





# Obituaries



**Larry Pinkerton**  
Larry Pinkerton, age 87, of Newhope, passed away Thursday, Oct. 17, 2024. He was born May 1, 1937 in Athens, Ark., to Grady and Ova Pinkerton. Other than his parents, he was preceded in death by his grandson, Chris Kitchens.  
Loving survivors include his wife of 68 years, Belva (Young) Pinkerton; daughter, Debbie Kitchens (Scott) of Newhope, Ark.; son, Tim Pinkerton (Dena) of Nashville, Ark.; grandchildren, Jessi Banister (Josh) of Umpire, Ark., and Lauren Zylks (Josh) of Nashville, Ark.; great-grandchildren, Jackson Banister, Grady Banister, Abigail Zylks and Ella Grace Zylks; sister, JoAnn Dalrymple; and numerous close family members and friends.

Larry enjoyed being out in nature hunting and fishing, working in his shop, traveling, and most of all spending time with his family. He attended Athens Missionary Baptist Church.  
Visitation will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 21, 2024, at Athens Missionary Baptist Church with a celebration of life service immediately following at 2:00 p.m. Brothers Scott Kitchens and Don Vaughn will officiate.  
Burial will follow at Athens Cemetery.  
Pallbearers include Josh Banister, Jackson Banister, Grady Banister, Josh Zylks, Scott Vaughn and Marty Young.  
Honorary Pallbearers are R.H. Pinkerton, Johnny Kirkpatrick and Bobby Sharp.  
The family would like to extend thanks to the caring staff at Dierks Health and Rehab Center.  
Online guest register can be found at [www.smith-familycares.com](http://www.smith-familycares.com).



**R.H. Pinkerton**  
R.H. Pinkerton went home to see his Savior and join Heaven’s singers on Friday, Oct. 18, 2024. He lived most of his years at Umpire, Ark., on the Saline River, the place he thought was the very best place on earth. He said he always knew he was home when turning down Pinkerton Road in Umpire. He lived a long life of 89 years. He was born on July 25, 1935. He graduated from Umpire High School. He later served in the Army, including some time in Germany. He married his bride, Joyce Ann Bowling, of Cove in 1960.  
Those from his family who will greet him in Heaven are his parents, Fletcher

and Gladys Pinkerton; his in-laws, Lester and Pat Bowling; his sister and her husband, Oleta, and Bob Nash; a special friend and brother-in-law, Bobby Rhodes; a brother-in-law, James Earl Bowling; and a granddaughter, Erica Johnson.  
R.H. leaves a large family to cherish his memory including his wife of 64 years, Joyce Ann, of Umpire. R.H. and Joyce have three children: Ricky Pinkerton of Umpire, Judi Jenkins (David) of Beebe, and Darla Johnson (Russ) of Bismarck. His grandchildren include Adam Pinkerton (Anna Grace) of Benton, Hannah Starwalt (Scott) of Dallas, Texas, Matt Pinkerton (Hannah) of Benton, Courtney Pinkerton of Farmington, Jared Pinkerton (Saylor) of Bentonville, Carter Pinkerton of Farmington, Colby Singleton (Gary) of Mena, Macy Welch (Kyle) of Cabot, Chad Jenkins (Briony) of De Queen, Aubrey Morris (Clayton) of Benton, and Zachary Johnson (Jasmine) of Mena. His great-grandchildren are Avery, Garrison, Bradley, and Jep Singleton of Mena, Rhett and Sawyer Leggett of Cabot, Dax and Jax Jenkins of De Queen, Beckett and Harper Morris of Benton, Benaiah and Lucas Johnson of Mena, John Cru Pinkerton of Benton, Julie Pinkerton of Benton, Shiloh, Sylvie, and Walt Starwalt of Dallas, Texas. Two more great-grandchildren are expected in January and April. R.H. has four remaining siblings: Ralph Pinkerton (Connie) of Hot Springs, Wanda Rice (Bob) of Waynesboro, Tenn., Dwight Pinkerton (Kay) of De Queen, and Gary Pinkerton (Debbie) of De Queen. These siblings gave R.H. five nephews and three nieces. R.H. also has a brother-in-law, Billy Bowling (Sherry) of Oden. He leaves a host of friends and extended family as well, including his church family.  
R.H. was a Christian and a member of Athens Missionary Baptist Church where he served as a deacon. He was instrumental in starting up two churches, Mountain View Baptist Church in Umpire and Athens Missionary Baptist Church in Athens. He also served on Rich Mountain Electric’s nominating committee for many years and as a school board member for several years at Umpire. He enjoyed fishing and hunting especially bird hunting with his beloved bird dog, White Man. He also enjoyed his recent years of playing dominoes with church friends on Monday evenings.  
R.H. believed in the value of hard work. He loved to share that he had cows from the time he was six years old. He built many homes in Southwest Arkansas. For a few years, he and Joyce owned and operated Pinkerton Grocery at Umpire. He and Joyce grew chickens and layer hens for many years. More recently, they enjoyed working as gatekeepers at Bellah Mine Park on De Queen Lake. One of R.H.’s favorite things to do was to be on his tractor or lawnmower.  
R.H. loved to attend gospel singing and loved to sing solos and in quartets when possible through the years. His bass voice could always be heard from the pew where he sat during

congregational singing and will be missed. He often got requests for his renditions of The Farmer and the Lord, A Child of the King, and Supertime.  
R.H. never met a stranger. He loved telling stories to anyone who would listen, and he loved sharing a memorized children’s book, Big Brown Bear, with his grandkids and great-grandkids over the years. R.H. loved to brag about his family and his Savior, Jesus. When he spent time in the hospital, he never failed to share his testimony with medical workers. He asked them if they knew where they would spend eternity. He told them that was the most important thing.  
Funeral services for R.H. will be held at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 22, 2024, at Athens Missionary Baptist Church with R.H.’s grandson, Zachary Johnson, and Bro. Allen Hagood officiating. Burial will follow in the Davis Cemetery on Pinkerton Road in Umpire, under the direction of Wilkerson Funeral Home in Dierks.  
Visitation will be held from 5-7 p.m., Monday, Oct. 21, 2024, at the funeral home in Dierks.  
You may leave a condolence online at [www.wilkersonfuneralhomes.com](http://www.wilkersonfuneralhomes.com).



**Nina Ruth Floyd**  
Nina Ruth Floyd, age 88 formerly of Nashville, Ark., passed away on Friday, Oct. 18, 2024, in Ashdown surrounded by her family. She was born on Sept. 10, 1936, to the late Joe Daughtery and Emma Mae Sullivan.  
Mrs. Floyd was a member of the Chapel Hill church of Christ where, in her younger years, she taught a Bible Class. She enjoyed sewing and spending time with her family. She loved taking care of her husband, Herman Dale, and doing whatever he was doing.  
In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 59 years, Herman Dale Floyd, as well as three brothers, John, Billy and Jack Daughtery.  
Survivors include her daughter, Penny Lillard and her husband Dean; her granddaughter, Kelsey Embry and her husband Luke; one great-granddaughter, Maeve Embry; as well as a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.  
A graveside service will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Oct. 19, 2024, in the Ozan Cemetery near Bingen with Don Embry officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Latimer Funeral Home of Nashville.  
In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made in Mrs. Floyd’s honor to the Childrens Homes, 5515 Walcott Road, Paragould, AR 72450. You may send an online sympathy message at [www.latimerfuneralhome.com](http://www.latimerfuneralhome.com).  
**Toby Randall Hughes**  
Toby Randall Hughes, 47, of North Little Rock, Ark., died Oct. 5, 2024.  
He was born April 9, 1977, in Fort Smith, Ark., the son of Karan Hughes and the late Randy Hughes.

He was a Nashville High School grad and was a US Navy veteran.  
He was preceded in death by his father.  
Survivors include his mother, Karen Hughes of Maumelle, and a brother, Hayden Hughes of Alexander.  
Visitation was 5-7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 17, 2024, at Smith North Little Rock Funeral Home.  
**Verma Lell Pinkerton McCauley**  
Verma Lell Pinkerton McCauley, 88, of Newhope, died Oct. 16, 2024.  
She was born March 17, 1936, in Newhope, to the late Allie Pinkerton and Zora Matthews Pinkerton.  
She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles McCauley; and two sisters, Verdell Bissell and Edith Hill.  
Survivors include: son, Bobby McCauley; daughters, Rinda Duggan and her husband, Rick, of Newhope and Barbara Arivett and her husband, Paul, of Langley; a sister, Billie Parsons; also grandchildren and great-

grandchildren.  
A graveside service was held at Bissell Chapel Cemetery in Newhope on Monday, Oct. 21.  
**James Robert Steel**  
James Robert ‘Jim Bob’ Steel of Nashville died Mon-

day, Oct. 21. He was an attorney and had served several terms as prosecuting attorney for the Ninth-West Judicial District. Arrangements wre pending at press deadline, and are with Nashville Funeral Home.

## Football contest goes to frequent winner

Winner of last week’s football prediction contest was Tim Dean, a frequent winner of the contest.  
Scores of the games in the contest:  
Junct.City 47, Dierks 20  
Min. Springs 32, Gurdon 13  
M’boro 54, Lafayette Co. 8  
SAU 42, Henderson 19  
Ouachita 17, Harding 13  
Missouri 21, Auburn 17  
Tennessee 24, Alabama 17  
Georgia 30, Texas 15  
LSU 34, Arkansas 10  
Nashville 53, Ashdown 18

## MS annual fall festival will be at park, 26th

“Boo in the Shoe” is the name for the annual fall community festival at Mineral Springs -- the town is sometimes affectionally called “Mule Shoe.”  
The event will be in Bridgeman City Park on Saturday, 26, from 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. and will feature games, food and ‘bounce houses.’  
From 5-6 p.m. there will be a Trunk of Treats giving out goodies.

## Quorum Court considers funds to assist North Howard Water group

The Howard County Quorum Court seemed inclined to support a request for a grant for the North Howard Rural Water Association, during the court’s regular meeting for October, Monday.  
The JPs, however, won’t get to vote on the item until the November meeting, giving County Judge Brent Pinkerton time to learn if the county can legally make the appropriation.  
Representing the water association, Monday, were Tina Chism and Jerry Mounts who told of expenses related to repair of leaks in rural lines. Mounts said that there had been three major leaks this year, sometimes leading to a 45% loss of water. An ongoing problem with the water lines is that they were laid in the rocky ground of North Howard County by crews that were accustomed to laying lines in soft soil.  
JP Kerry Strasner, himself a customer of the water association, moved for a \$22,000 appropriation if legal, and he emphasized that it had to be a one-time assistance. The issue was tabled.  
The court heard a brief update by Vanessa Weeks, executive director of Developing Howard County, who said that there had been a visitor to the Husqvarna site last month.  
JPs present for the meet-

ing included Don Marks, Jerry Harwell, Kerry Strasner, Bobbi Jo Green, Andy Hogg, Martha Hobbs, Liz McDaniel and Janet Lay O’Neal. Constitutional officers present were County Judge Brent Pinkerton, Treasurer Sheri Mixon, County

Clerk Keri Teague, Sheriff Bryan McJunkins, Tax Assessor Cindy Butler and Circuit Clerk Angie Lewis. Also present were administrative assistant Kelly Windham and clerk aide Betsy Mercado, along with JP-elect Juanita Jackson.



