





# Obituaries



**Wilbur Jackson Bennett, Jr.**

Wilbur Jackson Bennett, Jr., known affectionately by friends and family as “Jack,” passed away on Dec. 15, 2024, in Nashville, Ark. Born on April 30, 1940, in Portsmouth, Va., Jack’s life was a testament to his intelligence, kindness, and unwavering faith. His journey on this earth concluded at the age of 84, leaving behind a legacy of academic achievement, professional excellence, and heartfelt relationships. Jack’s early years were spent in the nurturing care of his parents, Wilbur Jackson Bennett, Sr., and Grace Edwards Bennett. His formative experiences in Portsmouth laid the groundwork for a life of curiosity and exploration, which would later define his career and passions. Tragically, he was predeceased by his beloved wife, Mary Virginia Bennett, who was his steadfast companion in both life and work. He also bore the profound loss of his cherished daughter, Margaret Anne Ingle, and his son, Robert Jackson Bennett, with grace and fortitude. Despite these sorrows, Jack’s life was enriched by the love and laughter of his granddaughter, Sydney Roset, her husband Connor, and their son Sonny. His grandson, Garrett Jackson Bennett, also survives him, carrying on the Bennett legacy into the future. Jack’s spirit and memory live on in the hearts of his family and the countless friends he made across the United States, all of whom were touched by his kindness and generosity.

Jack’s academic journey was marked by excellence, culminating in a Ph.D. in Theology, studying his undergraduate at Duke University and his graduate work at Drew University. His intellectual pursuits led him to found the cultural resource management firm, Archaeological Assessments, in 1979. For over 40 years, Jack led his firm in uncovering the mysteries of the past, managing numerous archaeological projects in Israel and the United States. His wife, Mary, was a constant presence by his side, sharing in his professional endeavors and his passion for discovery.

A man of deep faith, Jack was a dedicated member of the First United Methodist Church in Nashville. His

love for his church family was evident in his active participation and service. His faith was not just a part of his Sunday routine but woven through every aspect of his life, guiding his actions and interactions with others. Aside from his professional and spiritual commitments, Jack was known for his love of working in his yard, a pastime that brought him immense joy and satisfaction. He found peace and contentment in the simple act of tending to his garden, nurturing growth, and beauty around his home. Traveling was another of Jack’s great pleasures; he cherished the opportunity to explore new places and experience different cultures, often reflecting on the rich tapestry of humanity he witnessed on his journeys. Jack’s life was a portrait of a man who embraced the world with open arms and an open heart. His intellect was matched only by his kindness, and his faith provided a constant source of strength and comfort, both to him and to those around him. He navigated life’s challenges with grace and left behind a world that was undoubtedly better for his presence in it.

As we bid farewell to Wilbur Jackson Bennett, Jr., we celebrate a life well-lived, a path well-traveled, and a legacy well-established. His memory will be cherished, his contributions to archaeology revered, and his spirit forever remembered as a beacon of light and love. Jack’s journey through life may have reached its sunset, but the warmth of his presence will continue to shine in the hearts of all who knew him.

Services for Jack will be Saturday, Jan. 4, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Nashville with Rev. Pam Estes officiating. A reception will be held after the service at Off the Beaten Track, 590 Golf Links Road, Nashville, Ark. Everyone is invited.



**Jeremy Lane Nolte**

Jeremy Lane Nolte, age 47, of Texarkana, Ark., formerly of Nashville, Ark., passed away on Friday, Dec. 13, 2024, at his home in Texarkana.

He was born Dec. 8, 1977, in Texarkana, Texas, the son of the late George Nolte and Joyce Markham Nolte.

Jeremy grew up in Nashville, Ark., and graduated from Nashville High School the class of 1996. He had

many hobbies over the years, he enjoyed reading, being outdoors, fishing, enjoying the river, and leather working. One of his true enjoyments was fixing old cars or working with anything mechanically.

In addition to his parents he was preceded in death by one brother Mike Nolte.

Survivors include his brothers Jason Nolte (Stephanie) of Nashville, Ark., Jimmy Crow of Prescott, Ark., Doug Nolte of Garland City, Ark.; and one sister Tonya Whitehead of Genoa, Ark.

A visitation is scheduled 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 17, at Latimer Funeral Home in Nashville.

