

Obituaries



Lola Mayetta Wilson
Lola Mayetta Wilson, 85, of Nashville, Ark., passed away Saturday, Aug. 10, 2024, at St. Michael Hospital in Texarkana.

She was born Jan. 22, 1939, in Curtis, Ark., to the late Ernie and Lola (Jester) Freeman.

She was a member of the Crosspoint Cowboy Church.

Mayetta graduated from Arkadelphia High School in 1956. She married Billy Joe Wilson in 1957 at Cedar Grove Baptist Church where they were charter members. Mayetta was an accomplished seamstress, sewing for family, the public and the garment plant. In 1974 the family moved to Nashville, Ark., where she became manager of the Holiday Motor Lodge. She later worked at Ouachita Baptist University as admissions counseling secretary; office manager at Dawson Education Service Cooperative; secretary at L.M. Goza Junior High School; and then administrative assistant for a Clark County judge and chief justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court.

Upon retiring, Mayetta became a substitute teacher in Arkadelphia and Nashville.

Mayetta was very involved in her church from singing with Bill and friends to teaching Sunday School and women's Bible studies.

In her free time, she loved to work on the computer, read, work in her flower beds and nap.

In addition to her parents, Mayetta was preceded in death by her brother, James Ernie Freeman, and her sister, Cleola McDill.

Mayetta is survived by her husband of 67 years, Billy Joe Wilson of Nashville; Terre (Jay) Tollett of Nashville; Toni (Max) Stroud of Arkadelphia; Tammie (Huck) VanScyoc of Jonesboro; six grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. Mayetta is also survived by her sister, Evelyn Bettis of Arkadelphia and a host of nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2024, at Cedar

Grove Baptist Church in Arkadelphia, Ark., with Bro. Don Jones officiating.

Visitation will be from 1 p.m. until service time on Wednesday at Cedar Grove Baptist Church.

Interment will be in Golden Cemetery.

Pallbearers are Randy Dixon, Tim Freeman, Mitch Bettis, Chris Tollett, Cody Vanscyoc, Chris Houk, and Adam Bell.

Memorials may be made to the Crosspoint Cowboy Church in Nashville, Ark.

Arrangements by Smith Family Funeral Home/Ruggles Wilcox Chapel, Arkadelphia.



Paul Boswell
Paul Boswell, age 83, of Umpire, passed away on Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2024.

He was born on May 19, 1941, in Shreveport, La. He was the son of Lake Boswell and Edna Neal Boswell. He was preceded in death by his parents; his sister, Barbara Cox; and his brothers, Burlee Boswell; and his four half-brothers, J.D. Boswell, Jack Boswell, Eldon Boswell, and Gene Boswell.

Paul was a member of Umpire Holiness Church. He married Debby Boswell on July 8, 2000. He served his country in the Marine Corps for 4 years. Paul was known for his work ethic, working as a farmer for many years. He was a jack-of-all-trades. Paul was a loving husband, father, brother, and papaw and he will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

He is survived by his wife, Debby Boswell; his three children, Donald Boswell, Wayne Boswell, and Nancy (David) Bohn; his four grandchildren, Evan (Cathy) Boswell, Alexis Boswell, Caroline Trantham, Chloe Bohn; his three brothers, Jerry (Vee) Boswell, Doug (Janette) Boswell, and Mike (Doris) Boswell; his two sisters, Linda Lee and Ruth Jones; along with many loving nieces, nephews, extended family members and a host of wonderful friends.

The family would like to give a special thank you to Elite Hospice and Dr. Hulsey and his office for their wonderful care.

Pallbearers will be Doug Boswell, Evan Boswell, Wilson Manceaux, Michael Manceaux, David Bohn, and Brad Wilbanks.

Honorary Pallbearers will be the men of Umpire Holiness Church and R.H. Pinkerton.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, Aug. 8, 2024, from 6-8 p.m. at the Smith Family Funeral Home Chapel-Glenwood.

Funeral Services will be held on Friday, Aug. 9, 2024, at 10 a.m. at Umpire Holiness Church with Bro. Justin Richison and Jerry Boswell officiating.

Interment will be at Cedar Hill Cemetery.

Jimmy Wayne Cox, Sr.
Jimmy Wayne Cox Sr., 57, of Pike City, died Wednesday, Aug. 7, 2024.

He was born June 13, 1967, in Harrisburg, Ark., the son of the late E.C. "Shorty" and Bessie York Cox.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Brenda Harsh, and two brothers, Charles Cox and Monty Cox.

Survivors include: two sons Jimmy Cox, Jr., and wife Sarah of Delight, and Hunter Cox and wife Brittney of Pike City; a daughter, Morgan Cox of Magnolia; brothers Conrad Cox of Nathan, Ronnie Cox of Delight, Ricky Don Cox, Tony Cox of Murfreesboro, Lee Gatliff of Delight; sisters Kim Dixon of Pike City, Jewel McIntosh of Harrisburg, and Bonnie Osburn of Harrisburg; also grandchildren.

Visitation was 6-8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 9, at Latimer Funeral Home in Murfreesboro.

Graveside services were 10 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 10, at Pike City Cemetery, under the direction of Latimer Funeral Home in Murfreesboro.

Scarlett Dawn Butcher
Scarlett Dawn Butcher, 48, of Ozan died Thursday, Aug. 8, 2024.

She was born Nov. 7, 1975, in Nashville, Tenn., the daughter of the late Gary and Glenda Bourland Holder.

She was preceded in death by two sisters, Angela McCulskey and Stephanie Holder.

Survivors include: her husband, Jay Butcher of Ozan; daughters Katie Ledesma (Adeel Banegas) of DeQueen, and Jessica Butcher of DeQueen; two sons Steven Butcher (Delaynee) of Mineral Springs, and William Butcher (Coralee) of Nashville; also grandchildren.

Cremation services are by Latimer Funeral Home in Nashville.



ROTARY SPEAKER. Tyler Cliff, Scrapper assistant football coach, spoke to the Nashville Rotary Club, last Wednesday, about the coming weekend's resumption of the Scrapper Scramble golf fund-raiser on Saturday. All proceeds will go for football team needs. Among possible buys for the team are travel bags which have been in use for 20 years. The club meets at noon Wednesdays at Patacakes.



WE LIKE SCHOOL. Second and third grade students at Grace Christian School and their teacher, Anne Wagner. Administrator of the school is Lisa Hagler. The school welcomed students Tuesday morning.

FINANCIAL FOCUS

Plan can ease college 'sticker shock'

By Josh Tice
Edward Jones Investments

The school year will soon be here. And if you have young children, you're one year closer to the day when they may be headed off to college. When that day arrives, will you be financially prepared?

College isn't cheap. For the 2023-24 academic year, the average cost — including tuition, fees, housing, food, books, transportation and other expenses — was nearly \$29,000 for in-state students at four-year public colleges and universities, and about \$60,000 for private schools, according to the College Board. Most students do get some type of financial aid or scholarships, or both, but even the "net" price of college can be considerable. So, it's a good idea to begin a savings program as early as you can.

One popular way to build money for college expenses is through a 529 education savings plan. When you invest in a 529 plan, your earnings can grow tax deferred and your withdrawals are federally tax free when used for qualified education expenses — tuition, fees, books and so on. And while you can invest in any state's 529 plan, you might be able to deduct your contributions from your state income tax or receive a state tax credit if you invest in your own state's plan.

Despite these tax benefits, some people are concerned that a 529 plan can prove costly in terms of lost financial aid. And the value of a 529 plan is looked at as an investment asset on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). However, recent changes to FAFSA may mean that a

529 plan has a relatively small effect on the amount of aid you may receive.

A 529 plan also can be used to pay for other costs, including:

- **K-12 expenses** — You can use a 529 plan to pay K-12 expenses, up to \$10,000 per student per year. Not all states comply with this 529 expansion for K-12, so you might not be able to claim deductions and your withdrawals could be subject to state tax penalties.

- **Apprenticeship programs** — A 529 plan can be used to pay for most expenses connected to apprenticeship programs registered with the U.S. Department of Labor. These programs are often available at community colleges and combine classroom education with on-the-job training.

- **Student loans** — You can withdraw funds from a 529 plan to repay qualified federal private and student loans, up to \$10,000 for each 529 plan beneficiary and another \$10,000 for each of the beneficiary's siblings.

Another potential advantage of a 529 plan is its transferability. If you've named a child as a 529 plan beneficiary, and that child eventually chooses not to pursue any post-secondary education, you — as the account owner — can name another family member as beneficiary. And with the passage of the SECURE 2.0 Act, any unused 529 plan funds up to a lifetime limit of \$35,000 can be transferred to a Roth IRA for a beneficiary, free of taxes and penalties. There are certain rules governing this 529-to-Roth move — for example, you must have had your 529 plan at least 15 years — so you'll want to consult with your tax advisor before making any moves in this area.

Master Gardeners to meet at park

The Howard County Master Gardeners will meet Monday, Aug. 26, at 5 p.m. at Nashville City Park. The meeting is open to the public. A potluck meal will be provided.

Dawson Bailey, Howard County agri agent, will give a presentation on container gardening.

Those attending should take their favorite containers and potting mix.

Bailey will give them seeds to plant and tips on how to be a successful container gardener.

Call Mike Myers at 318-470-7731 for more information.

Tollette Homecoming is this week

The annual Tollette Homecoming has many events planned for the event which is scheduled for Wednesday thru Sunday, Aug. 14-19 with programs nightly beginning at 7 p.m.

Registration will be 6-6:30 each day. Gold and purple t-shirts in honor of the Howard

County Training School Tiger athletic teams will be on sale.

Saturday of the homecoming is Family Day. The parade starts at 10 a.m., and there is a \$5 donation entry fee.

President of the Tollette Homecoming Committee is Carolyn Green.

The Nashville News-Leader

The Nashville News-Leader (USPS # 023884) is published weekly by Nashville Leader, Inc., 418 North Main, Nashville, AR 71852. Periodicals postage is paid at Nashville, AR 71852.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Nashville News-Leader, P.O. Box 205, Nashville, AR 71852.

Single issue price: \$1.00.

Subscription rates: Howard, Pike, Sevier, Hempstead and Little River counties, \$40 per year. Outside the five-county area, \$55 per year.

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THE CECIL "BIRDDOG" HARRIS MEMORIAL

EARLY FILES

Tales from Howard County's history reprinted in honor of longtime staff historian and photographer, Cecil Harris.
September 19, 1938 - December 15, 2012

Compiled by Patsy Young



The new jail is officially opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. From left, Jail Administrator, Deputy Sheriff David Shelton, County Judge Conrad Bagley, Chamber of Commerce Manager Nobie Williams and Sheriff Dick Wakefield. August 1993.

119 years ago: August 1905

Marshall Nowell and Deputy Sheriff Still with some deputies caught a crap game over at the Chalybeat Spring late Saturday night. Six people were caught on the spot and two or three made their escape by running off in the darkness.

Dayton Johnson, a boyish looking young man, and a man maned Oatfield sold some whiskey Saturday to Dek Newby near the residence of Barney Graves in the Forgy Neighborhood, which made him sick and Monday warrants were issued by Justice T. G. Kennedy of Saline Township. Johnson was arrested by Constable Sam Nut.

Johnson asked and was allowed to go into his house and change clothes; he jumped out the window and made his escape. The officers hunted for him for

several hours but could not find any trace of him. (Adv.) Palace Barber Shoppe, Richardson and Riddie, hot and cold baths.

80 years ago: August 1944

Lightning accompanied by rain and a windstorm Friday morning about 4 o'clock struck the huge packing shed of the Cooley Brothers, nine miles northeast of Nashville on Highway 27, setting the building on fire from end to end immediately. There was a heavy explosion of thunder as the building burst into flames, and nothing could be done to save the building or its contents.

The loss is estimated to be from \$60,000 to \$75,000; and everything destroyed is considered essential for orchards.

67 years ago: August 1957

A Howard County soldier on special assignment

to Karachi, Pakistan, the past several months has returned to his home assignment and family in Flat Rock, Michigan. He is Master Sgt. Rodney Harris, son of Mrs. Gena Harris of Nashville and Mr. E.E. Harris of Okay.

