

McLean County Ag Fair Pageant winners



FOUR-YEAR-OLD TINY TOT WINNER: SCARLETT CARTER



THREE-YEAR-OLD TINY TOT WINNERS: EVELYN LIVINGS AND JAMES WATTS



Photo by Alan Warren, Messenger-Inquirer | awarren@messenger-inquirer.com

Tim and Bethanie Early, owners, stand next to a pool table inside Early's Tavern on Tuesday, July 8, at 4416 Highway 144.

Couple opens pool hall on Highway 144

BY MICHELE RUXER
MESSENGER-INQUIRER

As pool players for many years, Bethanie and Tim Early thought that the pool scene around town was crowded. "There are only so many bars where you can play, and they just got to where they were so crowded," Tim Early explained. "I wanted a place where everybody could have plenty of room to play, where it wasn't crowded with people crammed next to each other. So, we just decided to open one ourselves."

The couple opened Early's Tavern, 4416 Highway 144, on June 1. The location as housed many businesses over the years. The building wasn't operational at first, the couple explained, but together, with the help of friends and family, they were able to get the tavern ready to open to the public in two and a half weeks. "We're still not done, but we were able to get it operational," Bethanie Early said. "Because the leagues were set to open back up and, if we didn't

SEE **COUPLE/PAGE B4**



0-11 MONTHS TINY TOT WINNERS: HARPER IGLEHEART AND MAX DAME

DID YOU KNOW?



By Duke Brubaker

Aaron Judge is now the quickest player in history to reach 350 home runs, playing in 1,088 games to hit the milestone. Mark McGwire played 1,280 and Juan Gonzalez took 1,298 to reach that number. Other notables: Albert Pujols 1,320 & Babe Ruth 1,329.

This month, for the 1st time in MLB history, there was a leadoff inside-the-park home run and a walkoff inside-the-park home run on the same day.

The youngest player ever taken #1 overall in the MLB draft is Eli Willits, a shortstop from Fort Cobb-Broxtton High School in Oklahoma, who was selected by the Washington Nationals on 7/13/2025.



SUMMER
SALES EVENT

140 Southtown Blvd, 42303
ChampionOwensboro.com | (270) 684-1441



LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notification of Rights under FERPA for Elementary and Secondary Institutions and Child Find for Children with Disabilities in Need of Special Education or 504 Services

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") or who are attending a postsecondary institution certain rights with respect to the student's education records. They are:

1) **The right to inspect and review the student's education records within forty-five (45) days of the day the District receives a request for access.** Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal/designee (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The Principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

2) **The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student's privacy or other rights.** Parents or eligible students may ask the District to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate, misleading or in violation of privacy or other rights. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of their privacy or other rights. If the District decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3) **The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.** One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the school Board; a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the District discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll or to other entities authorized by law.

4) **The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA.** The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

**Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
600 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-4605**

The McLean County School District keeps educational records in a secure computer system and in locked files in each school and Board of Education office.

The McLean County School District obtains written consent from a parent or eligible student (age 18 or who is attending a post-secondary institution), before disclosing personally identifiable information to an entity or individual not authorized to receive it under FERPA.

For students who have been determined eligible for Special Education, educational records will be destroyed at the request of the parent when they are no longer needed to provide educational programs or services. The McLean County School District may destroy the educational records of a child without a parent's request three (3) years after they are no longer needed to provide educational programs or services. Parents are advised that data contained in the records may later be needed for Social Security benefits or other purposes. The McLean County School District may retain, for an indefinite period of time, a record of the student's name, address, telephone number, grades, attendance record, classes attended, grade level completed, and year completed.

Children eligible for Special Education include those children with disabilities who have a hearing impairment, visual impairment, emotional-behavioral disability, deaf-blindness, other health impairment, specific learning disability, mental disability, multiple disabilities, speech or language impairment, developmental delay, orthopedic impairment, autism, or traumatic brain injury, and who because of such an impairment need Special Education Services.

Children eligible for 504 services include those children in a public elementary and secondary education program who have a current physical or mental impairment that currently substantially limits some major life activity which causes the student's ability to access the school environment or school activities to be substantially limited.

Children eligible for the State-Funded Preschool program include three- and four-year old children identified with disabilities and four-year old children who are at-risk, as defined by federal poverty levels up to 160%. Preschool children eligible for special education must have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) instead of a 504 plan to receive State-Funded Preschool program services.

The McLean County School District has an ongoing "Child Find" system, which is designed to locate, identify and evaluate any child residing in a home, facility, or residence within its geographical boundaries, age three (3) to twenty-one (21) years, who may have a disability and be in need of Special Education or 504 services. This includes children who are not in school; those who are in public, private, or home school; those who are highly mobile such as children who are migrant or homeless; and those who are advancing from grade to grade, who may need but are not receiving Special Education or 504 services.

The district's "Child Find" system includes children with disabilities attending private or home schools within the school district boundaries who may need special education services.

The McLean County School District will make sure any child enrolled in its district who qualifies for Special Education or 504 services, regardless of how severe the disability, is provided an appropriate Special Education or 504 services at no cost to the parents of the child.

Parents, relatives, public and private agency employees, and concerned citizens are urged to help the McLean County School District find any child who may have a disability and need Special Education or 504 services. The District needs to know the name and age, or date of birth of the child; the name, address, and phone number of the parent or guardian; the possible disability; and other information to determine if Special Education or 504 services are needed.

Letters and phone calls are some of the ways the McLean County School District collects the information needed. The information the school District collects will be used to contact the parents of the child and find out if the child needs to be evaluated or referred for Special Education or 504 services.

If you know of a child who lives within the boundaries of the McLean County School District, who may have a disability, and may need but is not receiving Special Education or 504 services, OR a child who attends a private or home school within the boundaries of the McLean County School District, who may have a disability, and may need but is not receiving Special Education services, please call (270) 273-5257 or send the information to:

**Director of Special Education/Section 504 Coordinator
McLean County Public Schools
410 HWY 136 E., P.O. Box 245
Calhoun, KY 42327**

"Child Find" activities will continue throughout the school year. As part of these efforts the McLean County School District will use screening information, student records, and basic assessment information it collects on all children in the District to help locate those children who have a disability and need Special Education or 504 services. Any information the District collects through "Child Find" is maintained confidentially.

Written Policies and Procedures have been developed which describe the District's requirements regarding the confidentiality of personally identifiable information and "Child Find" activities. There are copies in the Principal's office of each school, and in the Board of Education office. Copies of these Policies and Procedures may be obtained by contacting:

**Director of Pupil Personnel
McLean County Public Schools
410 HWY 136 E., P.O. Box 245
Calhoun, KY 42327**

The District office is open Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The McLean County School District provides a public notice in the native language or other mode of communication of the various populations in the geographical boundaries of the District to the extent feasible.

If you know of someone who may need this notice translated to another language, given orally, or delivered in some other manner, please contact the Director of Pupil Personnel or the Director of Special Education at the address or phone number listed above for the McLean County Schools.