**SPECIAL RECOGNITION.** Helen Smith of Mineral Springs celebrated her 80th birthday Sunday, Oct. 20 with more than 180 guests stopping by with the majority graciously choosing to donate money for the cancer patient/caregiver fund that was established by long-time newspaper man Louie Graves (at left) following the cancer death of his wife, Jane, in 2007. The fund is a partnership with Road Mart in Nashville and provides cancer patients/caregivers a \$30 voucher good for gas and a free soda at the local convenience store. Smith’s birthday guests stepped up in a big way and donated close to \$2,400 for the project and Smith could not be happier. “Thanks to so many who made my birthday special,” she said in a social media post.

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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

119 years ago: October 1905

The first issue of the *Ozan Times Record* made its appearance last Friday. J.J. Hyatt is the editor and C.C. Westerman, formerly of Bingen, is the mechanical expert. The paper has a prosperous look, and we hope it will prove a financial success.

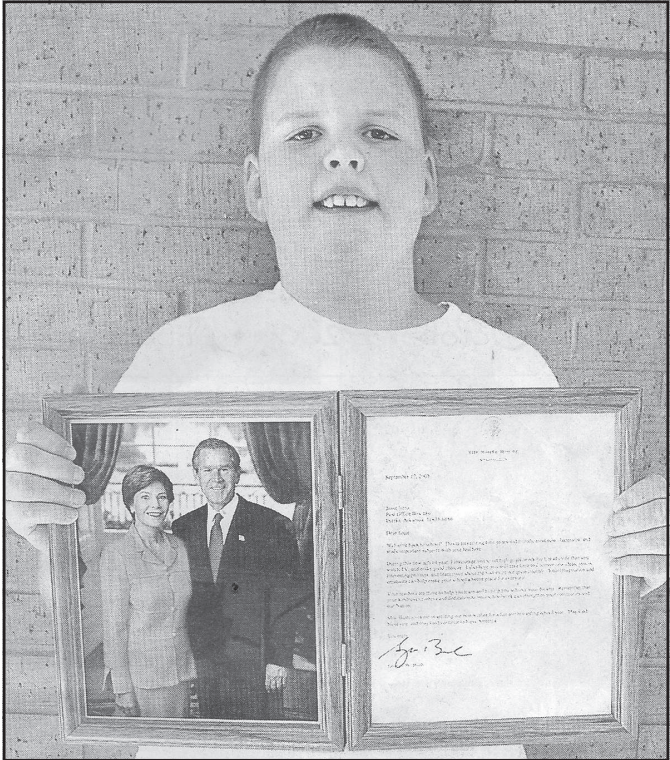
Lige Paine of Sevier County, Lockesburg, had an arm sawed off while at work in the mill last Tuesday. Paine had only begun work at the mill the morning the accident occurred.

Notice: Strayed or stolen from Saline Church, three miles west of Nashville on the night of September 21, one deep bay horse pony, 5 years old, no brand, fresh shod on behind, had on an old saddle. We will pay a liberal reward for any information leading to the recovery. Write me at Dial, Arkansas, J. R. Parsons.

(Adv.) Prickly Ash Bitter, a kidney medicine that cures the kidneys. Accept no substitute. Prickly Ash Bitters with the large 3 in red on the front label, sold everywhere, price one dollar per bottle.

80 years ago: October 1944

Mrs. Anita Stueart Terrell has received word from the War Department that her husband, Lt. William R. Terrell, who has been a prisoner of war of the German government since April 3<sup>rd</sup> has been awarded the air medal, Oak Leaf Cluster by the 15<sup>th</sup> Air Force in Italy. Lt. Terrell completed 13 missions over enemy-held territory, going



Jesse Sims, Umpire fifth grader, wrote President George W. Bush asking how to become president, and the President sent him a reply in October 2003.

down and being captured on a mission over Steyr, Austria.

Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Willard of Blevins have received several letters and cards from their son, T/Sgt. Charles L. Willard, who is a prisoner of the Germans and has been since last May. He was shot down near Berlin on the day of his 15<sup>th</sup> mission as a gunner on a flying fortress.

67 years ago: October 1957

Woody Futrell, slender speedster in his senior year, plays a tail-back spot in the Scrapper backfield and often runs behind backs Joe Cowling, Jimmy Staggs and Prentiss Brandon. Futrell's

passing this year has been a big factor in the four Nashville wins. He pitched two long runs against Idabel last week.

Foy Cagle says, The SFTEOTIH has been suggested-The Society for the Elimination of Toothpicks in Hamburgers.

34 years ago: October 1990

Nashville Primary Principal Paul Tollett was presented a Scrapper jersey Wednesday afternoon during a Scrapper Spirit week pep rally in observance of his birthday.

The entire student body, faculty and guests sang "Happy Birthday" to the administrator.

# Public Record of Howard County

Items or documents that were filed, issued or recorded at the Howard County, Ark., courthouse during the period of Oct. 10-16, 2024, include the following:

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

Oct. 11. Caleb Hayes Clayton, 23, Nashville, and Anastasia Dawn Hibberd, 24, Nashville.

Oct. 15. Darin Alexander Arnold, 38, Dierks, and Samantha Rose Darling Wolf Mefford, 29, Dierks.

**Civil Court**  
CV24-103, Oct. 10. Ford Motor Credit Co. vs. Charlotte & Jeff Withers. Debt.  
CV24-104, Oct. 15. Discover Bank vs. Randy Boor. Debt.

**Domestic Relations Court**  
DR24-118, Oct. 10. Ivan G. Nevarez Rosas vs. Kayla X. Arce Sanchez. Divorce.

DR24-119, Oct. 11. Amy Murphy vs. Martin Murphy. Divorce.

DR24-120, Oct. 15. Allison Kemp vs. Brandon Park. Custody.

DR24-121, Oct. 16. Brittany Elaine Lemons vs. Nickolas Lemons. Divorce.

DR24-122, Oct. 16.

Alex Faulkner vs. Destiny Faulkner. Divorce.

**Criminal Court**  
No new criminal cases filed since CR24-95, Oct. 8.

**Land/Property Transactions**

**Quitclaim Deeds**  
Oct. 11. Joseph Aran Propps and wife, Kayla Knighton Propps; to David P. Tribble; property in S36 T8S R27W.

Oct. 11. Sasha Cogburn and husband, Cody Cogburn; to Philip James Macaranes; 2 tracts aggregate 8 ac. in S10 T9S R27W.

Oct. 16. Wayne Harris, Surviving Spouse of Carolyn Harris, Deceased; to Vickie Moore; 20 ac. in S11 T10S R27W.

**Trustee's Deeds**  
Oct. 11. Patricia Gail Bolland, Trustee of the Patricia Gail Bolland Living Trust; to Jackie Don Bolland and wife, Beckie Kay Bolland; Lots 7-8, Block 9, Murray's 2nd Addition, Town of Dierks.

Oct. 11. Patricia Gail Bolland, Trustee of the Patricia Gail Bolland Living Trust; to Jackie Don Bolland and wife, Beckie Kay Bolland; Lots 3-4-5-6, Block 8, Original Town of Dierks.

**Executor's Deed**

Oct. 10. Terry Lee Smith, Executor of the Estate of Linda Jackson Smith, deceased; to Michael Morris and wife, Betty Morris; 4 tracts, aggregate 15.26 ac. in S11 T7S R29W. \$235,000.

**Warranty Deeds**  
Oct. 10. Cody Tedford and wife, Kara Tedford; to James Turner and wife, Shelley Turner; 16.67 ac. in S9 T6S R28W. \$68,000.

Oct. 10. Matthew Kyle Efird and Lesli Denise Efird, husband and wife; to Olivia Morales Flores; 1.69 ac. in S11 T6S R29W. \$6,800.

Oct. 15. Myra A. Brand and Josefina S. Bran and husband, Martin M. Bran; to Josefina S. Bran and husband Martin A. Bran; part of Block 44, Original Town of Mineral Springs.

Oct. 15. TGR Ventures, LLC; to Larry Cook and wife, Debbie Cook; 2 tracts; aggregate 20 ac. in S26 T8S R28W. \$131,000.

Oct. 16. Jan Segrest; to Jose Luis Perez and Rosa Cristal Perez, husband and wife; 2 tracts, Lots 8-9 and part of Lot 7, Block 40 with exceptions, Town of Nashville; and Part of Lot 11 and all of Lot 10, Block 40, New Nashville. \$10,000.



Weyerhaeuser Dierks Lumber – Safety Committee Members attended a Workers Safety Conference in Hope.



Weyerhaeuser Dierks Lumber

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# Contested races on ballot

Contested races on the Nov. 5 General Election ballot include the following:

**US President/Vice-President**

Peter Sonki / Lauren Onak, American Solidarity Party

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. / Nicole Shanahan, Independent

Michael Wood / John G. Pietrowski, Prohibition Party

Jim Stein / Rudolph Ware, Green Party

Donald J. Trump / JD Vance, Republican Party

Chase Oliver / Mike ter Maat, Libertarian Party

Kamala D. Harris / Tim Waltz, Democratic Party

**US Congress**

**District 04**

Cong. Bruce Westerman, Republican

Risie Howard, Democratic

**State Treasurer**

Sec. of State John Thurston, Republican

John Pagan, Democratic

Michael Pakko, Libertarian

**State Supreme Court Justice**

**Non-Partisan Position 1**

Justice Karen Baker

Justice Rhonda Wood

**State Senate**

**District 04**

Sen. Jimmy Hickey, Jr., Republican

Lonny Mack Goodwin, Libertarian

**State Representative**

**District 86**

Bill Bradshaw, Democratic

State Rep. John Maddox, Republican

**State Representative**

**District 87**

State Rep. DeAnn Vaught, Republican

Marc Rosson, Libertarian

**State Representative**

**District 88**

Dolly Henley, Republican

Tammy L. Goodwin, Libertarian

Although candidates are listed on the ballot for municipal offices in Tollette, Mineral Springs and Nashville, and for Howard County Justice of the Peace, there are no contested races.



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\$5 wristband for all day pass to games and bounce houses

Vendors will be present to purchase food

We encourage all churches, organizations, businesses, and individuals to come and participate with giving out candy.

For vendor setup please contact Denise Juniel at City Hall 870-200-1275 between 8 am & 3 pm. Deadline for vendor sign-up is Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>



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# Point of view

## Scared by ‘Light’

### Horror on railroad tracks leaves permanent scar

YES, I AM STILL HERE peeking out my window on Main Street, and as I promised both of you I am writing about another thing that scares me at Halloween time. It is my memory of a trip to see the Gurdon Light.

I have had more than one scary experience with that phenomenon.

Three or four, to be exact.

The first was the best (or worst). It was this time of year. Our John Balch and I were in Gurdon for the newspaper to cover the Gurdon-Mineral Springs football game.

It was kind of a wet evening, but it wasn’t exactly raining. The game was over and we decided we had enough time to dash out to the railroad tracks and try to see the Gurdon Light. We were skeptical that the thing existed.