You may send an online sympathy message at [www.latimerfuneralhome.com](http://www.latimerfuneralhome.com)

**Robert Falcon**

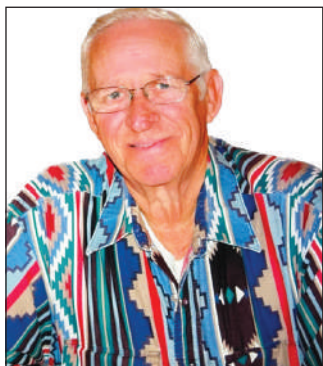
Robert “Bobby” Falcon, age 72, of Mineral Springs, Ark., passed away on Sunday, Dec. 15, 2024 at his home. He was born on June 29, 1952, in Plattenville, La., to the late Claiborne Falcon and Mary Louise Navarre Falcon.

Mr. Falcon was a farmer by trade. He lived near Napoleonville, La., where he row cropped sugarcane on approximately 1,000 acres, before purchasing his farm in Mineral Springs. After moving, he and his wife, Betsy, raised Charolais cattle. He enjoyed fishing, attending auctions and visiting with people. He enjoyed visiting with older people, to gain their wisdom and techniques.

Those left to cherish his memory include his loving wife of almost 37 years, Betsy Zindo Falcon; two sons, Christian Falcon and Joshua Falcon; two step-daughters, Patricia Costanza and Joana Wilson; his mother, Mary Louise Falcon; two brothers, Chris and Larry; three sisters Pat, Renee and Celeste; eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; as well as a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Latimer Funeral Home of Nashville.

You may send an online sympathy message at [www.latimerfuneralhome.com](http://www.latimerfuneralhome.com).



**Clyde Keys**

Clyde Keys was born on Dec. 10, 1943, and passed from this life peacefully at his home surrounded by his family on Dec. 14, 2024.

Clyde was born to the late Delton Keys and Zera Mae Kelley Keys.

Clyde was a 1963 gradu-

ate of Murfreesboro where he was known as Cefus. He was also known in school as the friend that if anyone needed anything all they had to do is whistle and he’d come running.

In 1970, he married the love of his life, Diane. The two would have been married 55 years this coming March. Clyde and Diane had a marriage and love for each other like no other. There was never a question of how they felt for each other. Their unwavering love is what got them through it all until the end. Their unconditional love for one another is a true testament.

In 1975, Clyde moved his family to Florida with his job where he spent the next 10 years as an asphalt plant superintendent.

Clyde moved back to Murfreesboro in 1985 to be closer to his mom to help take care of her.

He spent 30 years with the Pike County Road Department before retiring in 2017 where he filled various positions. He took great pride in his job and looked forward in going to work with his work buddies. I’m sure they all were up to all kinds of shenanigans over the years. He worked under many county judges and created life lasting relationships with all he worked with. It’s been said that he was one of the best drivers the county has seen. To know Clyde was to love him.

Clyde’s hobbies included hunting, trot-lining, and (back in the day) loved talking on the CB where he was known as “Pineneedle.” He loved riding around in the hills looking for deer. Clyde enjoyed telling stories about the log woods and the time he spent working there.

Clyde loved any time he got to spend with family. He was such a jokester and loved making people laugh. He loved to dance any opportunity he had and making Tik Toks with the grandkids.

Clyde is preceded in death by his parents, Delton and Zera Keys; his grandparents, Eual and Eula Kelley and John and Ivie Mae Keys; and one grandson from Florida, John Rivers Underwood, and a daughter-in-law, Carprice Keys.

Clyde is survived by his loving wife, Diane of almost 55 years; son Dell Keys of Pike City; daughter, Trish Underwood and husband Kelly of Hernando Beach, Fla.; daughter Detra Westfall and husband Eric of Murfreesboro; son Buck Keys and wife Layla of Murfreesboro; 11 grandchildren, Jordan Westfall and Max, Morgan and Tyler Hanson, Brooke Westfall, Alyssa Keys, Chloe Keys, Peyton Keys and Harley and Ashlyn Keys and Fancy Keys; four great-grandchildren, River and Olive Underwood and Parker and Jenna Hanson.

