Hickman County Times 50¢

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18 PAGES 2 Sections Monday, July 11, 2011

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

Two cited for homicide

charged in murder, dismemberment

By SKYLER SWISHER brother said. The Daily Herald Columbia

cash, the victim's twin accessory after the fact.

beating a man to death with charged on June 30 with by a sledgehammer, dismem- homicide and abuse of a Investigators believe Waters money. bering him, stashing his corpse. Another man, Devin was killed inside Dotson He wants his brother's burying his remains in a Hohenwald, was charged 324 Columbia Avenue. ravine were after \$15,000 in with abuse of a corpse and

Alonzo Waters, the victim's brother, said he does-

Jessica M. Dotson, 25, both covered June 29 after sum of cash with him, but said. Two people accused of of Centerville, were authorities were tipped off he is certain that his killers an informant. wanted to rob him of his the Tennessee Bureau of ering the fatal blow, accord-

parts in a freezer and then T. Simpson, 22, of and Frazier's residence at killers to receive the death Columbia Avenue home. In took Waters to the bathtub, forgives them.

"I forgive them because I the face with a sledgeham- (Continued on page A5)

The body of 19-year-old n't know why his brother am a Christian and that is mer while he slept on the Brent L. Frazier, 27, and Alphonso Waters was dis- was carrying such a large what the Lord wants," he couch June 18.

> Investigation, sheds light on ing to the affidavit. what took place at the Investigators allege the two penalty, but he said he also the affidavit, investigators and Frazier cut off the vicallege Waters was struck in tim's legs.

Frazier and Court affidavits, filed by accused each other of deliv-

Flat tire, then crash injures 11

2 go to VU; 5 in back end

A pick-up truck blew a tire on I-40 last Wednesday morning, overturning and injuring its 11 riders, all from Centerville, the Tennessee Highway Patrol reported.

Two of those were flown to Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, while the other nine were carried to Horizon Medical Center.

Trooper Bryant Campbell reported that the 10:37 a.m. accident on July 6 occurred at the 178mile marker on the eastbound side. Anna Eaton, 45, was the driver. She lost control after the tire went flat and the vehicle began to sway. The Ford F-150 crew cab pickup, which was hauling a Coleman camper, hit a guardrail and rolled over.

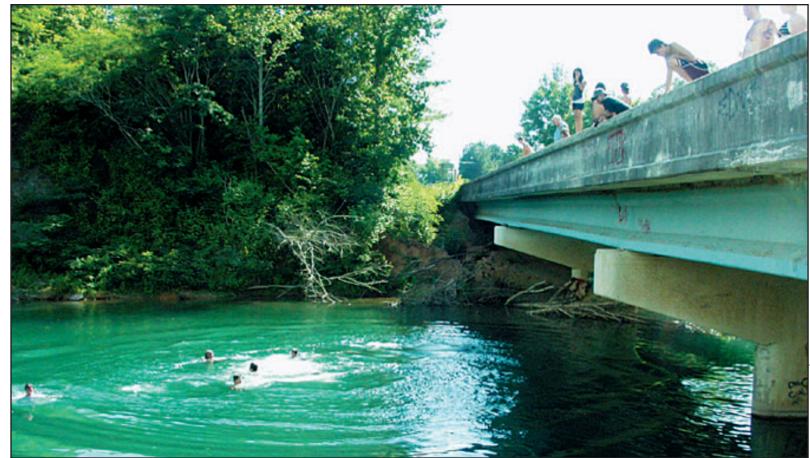
Five of the 11 people were riding in the bed of the truck and were thrown out, as was one of the riders in the truck.

Taken to Vanderbilt by helicopter were Charity Goodwin, 13, who was riding inside, and Harvey Eaton, 42, who was among those riding in the bed. Both were in stable condition on Thursday.

Carried to Horizon were Nicole Goodwin, 20; Virginia Goodwin, 44; Buchler, 15; David Eaton, Buchler and David Goodwin, 19.

Dalya Qualls, information officer for the Department of Safety, reported that all the occupants were from a family residence that is home to several mentally handicapped persons.

Beat the heat with a cool creek



Jumping in is the thing at the J.H. Barber Bridge over Beaverdam Creek, at Coble.

Where's the coldest hole?

County's abundance of water pays off in summertime

Take the creek tour

see pages A6, A7

By BRADLEY A. MARTIN

If you have access to an air-conditioning unit, then you know the most comfortable way to avoid the otherwise inescapable heat of July and August.

But there's one other way to stay cool:

Find a shady creek and jump in.