The tracks cross a remote highway north of town. That’s where we parked. We could go north on the tracks, or we could go south. We decided to go north, and naturally it was the wrong way. We reversed course after we had huffed-and-puffed about a half mile.

If you’ve ever walked on railroad tracks then you would know that it is muy difficult. Especially at night when it’s not exactly raining.

We crossed back over the highway and continued south past an eerie old abandoned graveyard, and over three railroad trestles that spanned deep ditches.

Finally we figgered we had gone far enough. Even then I was fat and lazy. John was fit and could have walked all night except ..... we saw the Light.

It seemed to be a ways down the tracks. A very bright white light, and it seemed to swing from side-to-side just like the legendary lantern swung by a railroad man who was looking for his head that was severed in an accident.

We were mesmerized by the intense light. The color reminded me of an old carbide camping lantern.

Then John said “Hey, that thing seems to be coming toward us.”

I agreed.

John said: “If it keeps coming, I am going to push you down, Old Man, and I’ll run back to the highway where it’s safe. Quick, give me the keys to your truck.”

You really wouldn’t run off and leave me, would you? I asked.

John said: “Doggone right, and I can outrun you.”

Whatever it was, it finally stopped advancing on us.

We woulda stayed longer, but the brave one of our twosome said he had to get back for some reason that escapes my memory right now.

To this day we both can honestly tell questioners that we really, really did see something on those tracks on a wet night.

Subsequently, I made other trips down those tracks.

Twice with daughter Julie and our town’s police chief, the late Larry Yates, and another time with my daughter only.

With the police chief we saw only hundreds of tiny twinkling blue lights on the creek bank under the trestle.

I was glad to know that the chief was ‘packing.’

On one of the trips only with Julie, we didn’t see anything, but there was something in the bushes that made the awfulest, scariest sounds we’ve ever heard (and I have personally heard Texas fans at a football game at Austin). I considered pushing Julie down and outrunning her back to the truck.

There was a lot of interest in the Gurdon Light in those years, and lots of people from here hiked down those tracks in hopes of having a scary sighting of their own to brag about.

Then one group from here said they were robbed by another group on the tracks, and that pretty well put an end to expeditions by curious visitors from Howard County.

At about the same time period the Red River Astronomy Club had a meeting and hamburger cookout for telescopers in a pasture outside of Nashville. They invited the chairman of the physics department at Henderson State University to speak. His advertised topic was the Gurdon Light.

I crashed the meeting in order to mooch a free burger and to hear the perfesser. He gave a very interesting talk, and said that every year he sent his freshman students in small groups down those tracks to experience the Gurdon Light.

Some groups saw it, some didn’t.

In an effort to explain the Light, the perfesser said that there were several ways nature creates light.

I can’t remember all of them now. In fact, I can’t remember any of them.

But I DO remember how skeert I was when John said he’d push me down and leave me to my fate with whatever it was waving that lantern.

● ---- ● --- ●

THINGS I LEARNED from opening e-mail: “Exercise helps you with decision-making. It’s true. I went for a run this morning and decided I’m never going again.”

● ---- ● --- ●

WORD GAMES. The twins: Five and Dime. They were the precursor to Walmart. Does anyone else remember Scotts, or TG&Y, or O’Hara & Majors?

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HE SAID: “Anger is an acid that can do more harm to the vessel in which it is stored than to anything on which it is poured.” Mark Twain, humorist and philosopher

● ---- ● --- ●

SHE SAID: “Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events; small minds discuss people.” Eleanor Roosevelt, longest-serving First Lady of the US

● ---- ● --- ●

SWEET DREAMS, Baby

Mine Creek  
Revelations



By  
Louie Graves

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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

# Legislators grapple with ways to control Medicaid spending

By State Sen. Jimmy Hickey Jr.

During budget hearings and continuing through the regular session that begins in January, legislators will tackle the difficult issue of controlling Medicaid costs.

They have an extensive analysis to use. It was completed by a private consultant in March after a year of identifying possible methods to hold down the steadily rising costs of the program.

The state Department of Human Services administers Medicaid, and according to department officials from 2018 through 2023 the annual cost of operating the program increased by 41 percent.

The increase matters to all other state agencies because over that same period of time Medicaid spending grew from 20 percent of the overall state budget to 23 percent. The increase represents tax dollars that no longer can be spent for education, prisons or economic development.

Medicaid provides health coverage for more than 850,000 Arkansas citizens. It is paid for by a combination of federal and state funds. Until October 1, the federal government paid 72 percent of the

costs and the state paid the rest. On October 1 the federal matching rate fell to 71.14 percent, which means that state government will have to pay an additional \$55 million a year to maintain Medicaid services at their current level.

About 38 percent of Medicaid beneficiaries are children, 29 percent are adults, 6 percent are elderly people and 15 percent are people with disabilities. The remaining 11 to 12 percent are in ARHOME, a category of expanded Medicaid for people whose incomes are below 138 percent of the poverty level.

The elderly people who make up 6 percent of Arkansas Medicaid beneficiaries account for 12 percent of Medicaid spending. The people with disabilities, who make up 15 percent of the program’s population, account for 28 percent of Medicaid spending.

The cost of paying for prescription drugs was \$509 million last year, representing 6 percent of total Medicaid spending in Arkansas. That amount has increased 22 percent since 2017.

One option for saving about \$1.9 million a year would be to allow 90-day refills. Currently, refills

are limited to 30 days. Another option would be for Arkansas to approve value-based payments to drug companies for the most expensive new drugs. Under this system, the drug companies would pay rebates back to the Medicaid program if the drugs did not produce agreed-upon results.

Thousands of Medicaid beneficiaries receive long term care and support. They are elderly or have disabilities or serious, chronic diseases. They generally have two options. One is to enter a long-term care facility. The other is to get care at home or in a community setting.

In Arkansas roughly half the beneficiaries of long term services receive care in an institution, and about half receive care at home or in the community. Institutional facilities account for 49.8 of expenditures for long-term care and 50.2 percent of spending is for home-based or community-based services.

Nationwide, 62.5 percent of long-term services are in community and home-based programs, which are more affordable alternatives to nursing homes, according to past Medicaid studies.

# State Department, other agencies help residents with travel abroad

By U.S. Sen. John Boozman

With the holiday season approaching, it is nice to have some good news to report for international travelers. Whether you’re planning to see family overseas or take a holiday cruise, Arkansans should find many of the processes easier to navigate than in recent years.

Most notable will be the length of time waiting to receive a passport, thanks to the tremendous work by the U.S. State Department to bring processing times back to pre-pandemic levels. The Bureau of Consular Affairs says applicants should now expect four to six weeks for routine service and two to three weeks for expedited processing.

You may have heard about or even personally experienced the extensive backlog in passport applications that wreaked havoc with travel plans for many Americans in 2023. My office alone helped more than 600 Arkansans with passports that year. However, thanks to the diligent efforts of officials across the country, this critical system is back to normal. If you need to ap-

ply for the first time or are beyond your renewal date, visit Travel.State.Gov/passport for the latest forms and fees.

Another recent improvement will be evident for Americans who need to renew a passport. The new Online Passport Renewal (OPR) system is a secure, online process that saves time and effort. This innovation helps applicants avoid having to send a paper application, photos or a check by mail. Instead, all this information and payment can be submitted online at Travel.State.Gov/renewonline. In today’s world where convenience and accessibility are key elements that inform our decision-making, this option should satisfy many of those planning a visit abroad in the years ahead.

As we get closer to Thanksgiving and Christmas, my office fields increased calls from Arkansans who forgot to check the expiration date of their passport or who can’t find it at the last minute.

So, the most important advice from the State Department is to find and check your passport well before your trip to avoid extra fees

and extra stress.

Despite the best planning, there are still situations where an in-person passport appointment is necessary for urgent travel. We do have a processing center in Arkansas that can help. However, it only handles emergency applications and does not take walk-in visitors.

Fortunately, if you need to travel within 14 days, it is now much easier to request an appointment online. Your appointment must be scheduled within 14 calendar days of your international travel date. If you have already applied and are concerned your passport will not arrive in time, call 1-877-487-2778 for help.

And if you find yourself in a difficult situation with an emergency passport request or any other problem with the federal government, please don’t hesitate to reach out to my office. We are always pleased to help.

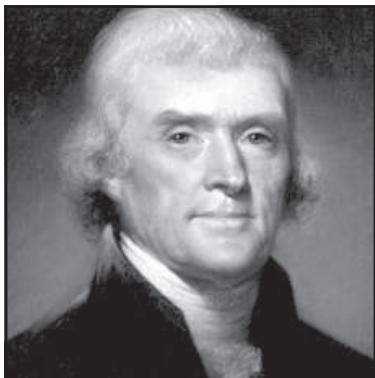
With these tools available, I hope Arkansans headed abroad will be better prepared to reach their destinations with less stress, which is worth appreciating alongside the journey itself.

## Nashville News-Leader

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“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

Free press, free people

### Letters policy

The *News-Leader* welcomes letters to the editor. Please include your name, address with ZIP code and a daytime phone number for verification. Letters become the property of the *News-Leader* and will not be printed if they appear in other papers.

Mail: Nashville News-Leader, Box 205, Nashville, AR 71852.

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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.



# Scores

Continued from page 1A

following:

- Third grade - 6 percent higher
- Fourth grade - 7 percent higher
- Fifth grade - 16 percent higher
- Sixth grade - 18 percent higher
- Seventh grade - Same as the state average
- Eighth grade - 13 percent higher

Algebra I was 1 percent below, and 10th grade geometry was 4 percent below.

Superintendent Doug Graham said the 2024 scores can't be compared to those from 2023 because Arkansas used two different tests with ATLAS in 2024 and Aspire in 2023.

"When we look at a group compared to last year, it's not the same test," he said.

State education officials say growth scores will be available around Thanksgiving, with district letter grades expected in the spring, Graham said.

One feature of the new test will allow teachers to follow students' growth starting in 2025. "When we get this year's scores in June and July, we can look at the score for two years and see what the student

did. Eventually, we'll be able to do that for each student K-10. This will show weaknesses and growth and we'll have an idea" of progress for each student, Slayton said.

Representatives from the Arkansas Department of Education will meet with leaders from schools in the De Queen/Mena Co-op this week to explain more about the test and ways to utilize its results.

In other discussion Monday night, Graham said improvements have been completed in the cafeterias at primary and elementary school. "They've turned out really nice," he told the board.

Elior K-12, the district's food service management company, has built up a balance in its budget in recent years. Those funds were used for the improvements, Graham said.

"We can increase servings at elementary, and we're able to offer variety we didn't have, like a nacho line three days a week and a baked potato bar one day a week," Elior representative Julie Smith said. "We have 375 enrolled and feed 345 every day" at elementary.

"The kids love it," Principal Tyra Hughes said.

Primary Principal Nathan Evans said more parents are coming to eat with their children. "We welcome them

to come. They have to call before 8:30 a.m and go to the office for a visitor badge. From there, they're escorted to the cafeteria."

Graham discussed the new tennis courts at high school. "We're waiting to get the surface on them. They've poured the concrete slab and put up the fencing."