34 years ago: August 1990

Seven Nashville Junior High students and their science teacher participated in the recent filming of a video entitled "The Geology of Arkansas." Science teacher Linda Campbell and students Kara Darling, Trupti Patel, Allen Boone, Linda Wakefield, LaQuonya Walker, Thomas Barber and Sharla Blanchard were taped as they visited the dinosaur prints at the Howard County Courthouse and a large gravel pit north of Nashville. The segment will be included in a four-part series on the geology of Arkansas.

Criminal court dates set for 2 jury trials

Dates for two jury trials were confirmed Wednesday, Aug. 7, during the regular day for criminal court in Howard County.

Jurors will be called Sept. 10 for Joseph Blankenship, 23, white male, De Queen, who was charged Feb. 27 with aggravated assault, class D felony.

Three days later another 65 jurors will be called for the trial of Cullen Young, 24, black male, Ashdown, who was charged Feb. 6 with terroristic act upon an occupiable structure, a class B felony. Both have pleaded not guilty.

Bryson LeBlanc, 25, white male, Nashville, actually has two criminal appearance dates in his future. He faces two separate cases of class D felony theft of property. Pre-trial motions will be heard Oct. 30.

LeBlanc pleaded not true to a charge of failure to meet the terms of his probation sentence on a conviction earlier this year for felon in possession of a firearm, a class D felony. His probation revocation trial will be Sept. 18.

One defendant appeared for formal sentencing by Judge Bryan Chesshir. Marcus Sullivan, 42, white male, Nashville, was originally charged with possession of controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia, both class D felony offenses.

He was sentenced to two years in the Arkansas Department of Correction (ADC) with a further four years suspended imposition of sentence.

Sentences imposed

Three defendants pleaded guilty or no contest, and received sentences.

The nolo contendere plea was by Hunter Leach, 23, white male, Nashville, who was charged with 1st degree criminal mischief, a class D felony. He was sentenced to six years of probation, a \$1,000 fine and must make restitution of \$1,976 to the victim.

A guilty plea was given by Monica Butcher, 45, white female, Murfreesboro, who was charged with theft of property, class D felony. She was sentenced to six years of probation, fined \$1,000, and must make immediate restitution of \$3,000.

The last guilty plea of the day was by David Dukes, 50, white male, Nashville, who was charged with 1st degree terroristic threatening, class D felony, and 3rd degree domestic battery, a misdemeanor. His sentence was a \$2,000 fine and six years suspended imposition of sentence. He must enroll in an anger management course within 2-3 months,

according to court documents.

Trial dates set

Dates for jury trials and for pretrial motions were set for seven defendants who pleaded not guilty.

Jamarcus Stewart, 22, black male, Nashville, is charged with 1st degree terroristic threatening, a class D felony. Motions will be heard Oct. 30.

Timothy Walker, 22, black male, Nashville, is charged with residential burglary, class B felony; 1st degree terroristic threatening, class D; and 3rd degree battery, misdemeanor. Motions will be heard Oct. 30.

Andrew Alexander, 18, black male, Nashville, is charged with a class D felony, breaking or entering. Motions will be heard Sept. 25.

Amanda Cox, 39, white female, Nashville, is charged with delivery of controlled substance, class B felony, and endangering a minor, class D. Motions will be heard Dec. 4.

Charles Pounds, 62, white male, Ashdown, is charged in two separate felony drug-related cases. Motions will be heard De. 4.

Steen Gilliam, 36, black male, Nashville, is charged with delivery of controlled substance, class Y felony. Motions will be heard Sept. 25.

Public Record of Howard County

Items or documents that were filed, issued or recorded at the Howard County, Ark., courthouse during the period of Aug. 1-7, 2024 include the following:

Marriage Licenses
(Marriage licenses cost \$60 at the County Clerk's office)

Aug. 2. Lawrence Edward Benson, 27, Nashville, and Yolanda Chanteau Hamilton, 33, Idabel, Okla.

Civil Court
CV24-76, Aug. 1. Shelter Mutual Insurance Co., vs. James Earnest Williams, Jr. Complaint for money due in subrogation.

CV24-77, July 31. Arkansas Department of Finance & Administration vs. Melvin Blankenship. Register Arkansas judgment.

CV24-78, Aug. 1. NCB Management Service vs. Paul Pitre. Contract.

CV24-79, Aug. 7. Capital One, N.A. vs. Crystal Leyva. Debt.

Domestic Relations Court
No new domestic relations cases filed since DR24-91, July 29.

Criminal Court
CR24-67, Aug. 1. State of Arkansas vs. Amanda Jean Cox, 39, white female, 110 academy Road, Nashville; DOCS, class B felony; endangering the welfare of a minor, class D.

CR24-68, Aug. 1. State of Arkansas vs. Charles Roger Pounds, 62, white male, 427 Peyton Ave., Ashdown; DOCS, class Y; POCS with purpose of delivery, class A.

CR24-69, Aug. 5. State of Arkansas vs. Charles Roger Pounds, 62, white male,

427 Peyton Ave., Ashdown; DOCS, class Y; POCS, class A.

CR24-70, Aug. 6. State of Arkansas vs. Heather Elizabeth Tweedle, 55, white female, 1143 Hwy. 355 N., Nashville; DOCS, class C.

Land/Property Transactions

Quitclaim Deed
Aug. 7. Monica Wallace; to James Arthur Wallace; 33.48 ac. in S35 T9S R28W plus easement. \$0.00.

Redemption Deeds
Aug. 6. State of Arkansas; to Ronald Duane Eskew, Nashville; 0.22 ac. in S25 T9S R27W, aka 510 E. Henderson St., Nashville; delinquent taxes and penalties of \$1,225.51.

Aug. 6. State of Arkansas; to Lorene Morrison c/o Adriane Stanford, Texarkana, Texas; 1 ac. in S14 T10S R27W; aka 140 Jordan Road, Nashville; delinquent taxes and penalties of \$468.62.

Beneficiary's Deeds
Aug. 2. Linda Miles; to Mary Jane Miles Jones and Whit Miles; 0.19 ac. in S28 T5S R30W, and undivided 1/2 interest in property in S28 T5S R30W.

Aug. 7. Dennis G. Phelps, Jr., and wife, Echo Phelps; to Echo Phelps; 3.81 ac. in S36 T8S R28W.

Warranty Deeds
Aug. 1. (Corrective) Husqvarna Consumer Outdoor Products, N.A., Inc.; to Husqvarna Forestry Products, N.A., Inc.; property in

S35 T9S R27W.

Aug. 1. (Special) Husqvarna Forestry Products, N.A., Inc.; to Phoenix Nashville AR Industrial Investors, LLC.; property in S2 TG10S R27W with lease exceptions. \$3,770,000.

Aug. 1. (Special) Husqvarna Forestry Products, N.A., Inc.; to Phoenix Nashville AR Industrial Investors, LLC.; 3 tracts, 49.734 ac. in S2 / S35 T9S / T10S R27W with exceptions. \$9,715,000.

Aug. 1. (Special) City of Nashville; to Phoenix Nashville AR Industrial Investors, LLC.; 17.67 ac. in S13 T9S R27W.

Aug. 1. (Special) City of Nashville; to Phoenix Nashville AR Industrial Investors, LLC.; 49.7598 ac. in S2 T10S R27W.

Aug. 6. Mark Smith and Susan Smith, husband and wife; to Chastity Smith Thrash and Michael Alan Smith; Lot 4 and part of Lot 3, Block 1, Ridgeway Addition, City of Nashville; and 0.338 ac. in S24 T9S R27W.

Aug. 6. George Steel, Jr., and Rebecca T. Steel, husband and wife; to Matthew Cole Moore and Emily L. Moore, as an estate by the entirety; 9.78 ac. in S32 T9S R27W. \$60,000.

Aug. 6. Graham & Tedford Properties, LLC; to Billy Oglesby and Monica Oglesby, husband and wife; Lots 1-2, Block 4, Murray's 2nd Addition, Town of Dirks. \$45,000.



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NOTICE FOR AMENDMENT REFERRED TO THE PEOPLE BY THE ARKANSAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC
Pursuant to Article 19, Section 22, of the Arkansas Constitution, the 94th General Assembly refers the following constitutional amendment to a vote of the people on November 5, 2024, and will appear on the ballot as Issue No. 1. Each elector upon voting his/her ballot shall vote for or against this amendment. Underlined language would be added to the present Constitution. Stricken language would be deleted from the present Constitution. This amendment was proposed in the Regular 2023 Session by Representative Lundstrum and filed as HJR 1006.

ISSUE NO. 1
Popular Name
A Constitutional Amendment to Provide that Lottery Proceeds May Be Used to Fund or Provide Scholarships and Grants to Arkansas Citizens Enrolled in Vocational-Technical Schools and Technical Institutes.

Ballot Title
AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION TO PROVIDE THAT LOTTERY PROCEEDS MAY BE USED TO FUND OR PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS TO ARKANSAS CITIZENS ENROLLED IN VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOLS AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTES.

ARSHIPS AND GRANTS TO ARKANSAS CITIZENS ENROLLED IN VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL SCHOOLS AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTES.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, AND BY THE SENATE, A MAJORITY OF ALL MEMBERS ELECTED TO EACH HOUSE AGREEING THERETO:

THAT the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Arkansas, and upon being submitted to the electors of the state for approval or rejection at the next general election for Representatives and Senators, if a majority of the electors voting thereon at the election adopt the amendment, the amendment shall become a part of the Constitution of the State of Arkansas, to wit:


SECTION 1. Arkansas Constitution, Article 19, § 14(b), concerning the use of lottery proceeds, is amended to read as follows: (b)(1) Lottery proceeds shall be used solely to pay the operating expenses of lotteries, including all prizes, and to fund or provide for scholarships and grants to

citizens of this State enrolled in public and private non-profit two-year and four-year colleges and universities the following higher education institutions located within the State that are certified according to criteria established by the General Assembly: (A) A public or private nonprofit two-year or four-year college or university; (B) A public or private vocational-technical school; or (C) A public or private technical institute.

The General Assembly shall establish criteria to determine who is eligible to receive the scholarships and grants pursuant to this Amendment.

SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This amendment shall be effective on and after January 1, 2025.


IN WITNESS WHEREOF I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND AND FIXED THE OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE ON THIS 3RD DAY OF MAY 2024.



JOHN THURSTON
SECRETARY OF STATE
STATE OF ARKANSAS

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Point of view

How hot I am!

Our world is sweltering under the dome of heat

YES, I AM STILL HERE peeking out my window on Main Street, and I am hopeful of watching at the exact moment when our Main Street’s asphalt cover bursts into flames.

Oh, yeah, it’s been hot. I put out some peanuts on the patio table so my precious backyard birds could eat. I saw a mockingbird grab a peanut with a pair of bbq tongs.

In New York City, municipal workers were asked to apply deodorant to the Statue of Liberty’s underarms.

The Golden Gate Bridge is now the color of burnt toast.

I’m remembering the days when people kept watermelons inside the Ice Plant. Us hellians could dunk a six-pack of Bud in the cooling vats. If you left it in the brine for more than two minutes there would be a thin layer of ice inside the can. We called a “Budsicle.”

It’s beyond me how ‘we’ survived in the days before home air conditioners. At our home my father installed a chickenhouse fan in the upstairs. During the day it briskly moved hot air around, but we had to turn the fan off at midnight because the little kids were freezing.

Mine Creek Revelations

By Louie Graves

THE GOOD EARTH. I am really afraid that I’m losing the ginkgo tree that was planted in my side yard two years ago. It was planted in exactly the same place where the previous ginkgo was planted.

I think the first one died because it was watered too much.

This new one may have been suffering from a lack of water as a result of what I learned with the first ginkgo.

But, I’ve watered the ‘new’ ginkgo several times -- a long, slow drip that lasted long enough for water to ‘pool’ around the base.

Still, the tree’s leaves are turning yellow and are drooping and falling off, so I am afraid for the worst.

If this one dies then I am through with trying to have a tree in the side yard. I bet I could get a sweetgum with poison ivy to flourish there, however. My luck.

The problem isn’t just the heat of this summer. By my count it’s been 14 days without a hint of rain. Even more days since we had a sprinkle measured in more than teeny tenths of an inch. For all practical purposes you could say we haven’t had a rain since June.

Whatever. Feel free to join me in griping about the weather. Maybe I’ll plant a cactus at that unfortunate spot next time.

DITTO WHAT I SAID in the last five weeks in this column about the astronauts and the Boeing Starliner spacecraft. I hope the astronauts have guardian angels.