Unlike air conditioning, Becky Buchler, 16; Bert though, creeks are free, if you can find one. Many 43; Joe Eaton, 40; Elton folks already have enjoyed a lot of wading, floating, splashing, even napping during the 90-degree days this summer.

Given the amount of fun some of our coolest places. that creeks can provide, and

Hickman County, what fol- 30 years as an officer of the lows here is . . . well, a Tennessee guide to local creeks, sure.

heated weekend back- den floater really needs to know unmatched; he knows how the answer to this:

swimming hole Hickman County?

Only one of our citizens is fully qualified to explore that question, and the editor that have passed here so far of this newspaper asked him to conduct a tour of

realizing that few places — right here, pretty much out- I don't know; there may be. are colder, other creeks that the survey on the spot to if any — in Tennessee have doors, earned a wildlife This is just the one I am we may have missed — enjoy the peace and coolas many creeks as does biology degree, then spent really familiar with.

getaways

Where is the coldest an unbreakable stream thermometer. So, are there other places

than Hickman? probably be by volume in whether this survey is gence. one of the lakes, some of definitive, the answer is

with more natural water "If there is," he said, "it'd

"They'd probably be Wildlife hard-pressed to find one Resources Agency. His with this much free-run-But the inquiring, over- knowledge of all those hid- ning surface water that is as is good a quality."

We spent four hours tourto get to them -- and he has ing southern streams on Trespassing" signs. There July 1, then spent another was, however, one excepfour hours toward the north side of the county on July 2.

Results — not overly scientific — are here.

If you want to know after a five-minute submerthese big lakes, but as far as No. In fact, we are sure that water, avoiding all types of David Anderson grew up free-running surface water, there are other holes that temptation (like quitting and that we'll be hearing ness).

about all of those very But that will be a contro-

versy that's fun. A note on the rules we observed:

— Creeks with public access points were all we were looking for; many a site along our route was fenced off or featured "No tion to the rule.

— The temperature was taken in a shady spot, if possible, and only read

— We stayed out of the

Playwright turns out the lights

Playwright Clay Harris has decided to leave the theatre business and pursue other interests, he told members of the local performing troupe last week.

"How hard was the decision," he said in an e-mail, responding to a question. "Like watching my father die. Once resolved to the event, numb, empty, hurt, sad, like burying my moth-

er . . . gone.' Harris and his wife, Judy, will devote their time to making sure their granddaughter, Eames, has the finances she needs to attend

college in a few years. Harris has created original drama, comedy and



CLAY HARRIS

original plays and musicals in four years.

The most recent produc-Slater Whitson. It was children's works here for staged at the Tennessee small town in America a unclear.

on newspaper death notices. memory.'

Harris would not cite one

more than 20 years. More Performing Arts Center in theatre was created and recently, the Clay Harris mid-June. The troupe also attended by the most won-Theatre has presented 23 went to Nashville to present derful human kinds. A rare "Obituary," a musical based happening to be treasured in

Whether the local theatre tion was "Beth," about production as the most shin- troupe, which numbers Goodrich songwriter Beth ing theatrical moment here. about 25, will decide to "The whole thing. In a continue or disband is

Interlocal pact exists

nications center.

A 2004 agreement "That's all right for now," between county and town said Centerville Mayor Bob governments spells out how Bohn, who had considered the two entities will share ending service to the counresponsibilities and costs ty, due to liability reasons, for the emergency commu- because he believed there (continued on page A8)

At Fairfield Church of Christ

Blood Mobile

Monday; See page B2



Looking for a creek?



Mill Creek, far out Bell Branch, offers a flat, wide place.

A tour of swimming holes

A Hickman County creek The temperature we that water feels. . . . " survey report, taken July 1- observed bears him out — 2, in order of travel:

Beaverdam Creek

Store, may be the most popcounty, given that it is carries accessible directly from the

late on a Friday afternoon. Note that the popularity is related to this fact: You can deep hole, climb out and up and debris. and do it again. All day. Alternatively, you can jump in, float under the bridge and come up on a gravel bar, where a strategically positioned chair would allow the sun to really soak

David took two temperature readings. The thermometer read 72 degrees after three minutes; we agreed at that point to make five minutes the standard length. The second reading reported 74 degrees.

Officially: 74.

Blue Water

In formulating this survey, a certain resident of mised, of a long-sunny Swan is my personal Blue Water Road, known stretch of water, which favorite, though I did not during the week as the attorney Allston Vander Horst, theorized that Blue Water Creek, which feeds it's a relative thing," he said. Mayfield Road Bridge, Beaverdam, certainly is the coldest water available.