At the end of September, the district's operating balance was about \$5.4 million. "We're about where we anticipated" on expenses, Graham said.

The board accepted resignations from ESL para-professional Judith Garcia and second grade teacher Maggie Worthington, effective Oct. 21.

Primary custodian Felicia Tatum was terminated effective Oct. 2.

Macy Evans was hired as special education para-professional at primary.

Graham said the district has "a couple of good options" to fill the second grade vacancy.

Primary prepared a chart comparing absences from the first nine weeks of 2024 under the hybrid calendar and those from 2023 with a traditional calendar.

The school saw 128 fewer student absences this year compared to a year ago, Graham said. "Fewer absences has to be good. We'll see how it plays out on other campuses."



**13U LEAGUE SOCCER CHAMPS.** Southern Belle Inn went undefeated during the regular season going 9-0. The tournament championship game went into two over-times, with Southern Belle winning 2-1. The team includes Yael Velazquez, Johan Murillo, Racie Scott, Denise Aguilar, Elizabeth Perez, Carter Reeves, Asher Howard, Carson Clifton, Victor Sanchez, and Ava Aguilar. Coaches are Junior and Rosalinda Aguilar.



**10U SOCCER CHAMPIONS.** The team includes Korbin Bahner, Bentley Buss, Kip Cogburn, Urijah Thomas, Manuel Garate, Isaac Aguilar, Sarah Hernandez, Tylen Parker, Takyla Johnson, Sofia Mercado-, Jackie Matthews. Coaches are Junior and Rosalinda Aguilar.

# Win

Continued from page 1A

Kasen Morgan "had his best game. He blocked well and ran good routes. He wants to win. I'm impressed with Kasen," Jackson said. Morgan caught seven passes for 228 yards and three touchdowns.

The offensive line played a good game, according to Jackson.

In other highlights on offense, Joe Branch and Josh Walker "had a great game blocking on the edge. Joe and Josh created two touchdowns by blocking on the perimeter. We get big plays when our receivers block well."

Defensively, Makhi Johnson had eight tackles, two assists, three sacks and five tackles for losses.

"He's been dominant. He's playing unbelievable football," Jackson said.

"His technique on the defensive line sticks out. He's fast, explosive and strong. I'm impressed with MJ."

Khaleel Canady had "two great plays. He's one of the best tacklers I've had at cornerback. He made some great hits. Pound for pound, he's the strongest guy on the team." Jackson had four tackles and intercepted an Ashdown pass.

Kellen Jackson had eight

tackles total. "He saw it a lot better."

The biggest disappointment from the game was the struggle on PATs and field goals. The Scrappers connected on one field goal and two PATs.

"We've got to work on execution on PATs," Jackson said. "We have good players out there. We have the best high school kicker I've seen. It's a lack of focus, lack of discipline."

Despite the win, Jackson said he came away from the game with "a list of things a mile long to work on."

For the night, the Scrappers ran 48 plays for 493 yards total offense, including 338 passing and 155 rushing. The Panthers had 343 yards on 69 plays.

Nashville had 18 first downs to 17 for Ashdown.

Nashville lost one fumble. Ashdown threw one interception.

The Scrappers had four penalties for 21 yards. The Panthers were penalized three times for 23 yards.

Morgan was Nashville's leading receiver with seven catches for 228 yards and three TDs. Ja'Marion Conway had four receptions for 67 yards and two touchdowns. DJ Jefferson made one catch for 43 yards.

Jefferson ran the ball 11 times for 79 yards and two TDs. Tucker Dixon had six carries for 48 yards and a touchdown. Chambers

carried five times for 21 yards. Conway rushed twice for nine yards.

Johnson led the Scrapper defense with 10 total tackles, three sacks and five TFLs.

Skyler Gibson had six total tackles. Zaccheus Harris recorded eight tackles total, along with a TFL.

Bryce Perrin made five tackles, Jackson eight, Canady four, Jacob Teague four; Jaydon Williamson two tackles with one sack and a TFL. Roochie Wiley had two tackles, with one for Conway.

**Haskell Harmony Grove** The Scrappers will play at Haskell Harmony Grove Friday, Oct. 25, at 7 p.m.

The Cardinals are 1-6 on the season after a 49-17 loss at Arkadelphia last week.

Jackson said Harmony Grove will be "tough and physical. They hit you in the face. How we fight back after getting hit in the face?"

The Scrappers want to "win one game every week. We're focused on Harmony Grove. We have to win this game," Jackson said.

The Cardinals "have two good offensive linemen. They're big up front. They try to smash you on the O-line. They play really hard," according to Jackson.

"It will come down to a seven- or eight-possession game. We have to make the most of them. We can't have penalties, and we can't give them extra opportunities."

# Election

Continued from page 1A

certify patients for the marijuana program.

It would allow patients to grow their own marijuana at home.

The issue does not change the number of medical marijuana dispensaries in the state, and members of the military would still be prevented from getting marijuana cards. The issue would not affect hemp.

Early voting for the General Election is underway through Monday, Nov. 4. There will be early voting hours on two Saturdays.

All early voting for Howard County will be at the Carter Day Center, Nashville. All voters must have photo ID.

Hours for early voting include:

- Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
- Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

The last day to transfer precincts is Friday, Nov. 1.

Absentee ballot counting will be Tuesday, Nov. 5, at 5 p.m. in the courthouse

Annex Building. Persons wishing to request an absentee ballot or to see if they are eligible for an absentee ballot should contact the County Clerk's office, 870-845-7500, ext. 2.

On election day eligible voters may cast ballots at any of the four county voting places between 7:30

a.m.-7:30 p.m. The voting places are:

- Nashville -- Carter Day Center, N. Main.
- Mineral Springs -- Methodist Church, 101 S. Church St.
- Dierks -- Community Center, 102 W. 2nd St.
- Umpire -- Fire Department, 15790 Hwy. 278 W.

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## Nashville Junior High Scrappers defeat Ashdown

The Nashville Junior Scrappers defeated Ashdown 39-12 Oct. 17 at Scrapper Stadium.

Jacoby Hopson rushed 10 times for 132 yards. He completed 7 of 11 passes for

189 yards.

Trendon Northcross had 16 carries for 112 yards. Gauge Applegate caught four passes for 119 yards.

Isaiah Hawthorne was the leading tackler with 6.5,

followed by Blake Moody with 6 and Bo Dean with 4.

Nashville will host Haskell Harmony Grove Oct. 24 at 7 p.m.

(Pictures from Ashdown game, page 2B)

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Lucy & Bob Welch Auction

178 LR 71 • Ashdown

Saturday, Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 a.m

From Hwy 71, turn onto Douglas Ave., go 1.3 miles to LR 71 verve left onto LR 71 & go 4 miles, watch for signs.

Lucy and Bob have lived in the area for several years and have recently downsized and moved to northern Arkansas. Bob is known to many as the "jam man" for his homemade jams while Lucy is active in her church and other hobbies. This is an auction you don't want to miss, lots of nice items in good condition.

VEHICLES: 2005 Dodge Caravan approx.179,868 miles, 2022 Ford Maverick 8,717.2 miles XLT Crew Cab - Factory Warranty until 11/2025, **GUNS:** Browning 22 Long Rifle w/scope - disassembled, Marlin 22 Lever Action model #59A, Marlin #336 30/300 Micro-groove barrel, Remington 22 Short or Long Lever Action, Jukar Spain 45 Cal Black Powder Rifle, Remington 30-6 Automatic w/scope, Reloading Scale.

ITEMS: Husqvarna Zero Turn Mower MZ6128 w/Sweeper- 61 inch deck- 28HP Briggs, Craftsman Tiller Rear Tire 18 inch, (2) Ford Ranchero Stationwagon - non working, '64 Ford disassembled, New Galvanized Metal, Skateblast #97-DXL-like new Dry Sand-blaster System, Ingersoll Rand Air Compressor - Standup Electric, Misc Channel Iron, 16 Ft. Tilt Steel Floor Trailer Pipe Top - (2) 3,500lb axle, Antique Maytag Washer - working & nonworking, Vise on Stand, (2) Like New Parts Washer, Gas Pressure Washer, Several Shop Vacs, Lincoln Gas Welder, Poulan Chainsaw, Craftsman Up Right Rolling Toolbox, Ladders 24 Ft Alum Extension, Radial Arm Saw, Table Saw, Router Table, Engine Hoist, Dewalt Chop Saw, Bench Grinder on Stand, Shop Fans, Craftsman 12 in. Bandsaw, Milwaukee Rotary Hammer, Craftsman Work Bench, Lots of Misc. Woodworking Equipment, Craftsman Upright Air Compressor - 60 gal, Moto Guzzi Police Motorcycle - restorable, Lawnmower Lift, Metal Cutting Band Saw, Lawn Mower w/Lift Table, Misc. Air Hoses, Greenworks Pro 82V Electric CR2428 Zero Turn, Craftsman Electric Weedeater, Yard Decor, New Hose Reel, New Winch 2500 ATV, New Chain Hoist, Mini Refrigerator, Misc. Hand Tools, Shop Tools, New Shop Vac, Craftsman 34 in. Radial Drill Press, Ax Setting Torch & Cart, Misc. Paneling and Lumber, Misc. Bolt Bins, Part Bins, Tool Boxes, Misc. Handheld Tools, Dewalt Chop Saw, Ryobi Elec Chainsaw, Craftsman 30x24 Table Saw, Scaffolding, Engine Hoist, Creeper, Sewing Machines, Planer Craftsman 12.5 inch, Appliance Dolly, Rechargeable Battery, Walk Behind Weedeater - DR Trimmer, Live Trap, Several Weedeaters, Pull Behind Spreader, New Milwork Table, Elevation Table, (2) Small Chicken Coops, (2) 5 Ft. Gates, New Metal 16Ft Sheet Metal, Misc. Lumber 2'x6' New, Portable Carport Frame, New 4x4's, Old Cart - Club Cart - Electric 36V, Ice Chest, Cast Iron Washpot, Chest Freezer, New & Gold Quilts, Lots of material, Fabric, Double Knit, Sewing Items, Storage Containers, Lots of Books, Vacuum, Lamps, Small Appliances, Tupperware, Kitchen Items, Pop Up Canopy, Trucks, Misc. Fishing Gear, Chest, Antique Polaroid Cameras, Dresser, Antique Mirror, Dlds Antique Chair, Washer/Dryer, Couch, End Tables, Lamps, Curio Cabinets, China Hutch, Table & 8 Chairs, Buffett, Black & white tv - works, Small Marble Top Table, Black Refrigerator, Glider Rocker, (2) Metal Chairs, Weber Charcoal Grill, Set of Silverware, Misc Christmas, Antique Glass Ornament, Cast Iron Dutch Oven, Meat Grinder, Shoe Last, 12'x24' Davis, Storage Building w/porch & lofts, Old Apple Boxes, Glass Door Knobs, Antique Table, (2) New Cabinets Wood, (2) Refrigerators, New Gas Coleman Propane Stove, Dishes, Stereo, Crock, Dressers, Vanity, Full Size Bedroom Suite, Several Sewing Machines - working & not, Old Comic Books - Marvel Vintage 1970's, VCRs, Dressers, Typewriter, Record Player/Tape, Small Stereo, VCR/DVD movies, New Puzzles, 1956 Sears Catalog, Old Records, King Size Bed w/Dormayo Mattress Pad.