And the two astronauts are still “up” there several weeks after the Starliner was supposed to bring them home. They were launched June 5 and were supposed to return home eight days later.

But there were problems --- just like Boeing passenger jets have been encountering lately because of shoddy parts and workmanship.

Now, Boeing is upset because NASA is considering use of a non-Boeing spacecraft to go up and rescue the astronauts.

The way things are going, NASA says it may be 2025 before the spaceman and spacewoman can safely return to earth.

As I wrote before, I will not fly anywhere on an aircraft made by Boeing. I will not fly anywhere, period.

IT’S GOING AROUND, AGAIN. Have learned of several persons in our community who have tested positive for Covid. Some have already had it at least once.

It’s going around. The vaccine may not prevent you or me from getting Covid, but the vaccine should make the ordeal easier.

If you get it please notify the persons whom you’ve been with in recent days.

THINGS I LEARNED from opening e-mail: Now that Covid has everyone washing their hands correctly ... next week we’re gonna work on improving our use of automobile turn signals.

AT THE FARMERS’ MARKET, last Friday I bought some very delicious cinnamon rolls. Normally I take pictures of vendors, but not this time. The vendors were some young Mennonite kids. I respect their wish not to be photographed.

However, I did make them promise not to divulge that I purchased the cinnamon rolls just in case the Calorie Police come around.

WORD GAMES. Another set of twins: So Far and So Good. You know how some cultures put a person’s last name first and first name last? Like the Kim family in North Korea? Today’s ‘word games’ is about the So twins.

HE SAID: “Friendship is unnecessary, like philosophy, like art ... It has no survival value; rather it is one of those things that give value to survival.” C.S. Lewis, writer and theologian

SHE SAID: “I live now on borrowed time, waiting in the anteroom for the summons that will inevitably come. And then -- I go on to the next thing, whatever it is. One doesn’t, luckily, have to bother about that.” Dame Agatha Christie, writer of crime mysteries

SWEET DREAMS, Baby

Nashville News-Leader

Louie Graves and Jane Graves (2007), co-publishers
John Balch, associate editor
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The *Nashville News-Leader* is published weekly by Nashville Leader, Inc., 418 North Main, Nashville, AR 71852.

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Even in summer, the coronavirus threat isn’t over.

Keep yourself and those around you safe -- please get your free Covid-19 vaccination. If you’re already fully immunized, remember to get the booster shot.

Presented in the public interest by the Nashville News-Leader

Total applications for school vouchers at 15,365 for 2024-25 academic year

By State Sen. Jimmy Hickey Jr.

More than 3,000 families applied for Education Freedom Accounts during the first week of August, bringing the total number of applicants statewide to 15,365.

The Internet portal for applications had been closed over the summer and re-opened on July 29, when about 12,000 applications had been approved.

There is no scheduled deadline, as long as funding is available under the Arkansas LEARNS Act. The accounts expand school choice options by helping families pay tuition at private or parochial schools.

Last year the governor proposed and the legislature approved Act 237 of 2023, also known as the LEARNS Act. The 2024-2025 school year is the second year it has been in effect. It is being phased in over three years.

Last year students were eligible if they were first-time kindergarteners, or if they attended schools that got an “F” on school report cards or were enrolled in districts ranked at Level 5 for academic distress.

Also eligible were children of active duty military members, as well as children with disabilities and children enrolled in kinder-

garten for the first time.

For the upcoming school year, eligibility is expanded to include students from a school that got a “D” on school report cards, children of military veterans and the children of emergency responders. Current or former foster children are eligible.

Also eligible are students from the Succeed Scholarship Program, which existed before the LEARNS Act was created.

Next year, the third year of the phase-in of the Education Freedom Accounts, all children are eligible.

Another way the LEARNS Act expands school choice is by repealing previous limits on the number of charter schools in Arkansas.

The LEARNS Act also provides bonuses of up to \$10,000 for teachers as merit incentives. In June, the state announced that 3,000 teachers qualified for the bonuses because their students showed remarkable academic improvement or they acted as inspiring mentors to new teachers.

Also, they qualified if they taught in a part of the state, or in a subject matter, with a critical teacher shortage. The state Education Department has listed those subjects in which there is a critical shortage of teachers. They are com-

puter science, foreign language, secondary math, secondary science and special education.

The act raised the minimum salary for teachers from \$36,000 to \$50,000, which benefited more than 15,240 teachers. Also benefiting were teachers who already earned \$50,000 or more, because they received raises of \$2,000.

Also, the LEARNS Act provides teachers 12 weeks of paid maternity leave.

Other provisions in the LEARNS Act expanded opportunities for high school students to enroll in college-level concurrent courses and receive college credits for passing them.

Surveys indicate that students who take concurrent courses are more likely to obtain a college degree or certificate.

Under the LEARNS Act, Arkansas schools will recruit an additional 120 literacy specialists. The act provides \$500 for families of students struggling to learn how to read in kindergarten through third grade, so they can hire a tutor.

The LEARNS Act requires high schools to develop a career-ready pathway towards a diploma, to prepare students for well-paying jobs if they choose not to go to college.

Protecting access to care for nation’s seniors

By U.S. Sen. John Boozman

Long-term care and senior living in our country are taking on a dramatic shift as more Americans enter advanced age. This will place a larger strain on nursing homes and the existing network that serves this population, which is why it is critical to help rather than hamper the industry’s preparations for this incoming surge.

Like me, most Arkansans know loved ones in their circle of family and friends who have required the extensive care these facilities provide. It is a reality that comes with some anxiety but also hope that happy and fulfilling days can still be possible with access to the right services and support.

In April, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released a final rule that created new, onerous requirements for nurse staffing levels in these care settings. Currently, only six percent of facilities in Arkansas meet these standards and they exceed existing benchmarks in nearly all states.

This unfunded federal mandate could jeopardize access to quality care and services for many seniors today and into the future. This problem is particularly dangerous for facilities in rural areas across the country, such as in Arkansas, because the increased staffing levels this rule requires will lead to higher costs. This will likely result

in many nursing homes further limiting the number of residents served, or possibly closing due to shortages of available labor.

Both the American Health Care Association and its chapter in Arkansas have voiced concerns with this proposal and warned about the detrimental impact it could have.

My colleagues and I are committed to pushing back against this misguided regulation and protecting families and caregivers’ ability to find or remain in settings they trust and take comfort in.

I was proud to join a bipartisan group of over two dozen senators challenging the CMS mandate, first in a letter to the agency’s administrator last year and then signing onto a Congressional Review Act measure that would overturn the rule. This legislative vehicle offers an expedited procedure and only requires a majority vote to pass.

Natural State long-term care and senior living facilities are already facing challenges, but still finding ways to overcome them.

For example, Methodist Village Senior Living in Fort Smith is addressing the nurse staffing shortage in a practical way, with the only Life Plan Community in Arkansas that houses an onsite education center for certified nursing assistants and medication technicians. It has become a successful

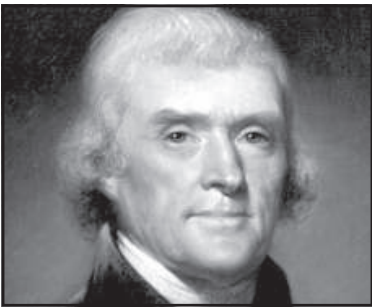
model of creating an environment that delivers education and training for the next generation of health care professionals. Not only does this help meet the needs of residents, but it also inspires fellow employees to strive toward obtaining more skills and certifications.

We know the nursing shortage began long before 2020 and was exacerbated by the pandemic, with approximately 100,000 registered nurses (RNs) leaving the profession in a two-year period. Another 610,000 RNs reported an “intent to leave” the workforce by 2027 due to stress, burnout and retirement, according to the National Council of State Boards of Nursing.

This is clearly an urgent problem we need to continue working to address. My colleagues and I share the administration’s goal of ensuring adequate staffing levels to improve the quality of care for seniors. However, a one-size-fits-all approach will do more harm than good, especially in communities that are already underserved.

I will continue working across party lines to address these concerns because our seniors deserve our utmost respect, which starts with valuing and upholding their dignity.

We must empower each state to achieve that goal in partnership with caregivers and the families in need of these services.



“Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter.”
Thomas Jefferson, 1787
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All letters must be signed and must not be libelous, superfluous or obscene. Letters may be edited to conform to newspaper style and to fit space requirements.

Airport

Continued from page 1A

there was no fuel for sale. Wiley wrote the grant proposal that resulted a couple of years ago in a fuel station being placed here. Ninety percent of the cost was paid by the Arkansas Division of Aeronautics, which is also paying for most of the cost of the new hangars.

While the airport has benefitted financially from the state aeronautics agency, the real money will start to flow soon to Howard County from the federal government.

“In 2026 we’ll begin receiving \$150,000 a year from the FAA,” said Judge Pinkerton. In addition to that, “We can begin applying for federal grants for specific projects.”

What kind of projects? “The federal government loves to put their money into taxiways and runways,” Wiley said. “They’ll also do special projects for buying land.” Land is what the Howard County Airport needs. The runway is significantly shorter than the runways in De Queen, Texarkana, Arkadelphia, Hot Springs and Mena.

Also, the airport isn’t wide enough at this time to put in taxiways, which would make it much safer. The good news is that Howard County can acquire land at fair market value through federal laws when the grants come through.

What’s next for the airport? “The runway needs to be resurfaced,” Pinkerton said.

Wiley agrees. “You can’t let asphalt sit forever, or it’ll start falling apart,” he said.

One thing that those who are promoting industrial growth for the area agree on is how fortunate the county is that, without dreaming that Husqvarna would leave, improvements to the airport began several years ago. Without that, we’d be years behind in making Howard County attractive to potential employers.

Judge Pinkerton summed it up this way: “We’re trying to have the best airport that we can have for Howard County, one that will benefit all of us in the long run



News-Leader photo/DON HALL

Checking the insulation in the new hangars at Howard County Airport



News-Leader photo/DON HALL

Engineer Matt Roddy looks over the construction checklist for the hangars.

through industrial development.”

Whatever you do for a living, industrial development is key to increasing your paycheck, and Howard

County Airport is doing their best to draw new industry. It really does affect us all.

School

Continued from page 1A

Every teacher at high school, junior high and elementary will receive a new desk computer.

Primary teachers already have new devices, Graham said.

Facilities projects are continuing, according to Graham.

Nashville is constructing two tennis courts on the high school campus between the Scrapper Dome and Scrapper Arena.

Dirt work is underway at the site, and the company installing the playing surface plans to be in Nashville Aug. 19, Graham said. “We’re see-

ing a little bit of progress.”

The project also includes bleachers and fencing.

No completion date has been announced.

Graham said the high school/stadium parking lot will be resealed and restriped at a cost of about \$37,800.

The north parking lot at primary will be resealed and restriped for about \$21,000.

The north hill at Scrapper Stadium is ‘impossible to maintain,” Graham said. “We received a bid of \$77,000 level the ground and put in riprap.”

Graham said the district’s budget is within about \$50,000 of the one for 2023-24.

“We added to places where we ran short last year,” he said.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

SCHOOL BUDGET. Nashville School Board members Jerry Wilson (left), David Hilliard, Nick Britt and Tem Gunter listen as Superintendent Doug Graham outlines the district’s budget for 2024-25 during a workshop Friday, Aug. 9.

Coach

Continued from page 1A

With practice well underway, Scrivner said she wants to see her seventh graders “grow” as they prepare for junior high ball in eighth and ninth grade.

She expects the junior Scrapperettes to “have sound fundamentals” and wants them to win their conference tournament.

For high school, it’s one goal at a time, she said, leading up to a state championship.

In track, Scrivner said she noticed on the championship sign at Scrapper Stadium that “it’s been since 2011 that we last won state. I want us to win state again here.”

When she’s not coaching her junior and senior high teams, Scrivner spends time traveling, including AAU basketball.

She enjoys being outdoors. “I love to hunt. It’s one of my favorite things,” she said.

Scrivner and her family stay busy with a number of activities. The family includes husband Kirt and their six kids - Kelsyn, a second grader; twins Cruz and Karaline, fourth graders; Karstyn and Kennedy. Daughter Peyton is in college.

From her younger days of wanting to be a coach until now, “I love what I do every day,” Scrivner said. “I’m passionate and competitive. I’m blessed to be here at a school that takes so much pride in sports and academics.”