A memorial service is scheduled for Clyde on Saturday, Dec. 21, 2024, at 10 a.m. at Latimer Funeral Home in Murfreesboro.

You may send an online

sympathy message at [www.latimerfuneralhome.com](http://www.latimerfuneralhome.com).



**George Franklin ‘Frank’ Anderson**

George Franklin “Frank” Anderson, 76, of Richardson, Texas, passed away Dec. 6, 2024, in Dallas, Texas. He is survived by his wife of 33 years, Virginia Power Anderson and their son, Andy. Frank is also survived by his mother-in-law Ouida Power, his sisters-in-law Rita Anderson, Becca Power Blaine, Abby Hardin and Teresa James as well as many nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents Frank and Eleanor Anderson, his brother W.P. “Bill” Anderson, and father-in-law Glen Power, Jr.

Born in Prescott, Ark., Frank graduated from Prescott High in 1966. He studied at Southern State (now SAU) then earned his Bachelor of Science degree in pharmacy from UAMS, College of Pharmacy. There, he later earned his Doctor of Pharmacy degree (Pharm D). After years as both a retail and staff hospital pharmacist and director of hospital pharmacy, Frank moved to his dream job of clinical pharmacist at Baylor Richardson Senior Health Center. Herein lay his pas-

sion for helping seniors both at the clinic and at their homes. His patients dearly loved him, often calling him a blessing. Frank’s reply to them was always that it was he who was the blessed one.

Frank had many interests, especially model railroading. His greatest priority was spending time with Andy from playing with Legos to listening to Andy play musical instruments over the years. Frank’s true joy was found being an attentive listener and spending time with family.

In later years, Frank persevered through difficult health challenges. Despite this, he remained thankful, expressing gratitude for everything. Throughout his life, his faith in Jesus Christ always held a central role. He said that his job was to trust and focus on God, not his circumstances. He believed that God has a plan for each of us and strove each day to follow that plan. Frank found meaning in the simple pleasures of life and the joy of having family and friends who loved him.

Frank was a member of the First Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas where he faithfully watched online each week.

A memorial service will be held Jan. 10, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church Dallas, 1707 San Jacinto, Dallas, Texas, 75201.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to <https://secured.ts.edu/tribute/>, or send check to Dallas Theological Seminary, PO Box 734215, Dallas, TX, 75373, Memo: In memory of Frank Anderson.



**SPEAKER AT ROTARY.** David Williams spoke to the Nashville Rotary Club, last Wednesday, about Cornerstone Counseling and its outpatient and school-based mental health services. He said that Cornerstone had a staff of 85 including 27 licensed mental health counselors. The agency operates in 12 southwest Arkansas school districts.



**CHAMPIONSHIP ROPERS.** Sarah Myers of Nashville and her teammate, Brian Montgomery of Quitman, Texas, won 7th place out of 740 others in the recent Ariat World series of Team Roping Finale in Las Vegas. Their prize was \$107,000. (Photo by permission)

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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



Hometown Diner on South Main in Nashville held a ribbon cutting in December 2005. Front left, Brenda Bassham, Vanessa Wise, Skip Bassham and Bailey Dewalt. Back row from left, James Dewalt, Jamie Dewalt, Melissa Dewalt, Scott Wise, Robert Chism, John Curtis, Ronny Woods, Phil Ramage, Laura Ferguson, Lynn Hendry, Rose Ray, Sheila Kreul and Mayor Mike Reese.

119 years ago: December 1905

Henan Coleman, Jr. was carried before Mayor Skillern Thursday afternoon on a charge of violating a city ordinance for selling meat in the city of Nashville without a license.

The proof shows that the meat was selected by the customers, sold and weighed and the money given to a Negro boy with instructions to accompany Mr. Coleman beyond the city limits and there pay for the meat and return with it. He entered a plea of guilty and was fined \$10.00 and cost.

45 years ago: December 1979

Confirmed rabies cases in Arkansas reached record numbers as of December 10, 1979, with a count of 326. The previous high of 320 was set in 1960.

Any skunk in Arkansas is

a potential source of rabies exposure, regardless of age or geographic location. If you are bitten by or exposed to the saliva of any wild animal, cleanse the wound and report to a physician, destroy the animal keeping the head intact. The head should be submitted to the state Public Health Laboratory, 4815 West Markham, Little Rock.