(For pictures and more information visit [www.toddmorrisauction.com](http://www.toddmorrisauction.com) or Like Todd Morris Auction Co. on Facebook)

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Auctioneer



# Pike County preacher arrested for 100 counts of child pornography

**By John Balch**  
News-Leader Staff

A former Pike County preacher and foster parent who was arrested last week on 100 charges of child pornography made his first court Monday with a Nov. 4 return date set for formal arraignment.

As of Tuesday morning, no charges have been filed against James Vincent Henry, 43, a former preacher at Crossroads Assembly of God Church in Delight. No plea was entered Monday and Henry remains in custody at the Pike County jail where he is being held on \$50,000 bond.

Henry was arrested and booked in the county jail the night of Oct. 15 on suspicion of 100 counts of distributing, possessing or viewing matter depicting sexually explicit conduct involving a child.

According to an affidavit prepared by Special Agent Christopher Harper with the Arkansas State Police, an investigation involving Henry began in August when Harper was assigned two “cyber tip” reports from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. The reports involved the uploading of CSAM (child sexual abuse material) using Kik and Snapchat messaging applications.

The material was allegedly uploaded from an account belonging to Henry and his official church email address was used.

The state police investigator was able to determine that the one IP addresses involved in the CSAM was assigned to Henry at his Cherry Street home in Delight and that another address was assigned to Crossroads Assembly of God Church.

A residential search warrant was executed at the Henry home on Sept. 25 and numerous electronic devices were seized. Henry was then escorted to the church where more electronic devices were seized.

An extraction of one of Henry’s phone showed his phone number was allegedly associated with the

CSAM and several photos were recovered. Another phone, owned by Henry’s wife, Brittney, was also extracted and showed she made numerous calls and sent numerous messages to and from the phone number at the center of the investigation. Henry’s phone number was labeled “vacation phone” in his wife’s phone contacts.

Brittney Henry has not been arrested or charged in connection with this case.

According to the Delight church’s website, Henry is original from Dumas and he has served as youth pastor at Assembly of God churches in Lacey, McGehee and Mountain Pine, as well as Newsong Church in Centerton, where served on the “media team.”

The website also states the Henrys served as foster parents for New Beginnings Children’s Home in Centerton and fostered 76 children in four years before they moved to the “transitional living program for young ladies 18-25” for two years.



News-Leader photo/LOUIE GRAVES

**GETTING AN EARLY START.** Early Voting began Monday for the 2024 General Election. Above, helping a voter get started were election workers Vikki Langston, left, Derenda Butler and Carol Mitchell. Early voting continues through Monday, Nov. 4. The single voting place in Howard County is at the Carter Day Center, North Main, in Nashville.

## 3 sentenced Monday in Pike County

Three defendants were sentenced Monday in Pike County Circuit Court after entering guilty or “true” pleas.

Kenneth Allen West, 41, of Glenwood, plead guilty to the charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a firearm by certain persons. He was sentenced to six years in the Arkansas Department of

Corrections (ADC) on each charge for a total of 12 years.

John Graves, 26, of Amity, plead guilty to third-degree escape and “true” to violating the terms of his probation. He was sentenced to a total of five years in the ADC.

Kaleb Bryant Smith, 25, of Maud, Texas, plead guilty to possession of a controlled substance. He was sentenced

to six years of probation and fined \$2,500 plus court costs.

## NPD looking for leads after body found with gunshot wound

The Nashville Police Department is currently investigating the death of young man whose body was found Oct. 15 as a homicide.

The body of Corbin Cooper, 22, has sent to the Arkansas State Crime Lab and this is an ongoing investigation, according to NPD Chief Amy Marion.


Cooper was reported missing by family members and had not been seen since Thursday, Oct. 10. Cooper’s body was recovered from the 1200 block of South Price Street with a gunshot wound.

Persons with any information regarding Corbin Cooper or this homicide, are urged to contact the NPD at 870-845-3434.

**Clarification**

In last week’s newspaper, information provided about charges against Camren Blake Scott, 20, (charged in Howard County with 100 counts of distributing, possessing or viewing matter depicting sexually explicit conduct involving a child) incorrectly listed his address as 515 North Fourth Street in Nashville. Scott is actually a resident of Hope.

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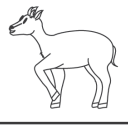
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To see better in the dark we're...



...wearing make-up instead of masks.



# Newspaper Fun!

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Is your costume ready for Halloween? It's fun to create a costume and surprise friends at parties or neighbors' houses while "Trick or Treating" from door to door. It's exciting to get treats and surprises in your Halloween bag!

**Read the helpful safety tips below to keep everyone safe while having lots of fun!**

Keep Safe!

1. Make-up will let you see better than using a mask.
2. Wear light-colored clothing or bright, glowing paints!
3. Have a flashlight so you can see and be seen.
4. Walk with friends and have an adult nearby.
5. Only visit well-lighted houses in known neighborhoods.
6. Have Mom or Dad check all goodies before eating.

Friendly witch is brewing up sweet treats as well as more healthful choices for Halloween! **Six of these treats are in her cauldron. Can you find and circle them?**

caramels   raisins   chocolate bar

I like the licorice gummy miez best!

Add more healthful treats to your Halloween fun!

Follow the dots to see who the ghost is warning...

Hey, yooooou! Hop out of here before you end up in the brew... or a stew.

popcorn   veggie chips

candy corn   lollipops   Crispy

Peanut Butter   Pumpkin Seeds

pumpkin seeds   peanuts   animal cookies   granola bars

Have a bewitching time!

N P R A I S I N S C  
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H A M S F V O P P N L  
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M U S L E G E R H O O S  
R H O H C U D L P R R H  
Y L L D A M V Y S N N  
V P N T A E D

Which Ones for the Witch?

The friendly witch wants pumpkins for her Halloween party. She has sent her zombie friends to choose the best pumpkins. Each pumpkin in the patch has a math problem on it. Since Halloween is on October 31st, zombies will only take the pumpkins with problems whose answers equal the number 31. **There are five of them. Color them orange!**

3 x 10 + 1 =    2 + 3 + 5 + 5 + 10 + 6 =    4 + 3 + 12 + 8 =    40 - 9 =

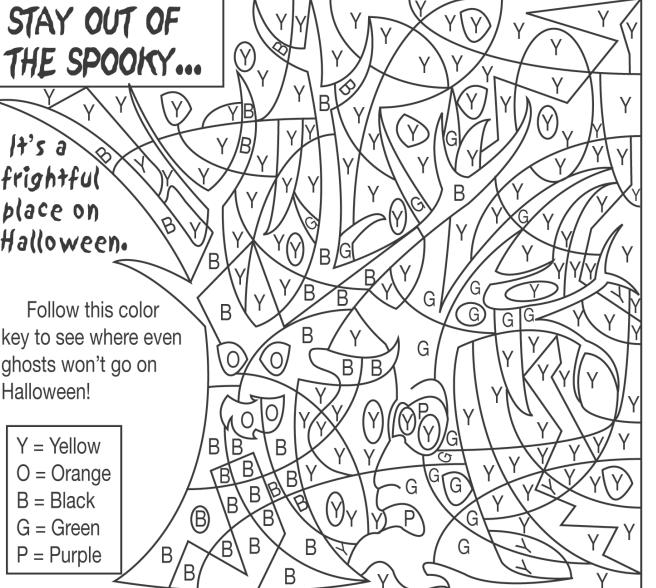
7 + 5 + 4 + 3 =    83 - 3 - 10 - 30 - 9 =    62 ÷ 2 =    4 x 2 x 3 =    84 ÷ 21 =

**STAY OUT OF THE SPOOKY...**

It's a frightful place on Halloween.

Follow this color key to see where even ghosts won't go on Halloween!

Y = Yellow  
O = Orange  
B = Black  
G = Green  
P = Purple



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# M’boro hatchery closing Friday, moving to Hope

**By John Balch**  
News-Leader staff

Murfreesboro Mayor Jim O’Neal announced Monday night that Friday, Oct. 25 will be the last day of operations at the Tyson Foods hatchery in Murfreesboro.

O’Neal said the local hatchery operation, which employs an estimated 20-25 people, will be moved to Hope with employees given the option to go to work at hatcheries in Nashville or Hope.

Tyson Foods invested \$70 million in a new hatchery in Hope that replaces an existing one and the new one is apparently now ready. According to news reports, the new hatchery triples the old one’s capacity and will help the company nearby poultry processing plans in Hope and Nashville run more efficiently and attract new area contractors.

The mayor told council members Monday that he has been in contact with a Tyson official about possible donating the hatchery building to the city once it’s vacated. O’Neal said that under city control the building would be put to good use and would not be allowed to sit and deteriorate and become an eyesore.

O’Neal said he person he talked to about donating the building was receptive and advised he would relay the request up the Tyson’s chain of command.

Mayor O’Neal added that

the business is the second largest water user behind the Crater of Diamonds State Park.

In other council business Monday night, the council went into executive session to discuss the employment of Jeremy Hughes. Once back in open session, Hughes was voted in as the city’s new position of Public Works Director with a salary to be determined and adjusted by Mayor O’Neal before budget time.

The council also voted to include 4.5 percent employee pay raise to be included in next year’s budget, which will be prepared and then presented at the council’s November meeting.

The council also approved a resolution keeping the city’s millage rate at 3 mills.

The city’s Low to Middle Income index, which is higher than it has been in the past, was discussed with the city deciding to challenge the data by conducting a community survey. The city will couple with the Murfreesboro Chamber of Commerce to contact every person in the city limits with a water meter about filing out the survey and providing help to those in need.

Mayor O’Neal also gave an update on the drainage project on Maple Avenue. He said a few items need to be fixed but the project is basically complete. “Now, we just need it to rain to see if this all works,” O’Neal said.

## Holiday Craft Fair set for Nov. 16, expands to two buildings in M’boro

The Murfreesboro Holiday Craft Fair will encompass two buildings this year.

Slated for Saturday, Nov. 16, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., the effort will spread from the Murfreesboro Municipal Building’s community room at 204 East Main Street to the Senior Center across the street at 120 Court Street. This will allow for the effort to showcase 30 vendors.

Parking for the event will be in the senior center parking lot located between the two venues and allowing for easy access to both.

Vendors will be offering for sale such wares as Christmas and home décor, ornaments, yard decorations, wood products, jewelry, clothing, toys, body products and candles.

Additionally, food items such as homemade bread, fried pies, cakes/cupcakes, cookies, macarons, jams/jellies, honey, pickles, freeze dried candy, pecan and more will be available at the event.

A concession stand by

Cathy’s Sweet Treats from Umpire will be serving breakfast, lunch and snacks – pumpkin rolls, cakes/cupcakes, cookies, cake pops and fried pies – to both the vendors and attendees to the event.

“Cathy Pugh used to own the Athens Store, so locals know the quality of her food,” said event organizer Robin Cox.