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Scrappers hit the field

News-Leader photos/JOHN R. SCHIRMER



Senior Scrappers gather around Coach Shawn Jackson to wrap up on-field practice Monday afternoon, Aug. 12.



Nashville Junior High players await the signal from Coach Zac Stewart to start the play.



Senior high Scraper Jamison McIntosh (71) pursues Jaydon Williamson Monday afternoon, Aug. 12.



Kellen Jackson (12) stops Jacob Teague at Monday's senior high practice.



Coach Tyler Clift congratulates Demetrus Shelley after a tackle.



Coach Zac Stewart talks to the NJHS Scrappers Monday afternoon.

16 days remaining in the Countdown to the Scrappers' season opener Aug. 30 at home against Magnolia.

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SPORTS LEADERS

Players of the Week as selected by The Leader sports department

Five Scrapperettes at OBU camp

Ouachita Baptist University women's basketball coach Kiley Hill welcomed five Nashville Scrapperettes to the OBU Elite Camp Aug. 2. The group includes Lyris Bennett, Kennedi Scrivner, Ava Basiliere, Coach Hill, Karstyn Scrivner and Caroline Dean.

This weekly feature sponsored by McDonald's of Nashville 845-2364 South Fourth Street

Courtesy photo

Coach Shawn Jackson and Superintendent Doug Graham cook hamburgers at the Scrapper Scramble Saturday, Aug. 10, at the Nashville Country Club.

Courtesy photo

Five Nashville Scrapperettes attended the Ouachita Baptist University Elite Camp Aug. 2. The group includes Lyris Bennett, Kennedi Scrivner, Ava Basiliere, OBU Coach Kiley Hill, Karstyn Scrivner and Caroline Dean.

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Tax-delinquent parcels
to be auctioned Aug. 20
Sale includes Howard, Pike property

Commissioner of State Lands Tommy Land has announced his office will auction tax-delinquent parcels located in Howard, Montgomery, Pike, Polk and Sevier counties on Tuesday, Aug. 20.

The regional auction begins at 10 a.m. and will be held at the Avalon Keep Botanical Gardens, 4671 AR-8 in Mena. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m.

“Regional auctions proved popular among our buyers last year, and we are continuing that process this year,” Commissioner Land said. “This allows bidders to attend the auction for multiple counties with the convenience of a single event.

Auctions are conducted alphabetically by county. Prospective bidders can find the Public Auction Catalog on the Commissioner’s website at www.cosl.org.

The catalog includes auction date, time and locations and a complete listing of parcels offered. Bidders should review the buyer’s guide and statutes governing sales before coming to auctions.

The website also includes an instructional video demonstrating how to research information about each parcel available for sale. “We are reminding owners of tax-delinquent parcels that the redemption period changed in 2023,” Land said.

“Parcels must be redeemed by 4 p.m. on the last business day before the sale date. We must receive the petition to redeem and the payment by that time.”

Auction sales are final, he emphasized. “Parcels sold at auction cannot be redeemed.”

Bidders must register for the auction before placing a bid. Purchases may be paid for with a business or personal check, or a credit or debit card. Cash is not accepted for purchase of tax-delinquent parcels. “Property taxes help fund schools, roads, libraries and public services including ambulances,” Land said. “Everyone benefits from paying those taxes — and the property owner benefits from paying on time, by avoiding interest and penalties on delinquent taxes.”

Properties that do not sell at auction will appear on the COSL’s post-auction sales list 30 days after the auction date. From there, they can be purchased through an online auction system.

Another instructional video on the COSL website demonstrates that process to bidders.

Owners of delinquent parcels may redeem those delinquent taxes online at www.cosl.org using a credit or debit card.

Those who prefer to pay by check or money order can print a Petition to Redeem from the website or call the office at 501-324-9422 to request the petition, which must accompany their payment.

Owners seeking to redeem within 30 days before an auction must use certified funds or may redeem with cash in our office at 1020 W. 4th Street in Little Rock. Cash is only accepted for redemption, and only for in-person payments at 1020 W. 4th Street.



News-Leader photo/COURTESY OF HCFM

TOP TWO CHILI COOKERS. Mike McKay and Brenda Blackmon were declared the winners of the inaugural chili cook-off fundraiser hosted Friday by the Howard County Farmers' Market. McKay took the “Judge’s Choice Award” while Blackmon was named the “People’s Choice.” Fern Dixon also had an entry in the event, which was judged by Sandy Ray, board chair of the Nashville Community Garden; Howard County Judge Brent Pinkerton; and market vendor, Tim White. Both winners received a farmers' market T-shirt which features the news Howard County Farmers' Market logo. The shirts are available for purchase for \$20 at the market.

HCFM Report: Muscadines went fast last week and hpes for a higher volume to be ready for this week. Robert Bailey might be back with more watermelons this week.

The market is considering doing a Saturday maket in the Fall - Oct. 12-Nov.16.

Market currently open 7-11 a.m. every Friday until Sept. 27.



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Back to School at Dierks High Keeping up with changing role of school counselor

By John Balch
News-Leader staff

DIERKS - When Crystal Smith first became high school counselor in 2015, most of her duties were administrative and clerical and didn't directly impact her students. As the world has changed, so has the role of counselor.

"The biggest change I have noticed in my career as a school counselor is the increased emphasis on youth mental health and the role and importance of a school counselor," Smith said as she prepared last week for the start of school on Tuesday.

"The state of Arkansas has made great strides in ensuring that counselors are available for direct services for students. An increased emphasis on youth mental health and bullying prevention have equipped counselors to face the issues that our students today are facing and train them to be better advocates for all students."

Smith, who also is the high school curriculum specialist, is not one to toot her own horn but she knows her job of school counselor is now more important than ever.

"Our nation is in the midst of a youth mental health crisis," she said. "I believe this is escalated by social media, bullying, or family issues but I am thankful we are finally to a point where we have taught our children that it is 'ok' to talk about the issues they are facing and to seek help"

She added that the "age of technology" has made children more susceptible to negativity, peer pressure, bullying, and abuse than any other generation.

"It is our job to equip them with the skills they need to live in this world and love themselves."

School counselors also have the unenviable task for preparing for the unthinkable tragedies that affect students, such as an active shooter on campus. Smith said it's her job to attempt to prevent such tragedies from ever happening in the first place.

"As the counselor, I work to educate my teachers on bullying prevention strategies and youth mental health to help us all be better prepared to help our students," she said. "I think the biggest counselor's role

in preparing for tragedy is really changing the school culture to an atmosphere of respect, acceptance and kindness toward one another among students and faculty."

Smith sees the counseling profession as being a mediator between students and teachers. She said the district's teachers do a great job getting to know the students, but their time is limited with them during the school day.

"As a counselor, you get to know more about your students and the things they are facing and the hardships in their lives or even things like how they learn and the things they value," Smith said.

"All of these things are crucial to ensuring that the learning environment is conducive to learning for students. Counselors can help the teachers learn more about the students and help the students learn more about the teachers."

Smith's goal as a counselor is to serve as an advocate and a support system for all students, and she takes it personally.

"I strive to be the one person that my students know will always be in their corner. I often think about the person I needed in my life growing up, and I hope I am that person to my students. A counselor should be a safe space for students and a voice for them when they cannot speak for themselves and someone to listen when they just need to talk."

Smith said the seed that grew into her decision to become an educator was planted when she was a student at Dierks High School (class of 2001). Despite having limited resources and even less self-confidence, she said "remarkable educators" like Sheila Tedder, Pat Bissell and Coach Steve Martin were her mentors who had a strong message "that no dream was out of reach if I was willing to work hard enough for it."

Smith, who is a first generation college graduate, still uses her high school mentors' positive message when motivating students.

"My favorite part of being a counselor is seeing students succeed. Whether it be in the classroom or in the sports arena or even just seeing them in everyday life. Knowing there is an

issue they have been struggling with and seeing them resilient and triumphant on the other side after they have faced that issue. Small victories or big, I love that I get to celebrate them all."

And again, it's personal for Smith.

"The hardest part of being a counselor is knowing the situations and things your students are going through or have experienced and not being able to "fix" it for them," she said.

"Counselors can wear a heavy heart sometimes because they get to share in the burdens of their students, so every traumatic event they have experienced, we somewhat feel the pain of that experience as well."

Smith started her education career at Murfreesboro High School in 2006 before coming home to Dierks in 2008. She also adjunct teaches college business courses at UA Cossatot and Henderson State University. She and husband Jason (Umpire Wildcat) have been married since 2003. Their oldest son Mackay is a sophomore at the University of Arkansas and Maclane is a freshman at Dierks.

School started Tuesday, Aug. 13, and Smith said the entire faculty worked hard to prepare for the new school year.

Teachers took a "deep dive" into their HQIM (Highly Qualified Instructional Materials) to ensure the district exposes the students to everything they need to be successful on ATLAS and ACT testing. The Career & Technical Education Program of Study pathways have been modified to align with the state's H2 Pathways to ensure students are leaving Dierks High School with the skills and knowledge they need to be successful in high demand and high wage career fields in Arkansas.

The district also worked with UA Cossatot to offer 20 more concurrent credit hours in Education and Science. These classes will be taught on campus by Dierks teachers for Dierks students for free. Last year, the district offered 10 concurrent credit hours on campus.

"This year we will be able to offer 30 concurrent credit hours, so this is an amazing opportunity that we are excited to offer to our students," Smith said.



News-Leader photo/JOHN BALCH

SCHOOL UNDERWAY AT DIERKS. Crystal Smith is counselor and curriculum specialist at Dierks High School and started her career in education in 2006 at Murfreesboro High School.

Dierks School District 2024-2025 Staff

JoAnn Walters
Elementary Staff
2024-2025

CERTIFIED
Ashley Arnold
Toni Bowman
Hannah Cordell
Pamela Davis
Craig Dodson
Jennifer Edge
Cameron Glasgow
Jessica Glidewell
Michelle Godwin
Nina Hernandez
Rebecca Herrington
Laurie Johnson
April Kappus
Neesha Kirby
Shawn Kirkpatrick
Tori Mitchell
Katrina Pickett
Corey Robertson
Cheyenne Stewart
Paula Stapp
Tammy Tabler
Charlotte Tipton
Alvarene Welch
Brian White
Jennifer White
Katie Winer
CLASSIFIED
Tiffani Bond
Lynzie Callaway
Sheila Eudy
Mariela Figueroa
Jason Harding
Kisha Issac
Crystal Morris

Lydia Poore
Kaylynn Sharp
Sara Stanley
Lisa Ward
Chrissie White
Darla Wilson

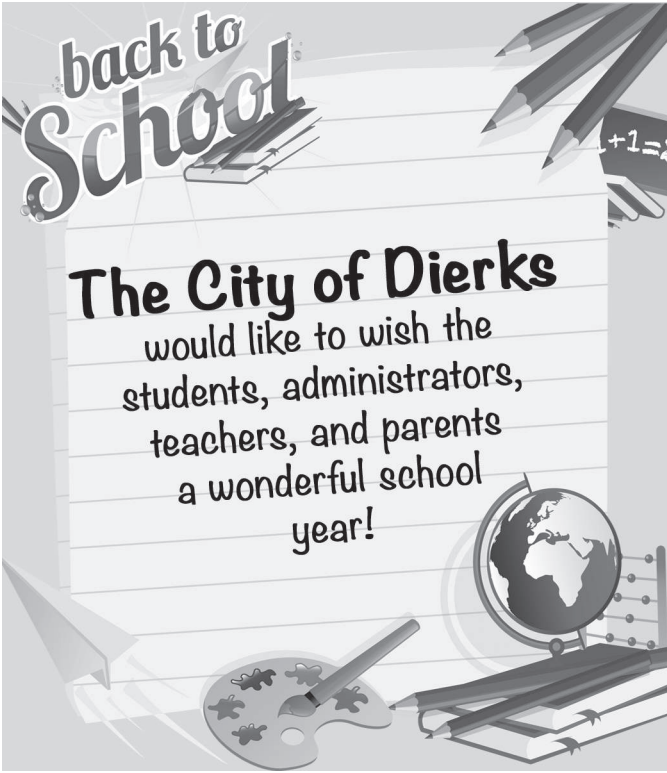
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Audrey Bailey
Shannon Bailey
Lantz Castleman
Perla Cervantes
Jacob Chisum
Alex Clark
Deidra Dove
Jennifer Ernest
Paul Ernest
Greg Faulkner
Scott Feemster
Adriana Hogg
Cassie Kirby
Betsy Mack
Joey Morris
Crystal Neal
Carol Nuttall
Keenan Owens
LeAnn Reel
Chelsea Sayre

