter. During a recent ride down the two-mile road, he points out collections of garbage piled in the yard outside several

residences.

This is certainly not the only neighborhood where such deposits may be found in Hickman County. Marks may just be more exasperated about it than most.

An "open dumpster philosophy," he calls it.

"I've never seen it this bad," he says. "Just look over your left shoulder and you'll see what I'm talking about."

Stacks of household garbage, in addition to litter strewn around. No, not at every home; he's especially complimentary of a mechanic's home: plenty of cars and yard art, but



Heading up Vaughn Road, a long line of debris and vehicles greets you.

well kept.

"They were here when we moved here, and we thought maybe that's what

it's going to develop into, maybe, nice five-acre places."

His favorite worst place

is on the corner, near the Pinewood Road intersection: A brick home with a red pick-up truck in the

front yard and assorted debris all around, courtesy of what he calls squatters.

(continued on page A6)

Visited April 12

Governor touts improvements for education

By BRADLEY A. MARTIN

Education — hands-on technical learning as well as skills development to help convicts succeed once released — was the major theme of an hour-long visit here by Gov. Bill Lee on April 12.

The governor, elected in November, drew a crowd of 75 folks to hear him, in the back dining room of Country Kitchen.

His was the first town hall-style visit here in decades, though Phil Bredesen and Bill Haslam made industrial site visits during their time in the state's highest office.

"I'm from Fernvale, really," he said, adding that his family had owned a farm on Duck River off of Highway 50.

"Hickman County has been back and forth in my life for a long time," he said "Now it's a new life."

Lee said he will make additional visits in Hickman County during his tenure, in keeping with his interest in being a hands-on executive.

"I like to be out in the field meeting with folks who are actually doing the work out there."

The governor emphasized his Governor's Investment in Vocational Education Act.

"I employed plumbers and pipefitters and welders and I know we need to do a better job with that, and we're about to," said the former chief executive of Lee Company. "We're about to do a lot of things in the public education system that's going to create opportunities for kids."

Tim Hobbs, a retired vocation teacher and a Board of Education member, said quality vocational education lacks a way to draw instructors because pay levels are much better in the private sector.

Lee said finding ways to "elevate the instruction" is "one of the very first things we need to do," along with easing regulations that demand teaching certificates for "highly



GOV. BILL LEE

gifted folks.

"Businesses need to be a part of the educational solution," the governor said. "It's kind of my theory that the government is not the answer to the challenges we face — the people are. And when the private sector engages with the educational system,

then we're going to have meaningful change."

He said his budget proposal would increase funding this year for teacher pay and the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) areas.

He also wants to

(continued on page A7)

HCHS student, 17, dies

A 17-year-old boy died from a gunshot wound suffered at his home on April 14, the Sheriff's Department reported.

Detective Johnny Davis said the matter remained under investigation, though he said it appeared that Jacob W. Hetherington — a senior at Hickman County High — used a 12-gauge shotgun to take his own life.

Jacob was the son of David and Dedre Hetherington of Centerville; his twin brother, Joshua, also is a senior this year; their sister, Brielle, is a student at Harding University.

"It's a sad thing and a tough thing for family and his school family," said HCHS Principal Kevin Eady, who said counselors spent time talking with students in the days following.



JACOB
HETHERINGTON

Jacob was a member of the school's JROTC unit, serving as assistant operations officer. He was a member of the corps' drill and Raider teams, 1SG Scott Riley said.

"He was very dedicated," Riley said. "Very precise. Always a good worker."

Jacob was a member of the Bulldog track team, specializing in the 3200-meter run. He and his brother had been members of Boy Scout Troop 772 for several years, and both had assisted with food service at the recent Shelter Friends dinner, earning service hours for the Tennessee Promise scholarship program.

"Josh, his twin, worked for Jr. Pro; Jacob came to help with the Shelter Friends dinner and we all really enjoyed getting to know him," said Becki Bates, who has led both organizations.

"Ray Linder, a board member, said both young men were so courteous to everyone they served a

dinner to. It was the first time I got to meet Jacob and I'd hoped to use him more to get all his volunteer hours taken care of."

Visitation with the Hetherington family took place on April 19 at McDonald Funeral Home. His remains were cremated.

Jacob is the second member of the HCHS Class of 2019 to die by violent means during this school year. Last October 19, Jacob C. Furlow, 17, died from gunshot wounds; two persons have been arrested and face homicide charges.

Persons contemplating suicide should consider calling the 24-hour helpline at 1-800-784-2433.

Clean-up plan faces Body Monday night

County commissioners will meet on Monday night to consider passage of a long-discussed clean-up resolution — Resolution 19-12 — and take up other matters, including maintenance adoption of three roads into the county system and established of an operations manager position in the Emergency

Management Agency.

The 7 p.m. meeting will be preceded at 6:30 by a public hearing on Resolution 19-12, when any citizen may speak. Both meetings will occur in the Hickman County Justice Center and are open to public attendance.

Should the resolution

(continued on page A3)



40th anniversary

Clark Container owner Cathey Chilton and President Chris Chilton presided over the company's 40th anniversary celebration on April 11. See the report on page A5.

Chamber fighting litter

See report on
page A7