Two door prizes will be given out following the event -- \$25 gift cards to Texas Roadhouse. Attendees to the event may register at both the municipal building and the senior center by filling out a slip. Participants need not be present at the time of the drawing to win.

Cox asks that those interested “mark their calendars” for “double the shopping fun.” “All items are handmade, baked or grown locally,” Cox said of the vendors attending the event. “Please help make Murfreesboro’s craft sale a huge success for our vendors.”

# TRUNK or TREAT

**DIERKS HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT**

TRUNK OR TREAT 6:30 PM  
COSTUME CONTEST 6:45 PM  
FREE FOOD: NACHOS, HOT DOGS, POPCORN  
OUTDOOR MOVIE: HOCUS POCUS 7:00 PM

**Thursday October 31st, 2024**

## Early voting turnout ample in Pike County

Early voting in the 2024 presidential election cycle opened on Monday of this week.

Those wishing to early vote can go to either the Pike County Clerk’s office in Murfreesboro or to the Bainum Library and Learning Center in Glenwood during the following dates:

Oct. 21-25 • 8:00-6:00  
Oct. 26 • 10:00-4:00  
Oct. 28-Nov. 1 • 8:00-6:00  
Nov. 2 • 10:00-4:00  
Nov. 4 • 8:00-5:00

Full election day voting will be held on Tuesday, November 5 from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. at one of the following vote centers (Pike County registered voters may choose any of the four):

- Bainum Learning Center, 128 E Broadway, Glenwood
- Bethlehem Baptist Center, 2589 Hwy 27 N, Kirby
- Delight Cafeteria, 623 Webb St, Delight, AR (Delight Cafeteria poll previously located at Carmen Hendrix Building, 621 E Cherry St.)
- Murfreesboro Municipal Building, 204 E Main, Murfreesboro.

Voters interested in absentee voting may request an absentee ballot by contacting the County Clerk’s office at 112 N Washington, Suite A, Murfreesboro, AR, (870) 285-2743 on Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

A list of election officials appointed to conduct early voting, election day voting, and all other required duties will be posted for public viewing in the Pike County Clerk’s Office.

In addition to the national presidential election, local voters will help decide other contested races as applicable:

Early voting was amply utilized by voters on the first day of early voting on

Monday, with 3% of the 6,444 registered voters in the county casting a vote -- 154 in Murfreesboro and 128 in Glenwood.

Pike County Clerk Rande Edwards said she expected the voting totals to be high for this election.

In the 2020 election Pike County had the second highest percentage of registered voters to cast a ballot at 75.27%, trailing only Montgomery County’s 77.21%.

## Corinth Cemetery Association meeting

### Saturday, Nov. 2

The Corinth Cemetery is located north of Nashville at the intersection of Corinth Road and State Highway 26, and its governing body is the Corinth Cemetery Association.

The association will have a meeting and clean-up day on Saturday, Nov. 2, at 9 a.m. at the cemetery.

Persons who have family members buried there are urged to participate. Donations will be accepted. For more information call 870-557-6295.

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# All Pinked Out @ Rattler Stadium for Breast Cancer Awareness Month



Photo Courtesy of Melissa Jones



Murfreesboro Diamond Photos



**CELEBRATING THEIR SURVIVORS.** The employees and owner of Power Pharmacy in Nashville recently wore pink to acknowledge October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month and to honor two of their own as breast cancer survivors. Pictured are (from left) Jodi Troutt, Kim Raulerson (survivor), owner Rachel Foshee, Rudith Martinez, Arlie Richard, Kristi Strong, Sandra Fuentes (survivor), Karen Baxley and Denean McWhorter up front.

1 in 8  
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will be diagnosed with  
breast cancer in her  
lifetime.

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**October is Breast Health  
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**GO PINK!**

**SUPPORT THE FIGHT  
AGAINST BREAST CANCER!**

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# ‘For The Long Haul’

## Nashville Post Office employee honored for more than 30 years of service

As part of the United States Postal Service’s “For the Long Haul” initiative, the Nashville Post Office is celebrating Myrtle Ann Nichols, a dedicated employee who has faithfully served the Nashville community for more than 30 years at the same location.

Nichols’ tenure will reach 31 years on Nov. 27.

“Myrtle’s unwavering commitment and exceptional service have made her a beloved figure in the community,” noted the USPS in a special news release.

“For the Long Haul” is an initiative designed to honor the remarkable dedication of long-serving USPS employees like Nichols, who have become integral parts of their communities through their unwavering commitment and service excellence.

Over the years, Nichols has developed lasting relationships with her customers, going above and beyond to ensure their mail is handled with care and reliability.

Nichols began her USPS career in

1993, when employees were hired on a dual appointment to work as a clerk and carrier. She transferred to the Nashville Post Office in 1998 as a clerk, and continued to carry mail until 2001.

Once in Nashville, Nichols quickly established herself as a reliable and friendly presence.

“Over the years, she has become a familiar face to countless customers, known for her helpful attitude and outstanding service. Her deep knowledge of postal operations and her genuine care for the community have made her an indispensable part of the Nashville Post Office.”

“Myrtle is remarkable,” said Nashville Postmaster Becca Cooper.

“She knows every customer’s name, their family members’ names, and even their pet’s name. If you ask her John or Jane Doe’s address, she can tell you. Her favorite saying is ‘give a fair day’s pay for a fair day’s work.’ At the young age of 62, Myrtle can run circles around any of her younger colleagues.”

Murfreesboro Postmaster Janna

Young and Arkadelphia Postmaster Matt Hamilton, who have also worked with Nichols, echo Cooper’s sentiments. Young said, “Myrtle is amazing with customers and co-workers. She is eager to learn about any new products and services to stay well informed. Myrtle knows everyone in town, and greets newcomers and visitors with a big smile and a cheery ‘Welcome to Nashville’.”

“The Postal Service needs more employees like Myrtle. She is a straight shooter, as honest as the day is long, and willing to give the shirt off her back to a complete stranger,” added Hamilton.

Fellow employee Tracy Agado, who nominated Nichols for this honor, said, “Myrtle has an amazing positive attitude. Her motto is to work diligently to leave the Postal Service brand even greater than when she began.

The community loves her and completely trusts her because she treats everyone’s mail as if it were her own. She is a role model to me, and it was a privilege to serve with her.”



News-Leader photo/JOHN BALCH

**A FAMILIAR FACE.** Myrtle Ann Nichols began working at the Nashville Post Office in 1993 as clerk and carrier and has been at the Nashville location ever since. On the vault door behind Nichols is the Nashville facility’s original seal from 1937.

# ISSUE 2 TAKES AWAY LOCAL CONTROL

IF ISSUE 2 PASSES, IT WILL...

- X** Eliminate a voter-approved & licensed casino
- X** Take away local voter control
- X** Reduce tax money for Arkansas first responders, schools and roads

“Issue 2 isn’t about giving communities local control, it takes that away.”

— Ben Cross, Pope County Judge, Veteran & Retired State Trooper

Get the Facts on Issue 2  
[www.InvestingInArkansas.com](http://www.InvestingInArkansas.com)

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# VOTE NO ON ISSUE 2

*Bad for AR Roads, Communities and Economy*







Courtesy photo

Addison Tate and Rylee Backus hoist the Scrapperettes' runner-up trophy at the conclusion of the Class 4A state tennis tournament Oct. 16 at the University of the Ozarks in Clarksville. Tate and Backus won the state 4A doubles championship. The Scrapperettes were second overall at the state tournament.

## Scrapperettes finish as state runners-up



Courtesy photo

The Scrapperettes were the runners-up overall at the state 4A tennis tournament last week in Clarksville. They include Marisol Perez, Lana Walker, Chloe Keeton, Addison Tate, Rylee Backus, Allie Sartin, Millie Sanchez and Coach Maddie McRae.



Courtesy photo

Coach Maddie McRae, Addison Tate and Rylee Backus display Nashville's runner-up trophy at the state Class 4A tennis tournament last week at Clarksville. The Scrapperettes were the overall runners-up. Tate and Backus won the state doubles championship. They were undefeated during the regular season, district tournament and state.





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  - **Dermatology**
  - **Pediatrics**
- **Orthopedics**
  - **Urology**
  - **Wound care**
  - **Primary care**
  - **General surgery**
  - **Robotic surgery**





# Junior Scrappers defeat Ashdown



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

Trendon Northcross (1) buys time for Jacoby Hopson (2) to find a receiver Thursday night, Oct. 17, during the junior high Scrappers' 39-12 home victory over Ashdown. Nashville swept the Panthers in games last Thursday with the junior high win, a 14-8 eighth grade victory and a 30-6 win by the seventh graders. The high school Scrappers defeated Ashdown 53-18 the next night, Oct. 18.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

Junior Scrappers run onto the field before their District 7-4A victory over Ashdown Thursday, Oct. 17, at Scrapper Stadium.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

Trendon Northcross (left) runs the ball as Jace Wright (54), Isaias Vasquez (56), Halton Howard (55) and Hayden Crabtree (62) clear the way.



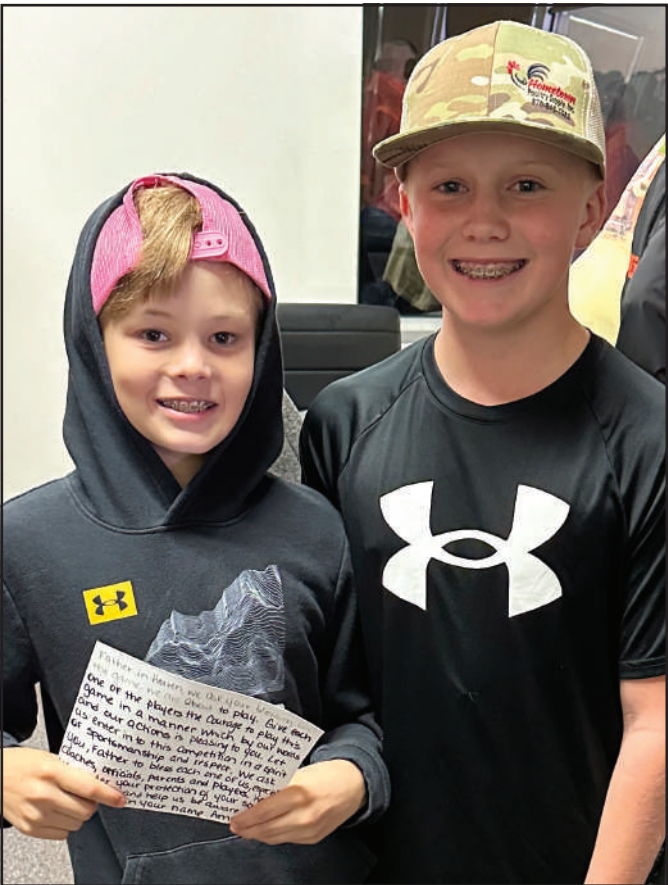
News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

Zachariah Hopkins (right) directs the NJHS band during halftime Thursday, Oct. 17.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

Drew Gitchell (17), Nilson Henriquez (5), Al Green (22), Blake Moody (40) and Eduardo Hernandez pursue the Panther, who was tackled by Isaiah Hawthorne.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

Gauge Applegate (11) runs to the end zone for a touchdown in Nashville Junior High's 39-12 win over Ashdown Thursday, Oct. 17, at Scrapper Stadium. The Scrappers will host Haskell Harmony Grove at 7 p.m. Oct. 24 in their final home game of the season.