Leslie Simmons
Crystal Smith
William Stewart
Jeff Tipton
Lena VanCamp
CERTIFIED
Grover Hill,
Superintendent
CLASSIFIED
Quincy Alexander
Barbara Chambers
Melanie Gadbury
Sheila Jester
Leah Pitchford
Frankie Stamps
Michelle Walston
Anna Willis
Michala Young
CLASSIFIED (District)
Greg Janes
Kristi Janes
Kayla Jones
Michele Kitchens
Greg Nuttall (bus driver)
Travis Young (+ 1/2 route bus driver)
Lindsey Stokes
53 **CERTIFIED**
28 **CLASSIFIED**
81 **TOTAL**

(New Hires in Bold)



2024
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Scrimmage
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Bryan McJunkins
Howard County Sheriff

Howard County District Court

Aug. 8, 2024
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Daines, David Lee, 62, Texarkana, \$445 BF, driving on suspended or revoked license; \$240 BF, speeding
Dowell, Glendon Daryl, 61, Dierks, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$1,140 owed
Henderson, Ryan Scott, 26, El Dorado, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$345
Hornbuckle, Jeffrey Wayne, 57, De Kalb, Texas, \$250 BF, speeding; \$215 BF, improper or prohibited passing
Jackson, Jason W., 45, Dierks, \$45 BF, no seat belt
James, Rickara Renee, 18, Texarkana, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445; guilty of speeding, fined \$260; guilty of improper or prohibited passing
Jurelong, Vonetta Bernard, 37, De Queen, \$240 BF, speeding
Langston, Alfonsa Latroyce, 47, Nashville, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$345
Liong, Sioeng Tjie, 54, McKinney, Texas, \$240 BF, speeding
Martinez Camacho, J. Carmen, 63, Mineral Springs, \$195 BF no driver's license/ expired license
Moody, John Bergman, 42, Kountze, Texas, \$260 BF, speeding
Moore, Bradley, 23, Nashville, \$195 BF, expired vehicle tags/ no tags
Murillo, Josue Gerardo, 15, Nashville, guilty of no driver's license/ expired license, fined \$195
Organista-Bibiano, Daniel, 34, Nashville, \$195 Bf, expired vehicle tags/ no tags
Pallares, Serrano Enrique, 52, Horatio, \$195 BF, no driver's license/ expired license
Ramirez, Angel Isahia, 22, Mena, \$445 BF, driving on suspended or revoked license
Rhodes, Xan Robert, 17, Nashville, \$250 BF, speeding
Shelton, Ryan A., 22, Lockesburg, \$210 BF, failure to move to left
Sprayberry, Tyler Ray, 30, Waldo, \$240 BF, speeding
Stalling, Rodrigo E., 29, Bossier City, La., \$195 BF, no driver's license/ expired license
Starr, James Ray, 65, Oden, \$240 BF, speeding
Taylor, Tristen, 16, Nashville, guilty of no driver's license/ expired license, fined \$195
Turner, Leah N., 44, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$2,930 owed
Vaught, Kenneth D., 55, Nashville, \$195 BF, no child restraint
Willis, Amanda C., 60, Nashville, \$195 BF, no child restraint; \$345 BF, careless or prohibited driving
Woods, Bobby D., 38, Murfreesboro, \$50 BF, failure to present insurance
Young, William K., 47, Lockesburg, \$240 BF, speeding
City of Nashville
Aguilar, Marcial, 70, De Queen, \$215 BF, improper or prohibited passing
Arroyo, Joshua I., 16, Nashville, \$240 BF, speeding
Beene, Austin Trace, 24, Nashville, \$45 BF, no seat belt
Chrisp, Gonzollis, 71, Ozan, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$2,200 owed
Crail, Brittney L., 42, Ashdown, \$220 BF, drinking in public
Fanning, Howard Lee, 65, Nashville, \$195 BF, running stop sign or light
Fox, Dennis S., 54, Nashville, no motorize helmet/ eyewear, under advisement for 60 days to dismiss
Green, Kenan D., 27, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$1,890 owed
Lacie, Mark Phillip, 47, Lockesburg, \$445 BF, driving on suspended or revoked license; \$50 BF, failure to present insurance
Maldonado, Elder Pineda, 23, Nashville, \$195 BF, no driver's license/ expired license; \$45 BF, no seat belt
McDowell, Haldene, 32, Texarkana, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$870 owed
Pennigar, Anthony F., 32, Nashville, \$230 BF, speeding
Scroggins, Shadora, 27, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$4,023 owed, committed to jail-suspended conditions; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245; guilty failure to appear, fined \$245; guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445; guilty of no vehicle license, fined \$125

Snell, Devarius Darlnell, 21, Nashville, \$345 BF, no proof of liability insurance
Stone, Tracy M., 62, Blevins, \$250 BF, speeding
Stuart, Keiki, 36, Nashville, \$195 BF, no child restraint
City of Dierks
Harding, G. Thomas, 81, De Queen, \$345 BF, careless or prohibited driving
Lane, Travis, 86, De Queen, \$240 Bf, speeding
Lopez, Analy E., 28, Nash, Texas, \$345 BF, no proof of liability insurance
Markham, Steve K., 56, Little Rock, \$250 BF, speeding
Steward, Elijah D., 19, Dierks, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445
Vallee, Zachary D., 23, De Queen, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$345
Ward, Elizabeth P., 20, Dierks, \$195 BF, running stop sign or light
Yochum, Christian Dawn, 34, Texarkana, guilty of speeding, fined \$230
City of Mineral Springs
Boone, Jonna Paige, 19, Nashville, guilty of no seat belt, fined \$70
Covington, Doyle D., 33, Saratoga, \$45 BF, no seat belt

Perkins, Jimmy L., 54, Mineral Springs, \$45 BF, no seat belt
Smith, David M., 60, Mineral Springs, \$45 BF, no seat belt
Spencer, Chrisaiya, 24, Mineral Springs, guilty of contributing to delinquency of minor, fined \$425; guilty of third-degree battery, fined \$660
Bench Trials
Howard County
Igbinijesu, Fortune R., 39, Arlington, Texas, guilty of speeding, fined \$240
Kinsey, Dakota C., 26, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$470 owed

City of Nashville
Christopher, Patrick, 24, Texarkana, third-degree domestic battery, under advisement for six months to dismiss, fined \$710; resisting arrest, under advisement for six months to dismiss, fined \$910; criminal trespass, under advisement for six months to dismiss, fined \$270
Golston, Christopher, 40, Ozan, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$485 owed
City of Mineral Springs
Stuart, Sarah, 35, Mineral Springs, guilty of violation of city ordinance-loud music, fined \$125



SUPPORT AWARD FOR SHERIFF. Hempstead County Sheriff James Singleton was recently presented a Patriot Award by Arkansas Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) volunteers Paul and Dolly Henley. Singleton was nominated by Deputy Derick Bunn (pictured) who also serves in ARNG, B Company 1/153 IN as a Specialist. Bunn stated in his nomination form that Singleton served in the Arkansas National Guard for 18 years and he supports Bunn and others in the guard in every way possible during deployments and training.

What kind of farms have you visited?

What do you know about how a farm is run?

Kids: color stuff in!

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Farm Times

Riddles & Rhymes!

Hi everyone. It's me, Peak, again! This week I'm visiting my cousin at the farm. There are lots of different animals here. Get a piece of paper and list all the ones you can think of. Then, do my farm puzzle!

1. Most farmers use tractors, but I still may help to break ground in some fields or pull heavy loads.

2. I can eat many kinds of plants. My milk may be drunk or made into cheese. I don't have a "baaaaaad" attitude.

3. I am the "purrfect" pet. I chase mice away. I may not get along with the dog!

4. I have a long neck like a camel. My soft fur is used to make clothing and blankets. I can help carry things up mountains. I am calm, but watch out - sometimes I spit!

5. If I am a rooster, I crow at sunrise. If I am a hen, I lay eggs.

6. I might eat hay, grass, barley or corn. My milk can be made into butter, cheese, yogurt and ice cream. I even have a type of bell named after me!

7. I have long ears and great hearing. I may freeze when frightened, then thump the ground to warn others.

8. I lay eggs. My feathers are used for pillows. I have good eyesight and honk loudly when something seems wrong.

9. My fluffy wool ranges in color from creamy white to black. It is sheared and used for making clothing and carpeting.

10. Some say I like damp and rainy weather. My babies follow me in a line. I have webbed feet for swimming.

11. I help to herd and gather sheep. I guard and protect.

12. I have a pink curly tail. I lie in mud to keep cool. When someone makes a mess, others may joke that they act like me.

cat

dog

plow horse

chicken

rabbit

goat

cow

sheep

llama

goose

duck

pig

I'm a llama. I have long, banana-shaped ears and I am about twice as big as you.

I am an alpaca!

Who are you?

Head for Shelter

There's a storm a-comin'. Help the hen get her chicks inside the barn before they get soaked!

Start

End

What Kind of Farm?

There are lots of different kinds of farms. Fill in my rhyming clues one by one - you'll know seven types when you are done!

1. You'll find birds at poultry farms, in coops, in fields, in pens; feathered creatures: roosters, chicks and _____.

2. Large, refrigerated tank trucks let us deliver milk with ease - to the dairy plant to be readied for butter, cream and _____.

3. Black and yellow insects can 'bee' farmed to make us money; dripping sweetly in their hives is gold, delicious _____.

4. A livestock farm may have ranchers or sheepherders - like little Bo Peep; they breed different animals like goats, cattle and _____.

5. An orchard grows apples to bite and bake and squeeze; it's a farm that plants endless rows of leafy apple _____.

6. A cranberry bog grows bitter berries we crush into sauce and chomp; they're farmed in a wet, marshy field that looks a bit like a _____.

7. A vineyard is a farm for grapes, the fruit that grows on vines; the grapes are used in juice and jam, in jellies and in _____.

trees

swamp

hens

cheese

wines

honey

sheep

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PINE TREE FESTIVAL ROYALTY ON PARADE. 2024 Miss Pine Tree Madisyn Morpheu (above) and Young Miss Pine Tree Myla Lewis both took to the Pine Tree Festival Parade route in classic vehicles.



Pike County’s city councils to have contested races

MURFREESBORO – As the filing period for municipal elected positions closed last week, the ballot has been set with the candidates.

In the county seat of Murfreesboro, there will be one contested race in November between incumbent Lewis Gills and Danny Eckert for the South Ward Position 1 position on the city council.

For all other positions in Murfreesboro, only the incumbents registered for their positions, including:

- Recorder/Treasurer – Penny Lamb
- North Ward Position 1 – Mark Barnes
- North Ward Position 2 – Kirk Stone
- South Ward Position 2 – Jane Fugitt
- West Ward Position 1 – Betty O’Neal
- West Ward Position 2 – James “Cody” Bachmann

In the county’s northern reaches, the City of Glenwood will also feature one contested race between incumbent Jimmy Clark and Rick Driggers for the council position from North Ward Position 1.

Jason Lenderman filed for the position of City Recorder/Treasurer, where he has been filling in since July following the resignation of Ryan Brady.

No one filed for the position of South Ward Position 1 in Glenwood, currently held by Alan Moore, allowing the council to fill the position with any eligible candidate.

The Town of Delight is set for a pair of contested races, including Position 2 that was vacated by incumbent Valarie Wingfield. Jenimy “Jimmy” Williams will face off against current Delight Fire Chief Ty Sherrod for the position.

Position 3 incumbent Chris Goodson will vie for the position with Brandi Rowton Martin.

Delight council incumbents Rhonda Abbott (Position 1), Ronnie Cox (Position 4) and Keith Woods (Position 5) will maintain their seats with no opposition filed.

In the towns of Antoine and Daisy no one officially filed for any of the five seats each.

Ballot draw for the positions will be held at the Pike County Clerk’s office in Murfreesboro on Friday, August 23 at 1 p.m.

Registered Pike County voters will be able to see their complete ballots in mid-to-late October on voterview.com based on residence prior to going to the polls this Nov. 5.

