

BRISTOL HERALD COURIER

**TRAIL
RESTORATION:**
Creeper Trail project
underway

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DISTRICT HOOPS:
Twin Springs, Eastside
figure to contend in
Cumberland

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Saturday, December 20, 2025

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BRISTOL, TENN.

LIGHTING UP THE NEIGHBORHOOD



EMILY BALL, BRISTOL HERALD COURIER

Johnny Hutchinson repairs some of his light structures before cars come to drive past his light show at the corner of Windy Hill Drive and Sperry View Drive in Bristol, Tennessee.

Hutchinson’s Christmas light display puts smiles on people’s faces

DAVID MCGEE
BRISTOL HERALD COURIER

BRISTOL, Tenn. – For the past 15 years, Johnny Hutchinson has done his part to spread some Christmas cheer – illuminating his home and yard with holiday light displays while collecting donations for local charities.

Most nights, from mid-November through the end of the year, lines of cars and trucks creep past the brightly decorated house on the corner of Sperry View Drive and Windy Hills Way, gawking at the colorful spectacle while being thankful

they weren’t paying the electric bill.

“Everybody who comes by here either has a smile on their face when they get here or has a smile on their face when they leave. Christmas lights make people happy,” Hutchinson said.

As the weeks wind toward Christmas, Thursday through Saturday are the busiest nights. The display often attracts people visiting Speedway in Lights at Bristol Motor Speedway, which is just across the street.

Please see **DISPLAY**, Page A8



WATCH ONLINE: Johnny Hutchinson talks about his Christmas light display. Point your smartphone camera at the QR code, then tap the link. [NEWSVU](#)

AIR TRAVEL

Tri-Cities expands Chicago service

Airport announces
partnership with
United Airlines

ROBERT SORRELL
BRISTOL HERALD COURIER

BLOUNTVILLE, Tenn. – Just one day after American Airlines announced new nonstop service to Chicago, Tri-Cities Airport revealed Friday that United Airlines will also offer flights to the Windy City.

Airport officials announced that United Airlines will begin nonstop service between Tri-Cities Airport in Blountville and Chicago O’Hare International Airport on June 8, 2026. The route will operate three times daily. Ticket sales began Friday.

“We are thrilled to welcome United Airlines as a new partner at TRI,” said Gene Cossey, president and CEO of Tri-Cities Airport. “Each addition to our airport brings more growth and opportunity for the region, and this new nonstop service to Chicago O’Hare gives travelers even more options when flying local.”

United becomes the second carrier this week to announce new nonstop service to Chicago. Earlier this week, airport officials announced American Airlines will begin daily nonstop flights to Chicago starting May 21, 2026.

United Airlines is the world’s largest airline, serving more than 380 destinations worldwide and nearly 75 destinations not served by any other U.S. legacy carrier, according to a news release. The new service provides direct access to United’s hub at O’Hare, one of the nation’s busiest and most connected airports, according to the announcement.

“Our new daily nonstop flights between the Tri-Cities area and Chicago give the Tri-Cities community greater connectivity to Chicago and United’s leading route network as the world’s largest airline,” said Mark Weithofer, United’s managing director of domestic network planning. “These new flights also give our customers from around the globe access to the natural beauty of Northeast Tennessee and all it has to offer.”

Please see **CHICAGO**, Page A8

High winds, rain
cause power outages
across region **PAGE A2**

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Weather

Mostly sunny, windy
High 56
Low 35
FORECAST • A18



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