News-Leader photo/HANNAH TOPOR

Seventh grade Student Council representatives Wyatt Floyd and Wyatt Chesshir gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance before the junior Scrappers' home game Thursday, Oct. 17.

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Murfreesboro Diamond photos/PJ TRACY  
**MAKING A MOVE.** Rattler runner Kale Burns (#11) carries the ball Friday night in the Ratters' big conference win over the LC Cougars.



**AROUND THE END.** Rattler Lathan Compton (#2) gains ground around the end during action Friday night on Holloway Field at Rattler Stadium.



**WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT.** Rattler head coach Brad Chesshir gets a message out to his players during Friday's conference game against Lafayette County.

# Rattlers pound Cougars 54-8

## Take No. 2 ranking on long road to #1 Junciton City Friday

The Murfreesboro Rattlers (5-2, 4-0) are now the possessors of a five-game winning streak following their 54-8 demolition of Lafayette County (3-4, 1-3) at home last Friday night.

Head coach Brad Chesshir said that his team "played an almost complete game" minus a few defensive mistakes that saw Lafayette County drive the ball for more than nine minutes on the game's initial possession.

Chesshir said the Cougars used a few formations previously unseen that had the Rattlers on their heels initially before adjustments allowed Murfreesboro to regain control.

"The defense was lights-out after that – two defensive touchdowns are huge. The scoops and scores [defensive fumble recoveries for touchdowns] by Brody [Maroon, 40 yards] and Logan [Burris, 8 yards] really shifted the momentum."

Murfreesboro cruised to victory, holding a four score lead at

halftime and capped off the game with a score and conversion on the game's final plays under the actively ticking mercy-rule clock.

Compton would lead the team in rushing with 61 yards on 14 attempts, while Maroon had 46 yards and a touchdown on 10 attempts.

Kale Burns broke his lone rushing attempt for 44 yards, Cameron Stevens accrued 43 yards and a pair of touchdowns on three rushes, and Bubba Stinson had 39 yards and a score on six rushing attempts.

Not forced to throw often, the Rattlers were highly efficient when they chose to do so. Senior quarterback Laytan Wilcher was 2/4 for 22 yards and a touchdown pass to Maroon. After Wilcher exited the game, backup Kooper Caldwell was 3/3 for 37 yards.

Wide receiver Issaac Kuykendall had a pair of receptions for 34 yards.

The Rattlers would accrue 244 total rushing yards and 59 pass-

ing yards, scoring on all of their offensive possessions in the game.

Compton led the defensive effort with 10 tackles, Burris and Stevens (forced fumble) with eight stops each, Wilcher with six, Maroon and Caldwell (forced fumble) with five each.

"We had to come into this game and take care of business ... I challenged the kids to get on them early and set the tone. It was good to see us not have to punt by executing on third and fourth downs.

"I stand by the fact that Lafayette County is a pretty good team."

This week will provide a quality matchup for Rattlers fans when Murfreesboro travels to Junction City (5-2, 4-0) to face off against the Dragons for the top spot in the 3-2A conference with two games remaining after this week's action.

"This is a big conference game," Chesshir agreed. "We are both undefeated in conference play, and they are a program that is rich with tradition. They always have

good players."

He said he wasn't worried about the multi-hour trip to Junction City, which is located south of El Dorado on the Louisiana state line.

"We handle travel well," he said of the Rattlers.

"We will just have to focus on us and what we can do. On offense we can't turn the ball over and have to sustain drives. On defense we will have to limit a team with explosive players from having explosive plays by swarm tackling."

Based on recent experience, Chesshir feels his team is ready at this point in the season for a game that could go either way.

"We've been here before -- we've been in big games. I expect us to handle it the right way."

He said the Rattlers will have to have a good week of preparation by focusing on attention to detail and the "play hard and see what happens."

Support will be a key element, so Chesshir has issued a call for

fans to make the trip if at all possible.

"Our fans always show up, but we need a lot of red in Junction [City]. The kids need all the support they can get in this big task."

He also feels good about his team in the underdog role, with Hootens.com ranking the Dragons as the third best 2A squad (to Murfreesboro's 11 ranking). Maxpreps.com ranks the Rattlers as the 139 best team in all of Arkansas football, with Junction City at 114. On3.com ranks Junction City at 112 in Arkansas and 6,990 nationally, while they place the Rattlers at 138 in the state and 9,009 nationally.

"No one outside Pike County in the state of Arkansas is picking us to win this one," Chesshir stated definitively.

This week there will be no seventh grade game against Junction City. The final home game for the junior high Rattlers will start at 6 p.m.

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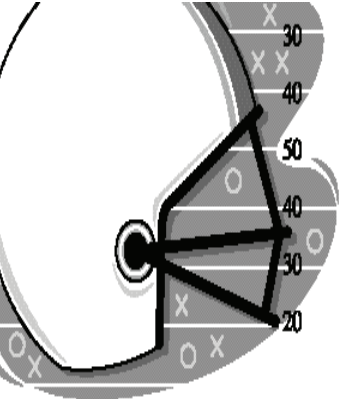
Raw Shelled Peanuts 2 lb. bag - \$8.00 & 5 lb. bag - \$16.00

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### The News-Leader's 2024 PIGSKIN PREDICTIONS



This week's top games	John R. Schirmer (76%)	Louie Graves (70%)	Eddie Cobb (68%)
Mineral Springs at Lafayette County	MS	MS	MS
Murfreesboro at Junction City	JCity	JCity	JCity
Dierks at Foreman	Dierks	Dierks	Dierks
Arkadelphia at Ashdown	Adelph.	Adelph.	Adelph.
Ouachita Baptist at Arkansas Tech	OBU	OBU	OBU
Southern Arkansas at Harding	Harding	Harding	SAU
Louisiana State at Texas A&M	LSU	LSU	LSU
Oklahoma at Ole Miss	Ole Miss	Ole Miss	Ole Miss
Arkansas at Mississippi State	Arkansas	Miss.State	Arkansas
Nashville at Haskell Harm. Grove	Nashville	Nashville	Nashville



News-Leader photo/DEDE ROBINSON

Alexis Brizo kicks off to Ashdown in the Scrappers' 53-18 road victory over the Panthers Friday night, Oct. 18. With the win, the Scrappers ran their record to 3-1 in District 7-4A, 4-3 overall. Nashville will travel to Haskell Harmony Grove Friday, Oct. 25, for a 7 p.m. kickoff.



Circle the teams you think will win in the entry below. Deadline for entries is Friday at 3 p.m. You can drop entry in box in front of the Leader office, or email screenshot of newspaper entry to [tracy@nashvilleleader.com](mailto:tracy@nashvilleleader.com) or mail your entry form to PO Box 205, Nashville, AR 71852 (must be postmarked by Friday). Only one entry per person per week. No copies please.

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### CIRCLE THE TEAMS YOU THINK WILL WIN

Mineral Springs	at	Lafayette County
Murfreesboro	at	Junction City
Dierks	at	Foreman
Arkadelphia	at	Ashdown
Ouachita Baptist	at	Arkansas Tech
Southern Arkansas	at	Harding
LSU	at	Texas A&M
Oklahoma	at	Ole Miss
Arkansas	at	Mississippi State

**TIEBREAKER (You must give score)**

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<b>Quality Construction</b> 510 E. Russell • Nashville 870-845-0222	<b>Scott's Auto Body</b> 506 S. Main St. Nashville * 870-845-9909	<b>Starz Family Restaurant</b> 870-845-4997
<b>Futrell Marine</b> Nashville 870-845-3122	<b>H &amp; R Block</b> 111 S. Main St. Nashville 870-845-3141	<b>Satellite Services</b> 301 S. Main St. Nashville 870-845-4412
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Friday, Oct. 18 @ Ayers Field in Dierks

Junction City Dragons 47 vs. Dierks Outlaws 20

JC Dragons (5-2/4-0) Next Game @ Murfreesboro (5-2/4-0) • Dierks Outlaws (4-3/2-2) Next Game @ Foreman (0-4)

Photos by Nikki Fields Images & Designs



**PUNT RETURN.** Outlaws Kason Dougan (#52) with Ben Ernest (#10) on the field against the Junction City Dragons Friday night in Dierks.



**MAKING THE PLAY.** Outlaw defender Lucas Allen (#71) grabs ahold of a JC Dragon to make the play Friday night. The Outlaws lost the conference game 47-20.



**BIG PLAYS AT DIERKS.** (At left) Outlaw Juan Salazar (#9) pulls in a catch; (middle) Grayson Kersey (#5) makes a play on the Dragons to lead the Dierks defense; and (at right) Outlaw speedster Jordan Hill moves the ball against the Dragon defense.

MS Hornets pick up 32-13

win over Gurdon Go-Devils

The Mineral Springs Hornets improved their conference record to 3-1 and 4-3 overall Friday night with a home win over the Gurdon Go-Devils, 32-13.

The Go-Devils dropped to 1-3 in conference play with a 2-5 overall mark.

The Hornets will get on the road Friday to face the Lafayette County

Cougars, who are 1-3 in conference play at 3-4 overall. The Cougars are coming off a 54-8 conference beating by the Murfreesboro Rattlers Friday night in Murfreesboro.

The Hornets were led against Gurdon by running back Mailk Matthews, who carried the ball 14 times for 76 yards and two touchdowns and had one pass reception for 68 yards for a

TD. Quarterback Evan Erwin hit 6/11 passes for 123 yards and rushed the ball 12 times for 54 yards and one TD.

Rahmaij Ware ran the ball seven times for 34 yards and one TD.

No stats for the Hornet defense was made available this week but Brandon Allen is credited with two interceptions and Ayden Stuart had a fumble recovery.



News-Leader photo/SHERRY TURLEY

**FOR THE SCORE.** MS Hornet Malik Matthews hits the end zone Friday night in Mineral Springs.

Want to become a game warden?

The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission is accepting applications for its next class of game warden cadets. Applications will be accepted until Oct. 30.

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**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 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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NEWS-LEADER

CLASSIFIEDS

BUSINESS SERVICES

MINI STORAGE IN MURFREESBORO. 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.

HELP WANTED

Heather Manor is accepting applications for a Business Office Manager. Apply in person at 400 W. 23rd St., Hope or online at heathermanornursing.webcorp.com (HM: 18 - 25)

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY (NOA)

USDA – Farm Service Agency  
Notice of Availability  
Construction of a Large CAFO, Arkansas  
Draft Environmental Assessment

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency (FSA) announces they will be completing an Environmental Assessment for the establishment of a large CAFO. The farm is located in Sections 7 and 8, Township 9 south, Range 28 west, Howard county, Arkansas. The primary objective of the activity is to construct (4) broiler houses.

FSA is accepting written comments on the potential effects of the proposed project on protected resources and the human environment through 11/22/2024. Information regarding this project can be reviewed in person at the following USDA Service Center: 101 S. Washington St. Nashville, AR 71852 and can be found online at https://www.fsa.usda.gov/state-offices/Arkansas/index. Comments should be submitted in writing to Adam Kaufman at Farm Service Agency, 419 West Gaines Street, Monticello, AR 71655.