State broadband office to host local meeting Aug. 31 in Murfreesboro

The Arkansas State Broadband Office has announced they will host broadband town hall meetings throughout the state from Aug. 20 through Aug. 31.

The meeting for Pike County is set for 3 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 31 in Murfreesboro, which will also include attendees from Howard and Montgomery counties.

The office will present the latest updates regarding the next round of broadband infrastructure grants (funded through the BEAD Program), with a focus on information for grassroots stakeholders (such as timelines and processes), including immediate action items for local officials (letters of support and how they work). The office will also distribute a contact list of internet service providers (ISPs) operating in and around each county, with the intent of having local officials contact ISPs to build relationships, gauge interest in BEAD, etc.

State, county, and local officials, as well as county broadband committee members, ISPs, business owners, nonprofits, and interested residents are encouraged to attend.

Interested participants are asked to register to attend one (or more) of the town hall meetings using the Google Form at docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScaBvpuXRcMIUM-gi144bm2ElAiYuYpxqp6k2k91_gu4KJAQQ/viewform. Address locations for each meeting will be emailed to registrants once finalized.

For more information, contact the Arkansas Broadband Hotline at (501) 683-6000.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Howard County Road Department is accepting sealed bids on two (2) vehicles.

Vehicle one (1) is a 2024 Chevrolet LT Crew Cab Sliverado, 4 WD, short bed, Duramax Turbo Diesel.

Vehicle two (2) is a 2024 GMC SLE Crew Cab, 4 WD, short bed, Turbo Max.

Please contact the Howard County Judge’s Office for further details.

Bids will be opened on August 26, 204, at 10 A.M. in the County Judge’s Office.


Howard County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Brent Pinkerton, Howard County Judge
August 12, 2024.
(HCJ: 8, 9)

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JD 450G Dozer/Tilt Blade, 1996 Chevy 6yd Dump Truck, MF 573 Tractor, w/4045 Loader 896 hrs, JD MX7 3pt. Bush Hog, 29 ft. Dual Tandem GN. Dove Tail Trailer, MF 245 Tractor 1563 Hrs, 3pt. Post Hole Digger, Brush Rake, Hay Spear, 18 Ft. Strater Bass Boat w/Johnson 120 Motor, 8 Wheel Rake, 6 Ft. Inline Disk, 6 Ft., 3pt. Bush Hog, Miller Bobcat Welder, Shop Fan, Ford Taurus Car, Lumber 2x4 & 2x6, Chicken House Fans, 4 Wheeler, Cattle Guard, T Post, 5 Ft., 3 Pt. Rear Tine Tiller, 1980 Flat Bed Truck, Craftsman Riding Mower, Scrap Iron, Gas Stove, Display Case, Bedroom Suite, TV, Washer & Dryer, Patio Furniture, Bar Stools, Dining Table & Chairs, Pots & Pans, Corningware, Sewing Machine, Lawyer Book Case, Chest Drawers, many more items too numerous to mention.

Go to Auctionzip.com for complete listing with pictures!

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Howard County Sanitation Department is taking applications for a Garbage Truck Driver and a self-motivated Laborer. Pay will be based on experience. When applying for the truck driver position you must have a CDL and both positions require that you are able to pass a pre-employment drug screen.


Benefits provided by Howard County are, 100% Medical Insurance paid for employee, APERS retirement, paid vacation, paid holidays, and sick days.


Applications can be picked up from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. in the Howard County Judge’s office located in the Howard County Courthouse, 421 N. Main, Nashville, AR 71852.

If you have questions, please contact Kelly Windham at judge@howardco.org or call 870-845-7500 or 870-845-7501.

After the storm:

- When venturing outside, stay away from downed power lines and be alert to the possibility that tree limbs or debris may hide an electrical hazard. Assume any dangling wires you encounter are energized and dangerous. Warn others to stay away and contact the electric utility.
- If you are driving and come upon a downed power line, stay in your vehicle, warn others to stay away and contact emergency personnel or electric utility. Also, when driving, be careful at intersections where traffic lights may be out. Stop at all railroad crossings and treat road intersections with traffic signals as a four-way stop before proceeding with caution.





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SECOND BIGGEST IN 2024. The two-carat ‘Minor Find’ is the second largest gem found at the state park this year. The gem was found by Will and Marshall Barnett.

Arizona man finds two-carat gem at Crater of Diamonds State Park ‘Minor Find’ second-largest found in 2024

There is nothing better than memories made while spending quality time with family. For Will and Marshall Barnett, of Buckeye, Ariz., a recent father-and-son trip to Arkansas’ famous Crater of Diamonds State Park resulted in the story of a lifetime and the second-largest diamond registered so far this year.

The Barnetts set out on a “boys’ week” road trip from their home in late July, their main goal to visit family and have fun along the way. After learning about the Crater of Diamonds State Park from his uncle, who worked as a park interpreter at another Arkansas State Park, Will decided to stop by Arkansas’ diamond site to try their luck at finding a genuine diamond.

Will and Marshall arrived at the park on the morning of July 27, buckets and shovels in-hand. After renting screens at the park’s Diamond Discovery Center, the two entered the park’s 37.5-acre diamond search area, a plowed field atop the eroded surface of an ancient, diamond-bearing volcano, to start digging. After filling a few buckets with diamond-bearing soil, they headed to the park’s south wash pavilion to wet sift their dirt.

“Wet sifting is one of the most effective methods to search for diamonds,” said Park Interpreter Ashlyn Keys. “The search area has two wash pavilions, with water troughs and tables, for visitors to wet sift. Using screens to separate dirt from the gravel allows you to go through more material in less time, giving a better chance of finding a diamond.”

While sifting, Will spotted a promising, glimmering gem at the bottom of his screen. He quickly called over his son, saying, “Hey Marshall, you should take a look at this!” Marshall excitedly picked out the large stone before asking an experienced miner nearby if they had just found a diamond.

Early that afternoon, the Barnetts brought their find to the park’s Diamond Discovery Center, where staff confirmed that it was a large diamond. Park Superintendent Caleb Howell said, “While examining the diamond, I looked out the office window and asked Mrs. Keys who the finders were, then said, ‘Wait, let me guess: they’re the ones shaking with excitement!’”

“You could tell they knew they had found something special from the smiles on their faces,” said Keys.

The beautiful two-carat diamond is rectangular in shape, about the size of a pencil eraser, with a light brown color resembling iced tea. “The first thing I noticed was two large facets that really shined when the light hit them just right,” Howell said.

Many visitors choose to name the diamonds they find at Crater of Diamonds State Park. As frequent gold panners, Will and Marshall came up with the name “Minor Find,” as Will often calls his son a “minor-miner.” Will says of their visit, “It’s worth looking, even if you don’t find a diamond!”

The “Minor Find” is the 412th diamond registered at the park this year and the 36,500th diamond registered since Crater of Diamonds became an Arkansas State Park in 1972.

On average, park visitors find one or two diamonds each day.

Quick Facts about Crater of Diamonds State Park

Diamonds come in all colors of the rainbow. The three most common colors found at Crater of Diamonds State Park are white, brown and yellow, in that order.

In total, over 75,000 diamonds have been

unearthed at the Crater of Diamonds since the first diamonds were discovered in 1906 by John Huddleston, a farmer who owned the land long before it became an Arkansas State Park in 1972.

The largest diamond ever discovered in the United States was unearthed in 1924 during an early mining operation on the land that later became Crater of Diamonds State Park. Named the Uncle Sam, this white diamond with a pink cast weighed 40.23 carats. It was later cut into a 12.42-carat emerald shape. The Uncle Sam is now part of the Smithsonian’s mineral and gem collection and can be seen at the National Museum of Natural History.

Another well-known diamond from the park is the Strawn-Wagner. Found in 1990 by Murfreesboro resident Shirley Strawn, this 3.03-carat white gem was cut into a round brilliant shape weighing 1.09 carats. It graded as ideal cut, D-colorless and flawless and was set in a platinum and 24-carat gold ring.

In 1998, the state of Arkansas purchased this diamond for \$34,700 in donations and placed it on permanent display at the park visitor center.

Tuskegee Airmen Post 332 getting geared up for Veterans Day Parade

Plans are now in the works for the Tuskegee Airmen Post 332 of Mineral Springs’ annual Veterans Day Parade with a goal of including 100 bikers.

The parade will be held Nov. 2 at Bridge-man Park in Mineral Springs at 11 a.m. with lineup set for 10:00.

Barbecue plate lunches will be available

for \$12-\$20 donations with all proceeds going to support various charity events.

The Post will also be on hand at the Tol-lette Homecoming on Saturday, Aug. 17 selling plate lunches.

For more information, contact Robert Forbes, 870-200-3306 or Teresa Aubrey, 870-210-6906.

NPD makes drug arrest

The Nashville Police Department served an arrest warrant Aug. 8 at 1035 Pope Street Apartments and Stacie Elaine, 46, of Nashville, was taken into custody without incident.

White had outstanding warrants for delivery of a Schedule II controlled substance; use of a communications device; and proximity to certain facilities because the crimes were committed within 1000 feet of a publicly funded and administered multifamily housing development.



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PUBLIC NOTICE
DIERKS SCHOOL DISTRICT – SY 2024-2025 FOR FREE AND REDUCED PRICE MEALS
The Dierks School District will be participating in the National School Lunch Program, The National School Breakfast Program and the Afterschool Snack Program. Households may be eligible for free or reduced price meal benefits. Applications may be found at The Dierks Schools and at linconnect.com. Households that participate in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. To apply for free or reduced price meals, households must complete and return the application. Applications will be considered incomplete if all information is not provided as described in the instructions provided with the application. Applications may be submitted at any time during the school year as circumstances change provided that the loss of income causes the household income during the period of unemployment to be within the eligibility criteria.

Income Eligibility Guidelines for School Year 2024-2025																
Household Size	Federal Poverty Guidelines						Free Meals 130%					Reduced Meals 185%				
	Annual	Annual	Monthly	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly	Annual	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly					
1	15,060	19,578	1,632	816	753	377	27,861	2,322	1,161	1,072	536					
2	20,440	26,572	2,215	1,108	1,022	511	37,814	3,152	1,576	1,455	728					
3	25,820	33,566	2,798	1,399	1,291	646	47,767	3,981	1,991	1,838	919					
4	31,200	40,560	3,380	1,690	1,560	780	57,720	4,810	2,405	2,220	1,110					
5	36,580	47,554	3,963	1,982	1,829	915	67,673	5,640	2,820	2,603	1,302					
6	41,960	54,548	4,546	2,273	2,098	1,049	77,626	6,469	3,235	2,986	1,493					
7	47,340	61,542	5,129	2,565	2,367	1,184	87,579	7,299	3,650	3,369	1,685					
8	52,720	68,536	5,712	2,856	2,636	1,318	97,532	8,128	4,064	3,752	1,876					
each add'l person add	5,380	6,994	583	292	269	135	9,953	830	415	383	192					

Households with children who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, may submit an application with abbreviated information as described in the application instructions.

All applications are subject to verification. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the ruling of the determining official may wish to discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. Parents wishing to make a formal appeal for a hearing on the decision may make a request to: **Grover Hill at 870-286-2191.**

Children who are enrolled in Head start/ Even Start programs are categorically eligible for free meals. Contact **Sheila Jester at 870-286-324** with questions regarding Head Start/ Even Start meal benefits.

Children certified as foster, migrant, homeless or runaway by the district are categorically eligible for free meals. Contact **Sheila Jester at 870-286-3234** with questions regarding foster, migrant, homeless or runaway meal benefits. Households who are notified of their eligibility but who do not want their children to receive free meals must contact the school. SNAP households should complete an application if they are not notified of their eligibility by **10/03/2024**. In the operation of child feeding programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age or disability.

Nondiscrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly.

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U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW,
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; email: program.intake@usda.gov
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News-Leader photos/COURTESY OF KAITLIN MILLER
WORKING THE CHAIN SAW. J Bo Jones of Murfreesboro was one of many loggers on hand at the recent Dierks Pine Tree Festival who tried their hand in the chain saw competition.

Machine learning leads to a first in forestry management tools

Researcher develops high-res forest canopy data for entire state

By Jenifer Fouch
University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture
Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station

A new dataset is providing a bird’s-eye view of Arkansas’ forests 1 meter at a time.