71 degrees, coldest of the **Cane Creek** tour — but it's not quite that

David was not familiar DePriest with a way for the creeking Pleasantville, runs along-The J.H. Barber Bridge public to easily enjoy some side the creek and into on Highway 438, about a of this blue-skin coldness. Lewis County, offering a mile from Coble Country Our temperature sample long piece of roadside parkwas obtained by standing ing. Late on a Friday afterular swimming hole in the on a very short bridge that noon, there was no one Beaverdam Road over the water; two small falls were creek. The spot where we within sight. Had we chairs, About 15 folks, most of paused could have been we might have sat here them young people, were entered by humans, but not awhile. enjoying the summer fun easily, and the road was thin, and there really was no says David, though we bank to climb up, and jump- agreed it was suppertime. ing was pretty much out of "You come here at midday jump 15 feet or more into a the question, due to rocks

Coldest, but like Roger Maris' 61st homer, it gets an today.

Joe's Branch

we visited, there was no seat's Public Square. swimming — just a chap If most gauges were ets, though no noticeable it. dent in the supply was being

76 — a result, David sur-

Goshen Creek Road, off Lane Backside there but us and the rushing

> "I don't understand it," tomorrow and you'll get plenty of people."

Glad they're not here

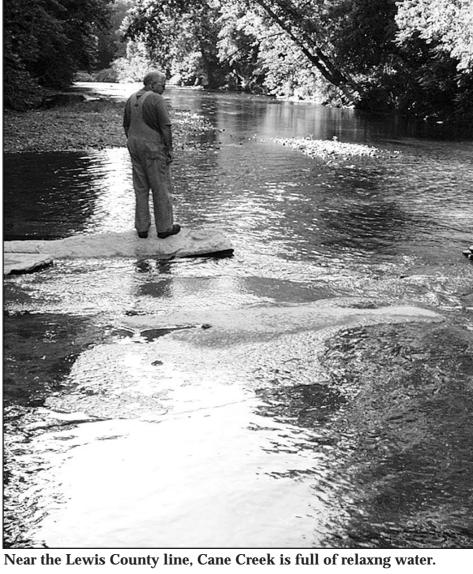
The thermometer reads 76 degrees — same as Joe's Branch.

Though we didn't jump in, we noticed all along the Also a tributary to way that tree-lined road Beaverdam, this creek is along creeks were signifieasily entered from a very cantly cooler than ... well, long gravel bar. On the day the concrete of the county

who was collecting five-showing 96 on these late gallon buckets of creek afternoons (and it probably rock. He had several buck- was), we didn't know about

The temperature here was **Swan Creek**

You should know that tends to add some warmth. report that to the thermome-"I'm just saying, when ter. We stopped just off the you're talking about cool, Swan Creek Road at the "The hotter it gets out here from where we could see a in the summer, the cooler (Continued on page A7)



Swimming Holes

Sugar Creek -- Bucksnort Rd.

Beaverdam --at Coble

Mill Creek, 1

Mill Creek, 2

Joe's Branch

Cane Creek --Pleasantville

Swan Creek

Lick Creek, 1 -- Tom Patten Rd.

Lick Creek, 2

Blue Water

-- Mayfield Bridge

-- Beech Valley Rd.

*No easy public access

--at Beaverdam

--old water intake

-- off Bell Branch Rd.

72°

74°

74°

75°

76°

76°

76°

79°

80°

71°*



More than one can take a dive at Coble's Barber Bridge.



Mill Creek on Old Mill Creek Road is a popular jumping-off spot.

Cold creeks

(cont. from page A6)

ter. We stopped just off the Swan Creek Road at the Mayfield Road Bridge, from where we could see a campfire wafting into the canopy just downstream.

"They're setting up camp for the weekend," said David.

Nice place for it.

This stretch of Swan Creek was along the area where the growth known as Milfoil was, just a few years ago, preparing to clog the whole creek, heating the flow to temperatures that would damage the life there now. TWRA was charged with trying to fix the problem, which consisted of waiting on Mother Nature to do her job. She did.

Temperature: 76, for the third stop in a row, in three different creeks. I was wondering what was going on. David wasn't.

"You figure it's 22 degrees cooler than your body temperature," he says. That's cold enough.

Lick Creek, 1

This picturesque stream was our initial destination on Saturday afternoon's run, and our first of two stops along it was on Tom Patten Road, currently not open to through traffic due to the 2010 flood.

From the Primm Springs Road side, there's a roadside stretch with a pretty good hole where we found a family of four passing a slow afternoon.