All pets should be vaccinated every year as required by the Arkansas Rabies Control Act.

70 years ago: December 1954

John Rigsby, owner and operator of the Nashville Dairy, announced the sale of his business to the Borden Company.

Mr. Rigsby said he would assist James Sullivan, Borden representative here, in servicing the route this week. The Borden Company

will also purchase the raw milk production from three dairymen who have been supplying Nashville Dairy, Mr. Rigsby said. The three dairymen are Homer Northum, Ray Goodson and J. M. McCrary.

Mr. Sullivan will operate his business under the name of the Nashville Milk Company.

31 years ago: December 1993

According to Mayor Wilburn Mounts, Dierks received "about eight inches altogether ... six and a half early Friday morning," causing some of the worst flooding in many residents' memories.

Holly Creek, which winds through the city of Dierks, escaped its banks Friday morning and flooded the city park eventually covering the Possum Hollow Road in front of the park.

DHS director summoned to county court

The director of the Arkansas Department of Human Services has been summoned to appear in court in Nashville to address a lingering problem in the court system -- inmates held in jail awaiting transfer to the state mental hospital for evaluation or treatment to find if they are fit to stand trial.

Apparently because of crowded conditions the state hospital has not responded to the court's orders for the evaluation or treatment, and as a result some inmates have been held in jail here for long times because they have not been found fit to proceed with their defense.

Last Wednesday, Dec. 11, Judge Bryan Chesshir ordered the summoning during the regular day for criminal court in Howard County as he set Feb. 5, 2025, for the court appearance of Johnny Potts, 68, white male, Center Point, who is awaiting trial on a class B felony charge of sexual assault in the second degree.

Several cases departed from the usual process of pleas and sentencing.

Andrea Seng, 31, white female, Hope, is charged with an unclassified felony for DWI #4. She is to be evaluated for inpatient services at a rehab agency, pending the outcome of a DWI charge in Sevier County. Her case was continued to March 5 2025.

The court relieved an attorney as counsel, and the public defender was appointed to represent Malik French, 22, black male, Ashdown, who is charged with 1st degree battery, a class B felony.

Three defendants entered true or guilty pleas and heard their sentences.

Andrew Cameron Couch, 30, white male, Nashville, pleaded true to failure to meet the terms of his probation sentence on a 2023 conviction for a class B felony -- unlawful discharge of a firearm from a vehicle. He was sentenced to three years

in the Arkansas Department of Correction (ADC) with a further three years suspended imposition of sentence.

A true plea was also given by April Crocker, 44, white female, Nashville, on probation for a 2020 conviction for delivery of controlled substance enhanced by proximity to a church or school.

She was sentenced to two years in the ADC.

Natori Murry, 29, black male, Nashville pleaded guilty to a class D felony charge of being a felon in possession of a firearm. He was sentenced to a \$1,500 fine and received a six-year suspended imposition of sentence. The firearm, a grandfather's heirloom rifle, may be returned to the family.

A trial date was set for one defendant that pleaded not guilty. Brandon Lindsey, 22, white male, Dierks, is charged with felon in possession of a firearm. Pretrial motions will be heard March 5.

Public Record of Howard County

Items or documents that were filed, issued or recorded at the Howard County, Ark., courthouse during the period Dec. 5-11, 2024, include the following:

**Marriage Licenses**  
(Marriage licenses cost \$60 at the County Clerk's office)  
Dec. 5. Quintin DeShun Stuart, 32, Mineral Springs, and Marquise Sebbie Bryant, 36, Mineral Springs.

Dec. 10. Ricky Paul Pinkerton, 62, Umpire, and Nilda Mariel Suazo Jerrezano, 48, Umpire.

**Civil Court**  
CV24-133, Dec. 5. Capital One N.A. vs. James Lane. Debt.

CV24-134, Dec. 5. Capital One N.A. vs. Joanna Nutt. Debt.

CV24-135, Dec. 5. LVNV Funding, LLC vs. Daniel Organista. Debt.

CV24-136, Dec. 5. Velocity Investment, LLC vs. Ervin Flowers. Debt.

CV24-137, Dec. 5. Arkansas Department of Finance & Administration vs. John G. Miller. Register Arkansas judgment.