All written comments will be carefully considered, and no action concerning the project shall be taken until the agency has completed an environmental review and issued a final decision. All who provide written comments will be informed of the decision when it is made. The Final Environmental Assessment will be made available and underlying documentation may be examined upon request. (FSB: 18, 19)

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT HOWARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:  
RAYMOND G. SCHWOPE, DECEASED      31PR-24-74

NOTICE

Last known address of decedent: 1000 Hempstead 27N, Nashville, AR 71852

Date of Death: January 23, 2023

On October 7, 2024, an Affidavit for Collection of Small Estate by a distributee was filed with respect to the Estate of Raymond G. Schwope, deceased, with the Clerk of the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Howard County, Arkansas, under Ark. Code Ann. §28-41-101.

The real property listed in the Affidavit is as follows: 3297 Corinth Road, Nashville, AR 71852.

All persons having claims against the Estate must exhibit them, properly verified, to the distributed or his attorney within three (3) 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 16 day of October, 2024. The name and address of the distributee or attorney is: Jessica Steel Gunter  
Attorney At Law  
219 North Main  
Nashville, AR 71852  
(JSG: 17, 18)

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



PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HOWARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
ESTHER L. AMONETTE, DECEASED      NO. 31PR-24-49

NOTICE

Last known address of decedent: 403 County Line Road North, Nashville, AR 71852  
Date of death: May 10, 2024

On July 9, 2024, an Affidavit for Collection of Small Estate by a distributee was filed with respect to the Estate of Esther L. Amonette, deceased, with the Clerk of the Probate Division of the Circuit Court of Howard County, Arkansas, under Ark. Code Ann. §28-41-101. The legal description of the real property listed in the Affidavit is as follows:

The South Half of the Southeast Quarter (S-1/2 SE-1/4) of Section 18, Township 9 South, Range 27 West, containing 80 acres, more or less.  
LESS AND EXCEPT, The West ½ of the Southwest ¼ of the Southeast ¼ of Section 18, Township 9 South, Range 27 West, in Howard County, Arkansas.  
ALSO, LESS AND EXCEPT, The West 236 feet of the South 922 feet of the E-1/2 of the SW-1/4 of the SE-1/4 of Section 18, Township 9 South, Range 27 West, Howard County, Arkansas, containing 5 acres, more or less.  
ALSO,  
LESS AND EXCEPT, The SE-1/4 SE-1/4, Section 18, Township 9 South, Range 27 West, containing 40 acres, more or less, in Howard County, Arkansas.  
Containing in the aggregate 15 acres, more or less.

All persons having claims against the estate must exhibit them, duly verified, to the distributee or her attorney within three (3) 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. Provided, claims for injury or death caused by negligence of the decedent shall be filed within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of the Notice, or they shall be forever barred and precluded from any benefit in such estate.

This notice first published this 23 day of October, 2024.

Marguerite Robinson, Distributee  
BY: Victor Martin, ABN 2018116  
Attorney at Law  
420 N. Main, Suite One  
P. O. Box 922  
Nashville, AR 71852  
(870) 845-5256 phone  
(870) 845-5899 fax  
(VM: 18, 19)

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY (NOA)

USDA – Farm Service Agency  
Notice of Availability  
Construction of a Large CAFO, Arkansas  
Draft Environmental Assessment

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency (FSA) announces they will be completing an Environmental Assessment for the expansion of an existing poultry farm that would result in a large CAFO. The farm is located in Section 17, Township 9 south, Range 28 west, Howard county, Arkansas. The primary objective of the activity is to construct (5) broiler houses.

FSA is accepting written comments on the potential effects of the proposed project on protected resources and the human environment through 11/22/2024. Information regarding this project can be reviewed in person at the following USDA Service Center: 101 S. Washington St. Nashville, AR 71852 and can be found online at https://www.fsa.usda.gov/state-offices/Arkansas/index. Comments should be submitted in writing to Adam Kaufman at Farm Service Agency, 419 West Gaines Street, Monticello, AR 71655.

All written comments will be carefully considered, and no action concerning the project shall be taken until the agency has completed an environmental review and issued a final decision. All who provide written comments will be informed of the decision when it is made. The Final Environmental Assessment will be made available and underlying documentation may be examined upon request. (FSB: 18, 19)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice of Waitlist Closure

The Housing Authority of Texarkana, AR announces the closure of the waitlist for Howard County and Sevier County Housing Choice Voucher Program effective October 31, 2024. The waitlist will be closed for all applications until further notice. (HAT: 18)

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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USDA – Farm Service Agency  
Notice of Availability  
Construction of a Large CAFO, Arkansas  
Draft Environmental Assessment

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency (FSA) announces they will be completing an Environmental Assessment for the expansion of an existing poultry farm that would result in a large CAFO. The farm is located in Section 33, Township 7 south, Range 28 west, Howard county, Arkansas. The primary objective of the activity is to construct (1) broiler house.

FSA is accepting written comments on the potential effects of the proposed project on protected resources and the human environment through 11/18/2024. Information regarding this project can be reviewed in person at the following USDA Service Center: 101 S. Washington St. Nashville, AR 71852 and can be found online at https://www.fsa.usda.gov/state-offices/Arkansas/index. Comments should be submitted in writing to Adam Kaufman at Farm Service Agency, 419 West Gaines Street, Monticello, AR 71655.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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Week of October 21, 2024

S



# Scrappers earn 7-4A win at Ashdown

News-Leader photos/DEDE ROBINSON, JOHN R. SCHIRMER



Ja'Marion Conway scores in the first quarter of Nashville's 53-18 district win at Ashdown Oct. 17.



Skylar Gibson (2), Kellen Jackson (12) and Devontae Gilliam (10) converge on the Ashdown Panther Friday night, Oct. 17. The Scrappers moved their District 7-4A record to 3-1 with the road victory.



Luke Lacie (58) prepares to snap the ball last Friday night against the Ashdown Panthers.



Nashville band members perform at halftime during Friday night's game at Ashdown.



Josh Walker (16) and Joe Branch (13) stop the Ashdown Panther last Friday night.



Scrapper defenders close in on the Ashdown ball carrier.



Devontae Gilliam takes down the Panther Oct. 17 at Ashdown.



A host of Scrappers make the play on the Panther, including Skylar Gibson (2), Jacob Teague (40), Makhi Johnson (14) and Jaydon Williamson (68).



Phillip Longtin, Adrian Pioquinto, Jayden Scroggins and Kellen Jackson make their way to mid-field for the coin toss.



Coach Shawn Jackson watches the play.



Cortez Cooper, Roochie Wiley, Kajuan Swift and Brady Dixon down the kick at the Ashdown one-yardline.



Cheerleaders Parker Tate and Madi Brinkman sing the NHS Alma Mater.



# OBU defeats defending national champions

**OBU Sports Information**  
ARKADELPHIA – The Ouachita Baptist University Tigers recorded a 17-13 victory over defending national champion and top-ranked Harding University Saturday Oct 19, at Cliff Harris Stadium in front of an announced crowd of 7,322.

The Tiger victory snapped Harding's 25-game winning streak, which included the 2023 national championship. It also puts Ouachita alone at the top of the Great American Conference standings at 7-0. The Tigers moved from number nine up to number five in the nation after defeating the Bisons.

Ouachita's defense stepped up to the challenge against the nation's top offense, holding the Bisons to 288 yards of total offense and only 13 points. The Bisons were averaging 554 total yards and 61 points per game heading into Saturday's game.

Harding finished 1-for-12 on third downs, had two fumbles, was forced to punt five times, and only made into the red zone once.

After forcing a three-and-out on Ouachita's first drive, the Bisons struck first with a

touchdown at the 9:30 mark of the first quarter to cap a seven-play, 69-yard drive. Ouachita answered with a long scoring drive on 10 plays and 69 yards to score on a three-yard run by Kenedel Givens at the 3:42 mark.

Following three-and-outs by both teams, the Bisons regained the lead on a 52-yard field goal by Magnus Lepak at the 9:55 mark of the second quarter. Again, the Tigers answered, this time with a nine-play, 61-yard drive capped by a 25-yard field goal by reigning GAC Special Teams Player of the Week Dax Jagers with 5:44 remaining before halftime to make it 10-10.

On the ensuing kickoff, Harding made its first mistake with a fumble on the return recovered by the Tigers at the HU 25-yard line. However, the Tigers did not capitalize, going three-and-out and actually losing 20 yards before punting the ball back to the Bisons. Harding finished the first half with an 11-play, 72-yard drive capped by a 42-yard field goal from Lepak with 24 seconds on the clock to put his team up 13-10 at the break.

After a scoreless third

quarter, the Tigers opened up the playbook to take their first lead of the game with 12:58 remaining in the fourth with a handoff to Connor Flannigan who then threw a pass back to quarterback Eli Livingston who was left open for a four-yard touchdown.

Both defenses took over for the rest of the game with neither team having more than six plays in a possession until the last minute when Harding ran 10 plays, but the Tiger defense stepped up at the buzzer forcing an incomplete pass to seal the win.

Livingston finished 10-for-18 passing for 109 yards. Givens totaled 47 rushing yards on 13 carries. Flannigan finished with five receptions for 62 yards in addition to his four-yard touchdown pass.

Dawson Miller paced the Tiger defense with 16 total tackles. Jaraylon Burks added 12 tackles. Kenta Jones had nine tackles and a forced fumble.

Ouachita will go on the road Oct. 26 to take on Arkansas Tech at 2 p.m.

Harding will host Southern Arkansas at 3 p.m.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

OBU redshirt defensive back Sloan Perrin (12) of Nashville visits Kade Caldwell and sister Natalie Perrin of Murfreesboro, Jacee Martin of Nashville and mom Beth Perrin of Murfreesboro after the Tigers' 17-13 win over top-ranked Harding Saturday night in Arkadelphia.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

An announced crowd of 7,322 filled the home side and most of the visitor side of Cliff Harris Stadium in Arkadelphia for last Saturday night's game between Ouachita Baptist and Harding.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

OBU quarterback Eli Livingston (right) hauls in a touchdown pass from wide receiver Connor Flannigan in front of Harding defensive back Ty Dugger.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

Harding running back Blake Delacruz (26) runs with the ball after taking the handoff from quarterback Cole Keyton (15) Saturday night against Ouachita Baptist.

## OBU football alumni recognized at halftime



OBU Athletic Director David Sharp and NFL Hall of Fame member Cliff Harris



Cotton Cothren



Vince Perrin



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

The Harding Bisons take the field for their Great American Conference game against Ouachita Baptist Saturday night, Oct. 19, in Arkadelphia.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

OBU fans storm the field after the Tigers' 17-13 victory over Harding Saturday night.

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SPORTS LEADERS

Players of the Week as selected by The Leader sports department

Addison Tate and Rylee Backus, Nashville

Addison, a Scrapperette senior, and Rylee, a junior, won the state Class 4A girls doubles championship Tuesday, Oct. 15, in Clarksville, defeating a duo from Joe T. Robinson.

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