An Arkansas researcher has developed the first high-resolution forest canopy cover dataset for an entire state, providing valuable insights for forest management and conservation to a major economic sector in Arkansas.

“I had this vision of creating something that we can rely on,” said Hamdi Zurqani, assistant professor for the College of Forestry, Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Arkansas at Monticello and researcher with the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station. “No data of this kind existed before for an entire state. Usually, people only create similar data for site-specific projects.”

The 1-meter measurements are unique. Until now, the most common forest measurements and datasets have come from satellite imagery at 30-meter spatial resolution, said Zurqani, who conducts research as part of the Arkansas Forest Resources Center, a partnership between the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture and

UAM. The experiment station is the research arm of the Division of Agriculture.

Forest canopy cover measures the coverage of tree crowns from an aerial view. It shows how much a forest’s uppermost layer of branches, leaves and vegetation forms a continuous cover over the ground. This detailed information is crucial for tracking forest health, as canopy cover is essential for carbon sequestration, wildlife habitat and water regulation.

Zurqani says accurate mapping of tree coverage helps scientists monitor and manage forest resources effectively, ensuring the sustainability of these ecosystems. This information can also assist with wildfire risk assessments, tracking forest health threats from pests and climate, and urban planning.

Zurqani’s research was published late last year in the academic journal Remote Sensing Applications: Society and Environment. The article was titled “High-resolution forest canopy cover estimation in ecodiverse landscape using machine learning and Google Earth Engine: Validity and reliability assessment.”

According to the latest Arkansas Agricultural Profile, forests cover 57 percent of the state, and timber was one of the state’s top commodities in 2021 with about

\$409 million in cash farm receipts.

Machine learning

To create the Arkansas forest canopy cover dataset, Zurqani used machine learning techniques and the Google Earth Engine.

Machine learning is a branch of artificial intelligence that allows computers to “learn” from data and improve their performance over time without being programmed. Machine learning algorithms identify patterns in data, make predictions and adapt to new information.

The Google Earth Engine is a cloud-based platform designed for processing and analyzing large-scale geospatial data. It provides access to a vast repository of satellite imagery and geospatial datasets.

Zurqani’s research utilized high-resolution National Agriculture Imagery Program aerial imagery to apply and test his methods.

The National Agriculture Imagery Program, administered by the United States Department of Agriculture, captures high-resolution aerial imagery of agricultural areas during the growing season. The imagery is used for monitoring crop conditions, assessing land use changes, and supporting various agricultural and environmental applications.

Room for growth

A finer spatial resolution

of Arkansas forests provides a more accurate assessment of canopy structure and composition. Zurqani says this precision is essential for monitoring changes in forest dynamics, identifying vulnerable areas and implementing targeted conservation strategies. Zurqani hopes his 1-meter dataset could become the new standard for measuring forest canopy cover.

“So, in the future, we can use this dataset to cover all forest areas and see which trees are healthy and which ones are diseased,” Zurqani said.

“Because it’s high-resolution imagery, we can detect the location of the trees within urban areas.”

There are 502 cities and 75 counties in Arkansas, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, and Zurqani said he evaluated forests and tree-covered areas within those cities and counties. While initially focused on the state of Arkansas, Zurqani envisions expanding this innovative approach to cover all 50 states.

“The studies demonstrate that machine learning and cloud computing technologies can produce reliable, high-resolution forest cover datasets,” Zurqani said. “These methods can be applied to other regions globally, enhancing forest management and conservation efforts worldwide.”

Attend Church This Sunday!

HOLY MASS
St. Martin’s Catholic Church
1011 W. Leslie •Nashville

Sunday (Eng.) - 9 a.m.
Sunday (Esp.) - 11 a.m.
Wednesday - 6 p.m.
Thursday - 8 a.m.
1st Friday - 6:30 p.m.
Saturday (Esp.) - 6:30 p.m.
Fr. Salvador Vega, Pastor
Welcome • Bienvenidos

LOCKESBURG FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ~ 11:00 A.M.
& MT. CARMEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 12:15 P.M.
TOMMY HALSELL, PASTOR
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211 Church St. • Center Point
Pastor: Jaron Tipton
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 5:00 p.m.

-- Non-Denomination --
New Life in Jesus Christ Church
913 South Main St. • Nashville, AR
Sunday Morning Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Evening Worship 5:30 p.m.
Pastors: Lankford & Mary Alice Moore

EBENEZER UMC
318 West Dodson • Nashville
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors”
Scott Memorial (Paraloma Community)
First & Third Sundays Monthly
Sunday Worship 9:15 a.m.
Pastor: Ellis Ray Floyd

Facts About The BIBLE
BY JOHN LEHTI
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THIS IS A DRAMATIZED VERSION OF FACTS TAKEN FROM THE BOOK OF AMOS, CHRONOLOGICALLY AND AUTHENTICALLY CONSOLIDATED !

AMOS • THE SHEPHERD TURNED PROPHET

AMOS, THE HERDSMAN, HAVING BEEN COMMANDED BY THE LORD, TRAVELS NORTH TO ISRAEL TO PREACH TO ALL THE SINNERS, BUT DANGERS LURK IN THE WILDERNESS FOR ALL WHO TRAVEL THROUGH IT....

...PARTICULARLY, ROBBER BANDS, WAITING TO TAKE ANY, AND ALL VALUABLES FROM THE WEARY TRAVELER WHO COMES THEIR WAY....

...IN THIS CASE, THE ROBBER, WATCHING AMOS DO NOT APPEAR ANXIOUS TO ATTACK—CAN THEY TELL, JUST BY LOOKING, THAT HE CARRIES NO WEALTH, OR DOES SOMETHING ELSE—SOME VOICE FROM WITHIN—KEEP THEM FROM MOLESTING THE HUMBLE HERDER?!

AT ALL EVENTS, AMOS CONTINUES HIS JOURNEY, UNTOUCHED AND UNHARMED....

...FINALLY, HE COMES TO PAUSE IN AN OLIVE GROVE, HIGH ABOVE THE KIDRON VALLEY, FROM WHENCE HE HAS A CLEAR VIEW OF THE GOLDEN CITY, JERUSALEM—WHERE RESTS THE ARK OF THE COVENANT IN THE TEMPLE! JERUSALEM—RICH IN THE HISTORY OF HIS PEOPLE, AND THE GREAT KINGS, DAVID, AND SOLOMON! BUT IT IS NOT FOR AMOS TO STOP HIS JOURNEY—FOR HIS ORDERS TAKE HIM FURTHER NORTH TO ISRAEL!

266

...OF WHICH AMOS SEEMS TO BE COMPLETELY UNAWARE....

Next Week
A KING’S SUMMER PALACE!

Immanuel Baptist Church
Immanuel St. • Nashville • 845-3414
www.myimmanuel.com
Pastor: Paul Herndon

Sunday: Sunday School - 9:55 a.m.
Worship (KMTB-fm) - 10:55 a.m.
Worship - 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday: GROW - 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.
Youth - 5:30 p.m.

Be our Guest at Cross Point Cowboy Church

Sunday Services 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study for all ages at 6:30 p.m.
Hwy 371 W. of Nashville
“Pointing People to the Cross”
Pastor Don Jones

First Baptist Church
415 N. Main • Nashville
Come Worship With Us!
Sunday school 9 a.m.
Morning worship 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.
Evening worship 6:00 p.m.
Rev. Kevin Sartin

Come worship with us!
First Church of God
Community Oriented & Christ Centered
946 MLK, Hwy 355, Tollette, AR
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m. • Youth 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday evening service 6:00 p.m.
Rev. Charles Green, Pastor

Unity Baptist Church
380 Buck Range Road
Pastor:
Bro. David Cassady
Sunday Service
10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

WOODS & WOODS
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Jason Lenderman, CPA

Delight Methodist Church
E. Antioch Street • Delight
Morning Services - 11:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting - Wed. 6:30 p.m.
Men’s Meeting - Thurs. 7:00 p.m.
Jim Henderson, Pastor

HOLLY CREEK Missionary Baptist Church
705 Main St. • Dierks • 286-2010
Sun. School 10:00 a.m.
Sun. Morning Worship 10:50 a.m.
Sun. Evening 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday WOW 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
Pastor: Bro. Brian Finn
Radio Program: 9:45 Sunday Morning • B99.5 FM
Visit us at: www.hollycreekmbc.net

First Christian Church
500 N. Main • Nashville
(Corner of Main & Bishop)
845-3241
Sunday Bible School - 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 6:00 p.m.
Minister: Jim Pinson

Futrell Marine
Hwy. 371
Nashville
(870) 845-3122

To advertise your church or business in this spot, call Tracy at 870-845-0600.

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870-845-1188

NEWS-LEADER CLASSIFIEDS

BUSINESS SERVICES

MINI STORAGE IN MUR-FREESBORO. 870-845-6304. (gs:4-tf)

Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 202 W. Howard St. Mon., Wed. & Fri. 8 to 9 p.m. Elizabeth 870-949-5833, Warren 870-557-0446, Chad 430-200-7150.

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287-4729

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HOWARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF JAYDEN DESAUN PENAGRAPH, & JAYVREN MICHAEL PENAGRAPH, minors 31 PR-24-12

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO: DEMARIO TIRRELL TALLEY

On Wednesday, September 4, 2024, commencing at 9 am or as soon thereafter as may be heard, a hearing will be held on the Petition for Adoption in the above-styled matter. This Petition is filed by Devoria Penagraph, and is a formal request for legal action to seek the adoption and thus termination of your rights. This hearing will take place at the Howard County Courthouse, Courtroom, located at 421 N. Main Street, Nashville, Arkansas, 2nd Floor Courtroom.

If you object to the Petition, you should file a written response with the Clerk of Howard County, Arkansas, at the following address: 421 N. Main Street, Nashville, 71852. If you fail to appear at the hearing, a Judge may enter orders or decrees which terminate your rights to the children referenced above.

____/s/: Aaron R Brasel_____
Aaron R Brasel, ABN 2009138
Post Office Box 813
Nashville, AR 71852
(870) 845-4100 – Telephone
(870) 845-4103 – Facsimile
(AB: 5 - 8)

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Howard County Election Commission will meet August 23rd, 2024, at 9:30 am. in the Howard County Clerk's Office to draw for ballot positions for the November 5th, 2024 General Election.

Robert Williams, Commissioner
Gary White, Commissioner
Connie Castleberry, Commissioner
(EC: 8, 9)

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Stunning all brick home that sits on 0.48 acres. Home features 4BR/2BA. Spacious kitchen with plenty of counter spaces, wood cabinets with under shelf lighting, breakfast bar, and formal dining area. Large living room, windows with shutters, & wood burning fireplace. Primary bedroom with bathroom suite & double vanity & additional closet space. New roof in 2015, new flooring, fenced in backyard and a spacious covered deck along with an additional deck space of 14x14. Outside storage under deck, in garage area. Landscape yard and covered front porch with concrete walkway and steps leading to home. **\$285,560.**

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Kristi "Noelle" Couch, 870-557-7193
DeAnn Simmons, 870-557-4968
Allana O'Neal, 870-557-7162

PUBLIC NOTICE

DOCUMENT 00030
NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS addressed to Mayor Larry Dunaway, City of Nashville, AR, 426 North Main Street, Nashville, AR 71852, will be received until **11:00AM (Local Time) on Thursday, August 22, 2024** for furnishing labor, equipment, materials, supplies, and supervision necessary to rehabilitate an existing elevated water storage tank (400,000-Gallon) by removing and replacing interior and exterior paint systems, performing miscellaneous repairs, and installing a mixing system. Bids will be opened and read aloud at such time at Nashville City Hall located at 426 North Main Street, Nashville, AR.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS may be examined without charge at the office of the Engineer, 1163 Main Street, Suite 104, Vilonia, AR 72173, or at Nashville City Hall, Nashville, Arkansas. Bidding documents may be purchased from Engineer at a cost of \$50.00 by calling (501) 504-2455 ext. 102 or by email to tfoster@ce-associates.biz. No refunds will be made.

A CERTIFIED OR CASHIER'S CHECK, or an acceptable bid bond in the amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total bid shall accompany each bid as a guaranty that, if awarded the contract, the bidder will promptly enter into a contract with the City of Nashville, Arkansas and furnish bonds on the forms provided.

THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER OR BIDDERS will be required to furnish a Performance and Payment Bond, each in the amount of the contract, written by a responsible surety company authorized to do business in the State of Arkansas that is satisfactory to the Owner. BIDDERS ARE expected to inspect the site of work and to inform themselves of all local conditions. The time of completion shall be **Seventy-Five (75) Working Days** excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays.

BIDDERS ARE ADVISED that Arkansas State Contractor Licensing Law applies to this project. Subcontractors are also required to be licensed according to Arkansas State Law. Evidence of licensure shall be provided to the Owner prior to signing the contract.

NO BID may be withdrawn after the scheduled closing time for receipt of bids for at least **Thirty (30) calendar days**.

IN CASE of ambiguity or lack of clearness stating the price in the bids, the City of Nashville, Arkansas reserves the right to consider the most advantageous construction thereof, or to reject the bid.

THE CITY OF NASHVILLE, ARKANSAS reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any or all informalities, and to award the contract to the bidder or bidders who, in the opinion of the Owner, offers the proposal to the best interest of same.

CONTRACTORS are cautioned that qualified bids will be subject to rejection.

CONTRACTORS are specifically advised that any person, firm, or other party to whom it is proposed to award a subcontract under this contract must be acceptable to the Owner.

PAYMENT of this publication is the responsibility of the City of Nashville, AR in the amount of 196.00.

Nashville, Arkansas
Larry Dunaway, Mayor
(CN: 7, 8)

STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

Call Neil McConnell at (501) 374-1500 to place your ad here!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Do you have a family member in Prison who was WRONGFULLY CONVICTED?
Over punished? • Treated Unfairly? • Innocent but Pressured to Confess? • Convicted by Witnesses who lied?
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AUCTIONS

LARGE GUN AUCTION
THE LATE STEVEN JOHNSON ESTATE
Saturday, August 17th
At 10AM located at Ponders Auction Gallery 1504 South Leslie Street Stuttgart, AR
Over 100 Rifles, Pistols, and Shotguns, Over 50 Duck and Turkey Calls and a Large Amount of Hunting and Fishing Related Items. Older Stratos Bass Boat with 150 Xp Evinrude, Polaris 4-Wheeler and Shop & Hand Tools
For more info, call JE PONDER 870-672-1731
LIC #787 - Check our website for photos, videos and full terms of sale at: WWW.PONDERSAUCTIONS.COM

COMPLETE HOME LIQUIDATION AUCTION
Saturday, August 17th, 9am
59 Mini Storage north of Van Buren
Full house of furniture, appliances, tools, four wheelers, mowers, decorations, household items, kitchen items and much, much more. The items were all taken from the home and brought to the mini-storage due to a sale of the home. There is some really nice items in the sale that are not picture due to being in storage. The items will be pulled from the units and sold, we are not selling the home. Liquidation is a "Storage unit". Lots of good stuff in this one!! **Below is a partial list.**
Partial List: many more items not listed... Yamaha 350 sport 4 wheeler, 2013 Honda motor 182 420W 4x4 four wheeler, Husker fast track 54in zero turn mower 159 hours, Lincoln sp125 plus wire welder, Troy built 2800 psi pressure washer, central machinery 12 ton shop press, craftsman 18in chainsaw, 16 in wen electric chainsaw, Paulson pl 3314 chainsaw, craftsman S 205 20in chainsaw, Troy Bilt 22in trimmer, Hyper tough weed eater, craftsman 8P510 backpack blower, Kobalt battery operated blower, Shop 20 gal Pro air compressor, 6in bench grinder on stand, hydraulic motorcycle lift, 3 ton floor jack, Kobalt socket set, Kobalt impact sockets, Kobalt battery right angle impact, Kobalt battery impact, mce air tools, Bosch impact nutter, air stapler, banks, lots and lots of hand tools, central pneumatic air spray gun, 14 in hyper tough surface cleaner, heat-band carpet seamer, little giant aluminum ladder, wet/dry tool box on wheels, craftsman tool box on wheels, Husky chest 9 drawer toolbox on wheels, Homak professional 12 drawer tool box on wheels, Ridgidne rtf/ freezer, Ridgidne side by side with ice and water in door, Ridgidne upright freezer, 75in 85in and several other flat screen TVs, whirlpool dryer, Midea washer, gun safe, adjustable long can bed, office chairs, king rustic 5 piece bed room set, sectional couch, rustic lodge type long dining table with 6 chairs, lodge type rocking chair, rug doctor carpet cleaner, large fish aquarium, plus lots and lots of house hold items.
10% Buyers Premium. For more information contact Neil (479) 518-3737 or Marc (479) 970-4145 All all-day announcements take precedence.
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Water Damage Cleanup & Restoration: A small amount of water can lead to major damage and mold in your home. If you have water damage to your home, call for a free estimate for complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-877-593-7772



3 Bedroom, 2 full Baths, approx. 1,679 Sq. Ft. of living space. New roof in July 2024. Covered patio and fully fenced. REFRIGERATOR CONVEYS WITH SELL OF HOME.
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Laurie Westfall 584-7926 • Carolyn Reed 200-0201
Robert Crocker 285-5779 • Melinda Bennett 451-2226

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HOWARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: HELEN BERNEICE FARLEY 31 PR-24-57

NOTICE OF PROBATE-TESTATE

Last known address of decedent: 1502 N Walters Ave, Dierks, Howard County, Arkansas 71833
Date of death: June 6, 2024
An instrument dated February 6, 2023, was on August 1, 2024 admitted to probate as the last Will of the above named decedent, and the undersigned has been appointed Executor thereunder. A contest of the probate of the Will can be effected only by filing a petition within the time provided by law. All persons having claims against the estate must exhibit them, duly verified, to the undersigned within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or they shall be forever barred and precluded from any benefit in the estate.
This notice first published the 7th day of August, 2024.

Bobby Farley, Jr., Executor, by
Aaron R. Brasel, ABN 2009138
Post Office Box 813
Nashville AR 71852
(870) 845-4100 – Telephone
(AB: 7, 8)

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PIKE COUNTY, ARKANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF KENNETH EUGENE DRAPER 55 PR-24-53

NOTICE OF PROBATE-INTESTATE

Last known address of decedent: 127 Ranch Rd, Nashville, Arkansas 71852
Date of death: September 18, 2023
Lesia Young was appointed the Administratrix of the Estate of Kenneth Eugene Draper by order dated July 19, 2024. All persons having claims against the estate must exhibit them, duly verified, to the undersigned within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or they shall be forever barred and precluded from any benefit in the estate.
This notice first published the 7th day of August, 2024.

Lesia Young, Administratrix, by
Aaron R. Brasel, ABN 2009138
Post Office Box 813
Nashville AR 71852
(870) 845-4100 – Telephone
(AB: 7, 8)

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HOWARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: LINDA JACKSON SMITH 31 PR-24-51

NOTICE OF PROBATE-TESTATE

Last known address of decedent: 576 Jackson Rd, Dierks, Howard County 71833
Date of death: July 12, 2024
An instrument dated February 8, 2011, was on July 17, 2024 admitted to probate as the last Will of the above named decedent, and the undersigned has been appointed Executor thereunder. A contest of the probate of the Will can be effected only by filing a petition within the time provided by law.
All persons having claims against the estate must exhibit them, duly verified, to the undersigned within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or they shall be forever barred and precluded from any benefit in the estate.
This notice first published the 7th day of August, 2024.

Terry Lee Smith., Executor, by
Aaron R. Brasel, ABN 2009138
Post Office Box 813
Nashville AR 71852
(870) 845-4100 – Telephone
(AB: 7, 8)

PUBLIC NOTICE

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VIN# 1FTYR10CXYP1A13060
ARE BEING HELD AT BYPASS DIESEL & WRECKER SERVICE, INC. 9224 HWY 278 WEST NASHVILLE, AR 71852, 870-845-1597, DUE TO ABANDONMENT. VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE UNLESS CLAIMED WITHIN 10 DAYS. FAILURE TO RECLAIM VEHICLES WAVES ALL RIGHTS, TITLE, & INTEREST IN ABOVE VEHICLES. VEHICLES MAY BE RECLAIMED DURING BUSINESS HOURS BY PROVIDING OWNERSHIP, AND BY PAYING ALL CHARGES AGAINST VEHICLES.
(BD: 8)

BACK TO SCHOOL: Tips for handling homework

By Rebekah Hall
U of A System Division of Agriculture

The start of a new school year typically marks the dreaded return of homework for students and parents. Brittney Schrick, extension family life specialist and associate professor for the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture, said it's key for parents to give children plenty of free time, manage their own expectations and think outside the box regarding homework help.

"Adults often have this perspective of, 'All you've been doing is sitting in a chair all day, why are you tired?'" Schrick said. "But it's exhausting. They have to focus all day and not move around, when what they want to do

is move around, so it's really important that when they get home, they are given time to do something else with minimal expectations."

In the last 20 years, schools have reduced free play time, including recess, and prioritized academics much earlier for younger students, Schrick said.

"Historically, kindergarten and first grade were really about learning how to go to school, and they were learning about how to be in a classroom with other kids, the basic building blocks of social interaction and rule-following," she said. "It's gotten to the point where parents are concerned when their kids can't read before they go to kindergarten."

"Those are kind of unrealistic expectations because

kids haven't changed – it's the expectations that are placed on them that have changed," Schrick said.

More homework, more problems

Schrick said the emphasis on academics for younger students has led to teachers assigning them more homework, which often harms more than it helps.

"I would argue that homework is not developmentally appropriate for kids below high school, but definitely not below junior high," Schrick said.

Schrick said that if parents are concerned about the amount of homework their child is bringing home, the first step is checking in with his or her teacher.

"In high school, all bets are off, but in elementary

school, there's no reason for them to be getting a ton of homework," she said. "So if they are, that's a conversation to have with their teachers."

While too much homework does not benefit children, consistently reading together at home is vital for elementary and middle school students.

"Reading is really all that younger students need to be doing regularly at home," Schrick said. "There are some math concepts that probably would benefit some kids to practice at home, especially if they're struggling, but with low stakes. The benefit is literally just fluency, it's not mastery. It's not about learning new information."

Think outside the box for homework helpers

Doing homework together can be a significant source of

conflict for families. When tensions rise, Schrick said it may be necessary for a parent or child to take a break and walk away from the task.

"When you get into those high-stress moments, when your kid has reached their limit, pushing them because 'It's homework and you have to do it,' is not helpful in the long run, and I think it's not helpful in the short run either," Schrick said. "It can cause damage to a relationship, and it can cause damage to the relationship a kid has with school."

Schrick said it's helpful to figure out which parent or guardian to turn to for each school subject. For example, one parent may have a better grasp on math problems, while another may be the go-to for language arts homework. And for a family with multiple children, one parent may be better equipped to help one child than another.

Schrick also suggested seeking homework help from family friends or community members.

can lead to smoother interactions.

"Their effort doesn't need to look exactly like how I would do it, because I'm a grown adult," Schrick said. "And when I'm watching my third grader do homework, she's going to be doing it differently than I would."

It's also important for parents to determine what kind of guidance their child needs when it comes to planning and task completion.

"Some kids need very little, and others need a ton. Do they need to write everything down? Do they need little reminders about when things are due?" Schrick said. "Adults either tend to be 'hands-off' because they feel it's the kid's responsibility, or they're so involved that the kid doesn't learn how to manage it. It's about trying to find that happy medium."

Schrick said that in her experience as a parent, the most helpful strategy usually must come from the child themselves.

"I've learned that often, whatever the management strategy is, it has to be their idea," she said. "They have to have some ownership over it. If you have a kid who won't try anything, imposing something might be your only option, but typically, adult-imposed solutions just become more work for the adult."

Schrick said parents must understand that these time management and planning solutions will need to change over time as the child grows and their responsibilities become more demanding.

"As kids get older and family dynamics change, all of these strategies have to be fluid," she said. "You have to be willing to adapt to changing needs and changing schedules, and changing expectations from the school, changing expectations from your kid. What worked last year may not work this year, especially if your child is going to a different school, or especially if they're going to junior high or high school. Everything is going to change."



FIRST DAY OF CLASSES FOR NEW SCHOOL. The new Grace Christian School welcomed its first students Tuesday. Here are kindergarten students and their teacher, Raisa Whisenhunt. The school classrooms and administration offices are located in the First Assembly God on Sunset Street in Nashville.

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