"You're really doing that?" asked the Dad, who wondered what we were up

The spot, which looked invitingly deep, was pretty sunny, too, and David said that contributed to the 79degree reading.

Lick Creek, 2

This second stop was on an unnamed bridge after a sharp bend on Beech Valley Road, which heads up to Highway 7. The wide, flat vista was another spot hill that opened out to a our careers, David and I ing I-40 traffic became an made for an inner tube . . . wide, low place with creek- have wives who are afterthought very quickly. or a beach chair set straight rock parking and several down in a little shade on a ways to reach the water. slight bend. A lady downstream — we saw each swing, and a hole made for other, but we were well younger kids. We stayed up

its highest number here: 80 degrees, though the beauty of the spot should be good for three or four degrees.



Get to this Lick Creek bridge, and view, from Beech Valley Road, off Highway 7.

Mill Creek, 1

Back down to the center of the county and a ride along Old Mill Creek, on Washer Road, where we pulled off in the lot that used to lead to the old Bon Aqua-Lyles Utility District intake site, where the waterworks has been removed, though the base of the old building remains.

This is a real swimming hole, up against a bluff with a rope and plenty of places to park. The young people on hand were having a blast, though the obviously popular site draws more than just folks seeking to cool off:

Recent visitors had left a party's worth of beer bottles and other trash; the young people we met in the water

pledged to pick it all up. The water was worth the effort, measuring degrees, according

Mill Creek, 2

David's thermometer.

Our second stop on this winding creek was far out Bell Branch Road, down a

On the lower side was a apart — was doing just that. a ways at the bridge across, The thermometer reached and enjoyed the sound of some mini-rapids. Unlike the earlier Mill Creek stop, trash was rarer, though still visible; this one was farther



This big Lick Creek hole is alongside Tom Patten Road.

off the popular path. The temperature was a fine 75 degrees.

Sugar Creek

This was a bit of a time stretch — as befits both of tremendously understanding of our jobs (though this particular assignment was pretty far away from actual work). But we had a tip that this particular creek had

some cold water, so . . . As usual, David knew the spot, going from Mill Creek to Graham and then out the now-sparsely-used

Highway 230 to Bucksnort crossing the interstate and turning left on Bucksnort Road.

Another mile or so and we reached a clearing and the creek, which was so fine that the sound of pass-

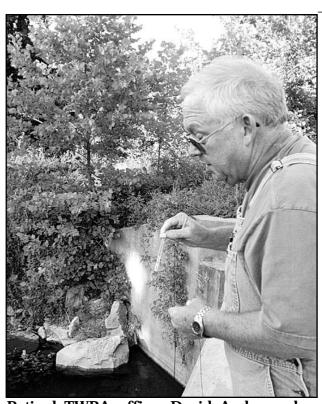
The bridge bisected a couple of holes that would provide plenty of cooling on a hot day. But the downstream site was restricted: barbed wire and a couple of "No Trespassing" signs provided the deterrent.

Upstream, near the bridge? Not a bad hole clear enough that you could see the stump snagged in the middle of it. And the verdict on the

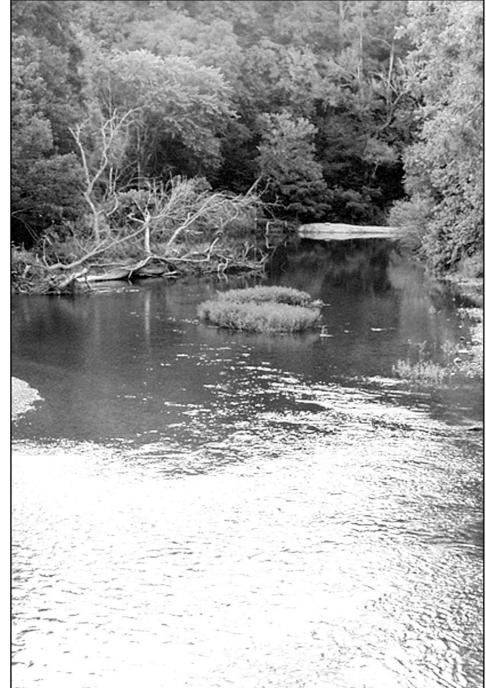
temperature? A chilly 72 degrees. "That's cold water,"

David said.

Lot of that around Hickman County.



Retired TWRA officer David Anderson has been taking stream samples, and temperatures, for quite a few years.



Swan Creek has several access points.



This mirror can be found on Sugar Creek, on Bucksnort Road.