CV24-138, Dec. 9. Velocity Investment, LLC vs. Lalie-sha Williams. Debt.

CV24-139, Dec. 10. Credit Acceptance Corp. vs. Chad Fontaine. Contract.

**Domestic Relations Court**  
No new cases filed since DR24-133, Dec. 3.

**Criminal Court**  
(NOTE: POCS = possession of controlled substance; PODP = possession of drug paraphernalia; DOCS = delivery of controlled substance)

CR24-107, Dec. 6. State of Arkansas vs. Brandon Hunter Lindsey, 23, white male, 206 Arkansas Ave., Dierks; felon in possession of firearm, class D felony.

CR24-108, Dec. 6. State of Arkansas vs. Natori Murry, 29, black male, 1305 N. Main, Nashville; felon in possession of firearm, class D.

CR24-109, Dec. 11. State of Arkansas vs. Jarvis Juniell, 41, black male, 419 Pine,

Mineral Springs; delivery of controlled substance, class C.

**Land/Property Transactions**

**Quitclaim Deed**  
Dec. 5. Donald Shane Carter and wife, Ianie P. Carter; to Donald Shane Carter and wife, Ianie P. Carter; 0.88 ac. in S30 T7S R28W.

**Beneficiary's Deed**  
Dec. 11. Linda Ann Bell, surviving spouse of Wayne Bell, deceased; to Holly Leigh O'Donnell; aggregate 2.04 ac. in S29 T9S R27W.

**Fiduciary's Deed**  
Dec. 6. Penny Denise Lillard, representative of the estate of Nina Floyd, deceased; to Karter Castleberry; 2 ac. in S27 T8S R27W. \$140,000.

**Executrix's Deed**  
Dec. 10. Marilyn L. Lef-fall, Executrix of the Estate of Bobbie Dixon Heard, deceased; to Marilyn Louise Leffall; 0.35 ac, part of Block 28, Town of Mineral Springs.

**Commissioner's Deed in Forfeiture**

Dec. 6. Nancy Gardner and Rodney Gardner; to U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development; property in S32 T8S R27W, aka 502 Harding Road, Nashville.

**Warranty Deeds**

Dec. 5. Allen Smith, LLC, by Managing Member Randy Lynn Allen; to Aaron Stokes; property in S35 T7S R29W. \$365,000.

Dec. 5. Karen A. Billings, survivor of an Estate by the Entirety with Bobby G. Billings, Jr., deceased,

and her husband, Charles Edmond Sneed; to Aaron Timothy Stokes; 80 ac. in S30 T7S R27W with exceptions. \$395,000.

Dec. 5. (Trustee's) Karon Dale Baxley and Sherry Jean Baxley, Trustees of the Baxley Living Trust; to Johnny K. Johnson and wife, Kimberly J. Johnson; aggregate 35.7 ac. in S15 T9S R27W with exception. \$167,825.

Dec. 5. Neil Hill and wife, Amanda Hill; to Jeremy Brent Green and wife, Cheryl Diane Green; 2.01 ac. in S1 T9S R28W.

Dec. 5. Neil Hill and wife, Amanda Hill; to Jeremy Brent Green and wife, Cheryl Diane Green; 38.59 ac. in S1 T9S R28W. 2,300,000.

Dec. 6. Penny Denise Lillard and husband James Dean Lillard; to Karter Castleberry; property in S27 T8S R27W with exception. \$165,000.

Dec. 9. Betty Tollett; to Danielle M. Terwilliger and Adam Michael Greenfield, Joint Tenants; Lots 5-6-7, Block 81, Town of Nashville, with exception. \$203,500.

Dec. 9. Lucas Watts and wife, Jane Watts; to Terry Fatherree and wife, Amanda Fatherree; 16.21 ac. in S11 T10S R27W. \$40,000.

Dec. 9. Jeffery Lewis Williams; to Lindsey Nicole O'Donnell; 1.694 ac. in S15 T10S R27W. \$210,200.

Dec. 11. (Special) Federal National Mortgage Association; to Delanior Davis; Lots 4-5, Block 2, Spencer's Addition, Town of Nashville. \$10.

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Merry Christmas from the Nashville News-Leader

Latimer Funeral Home in Nashville

is offering personalized ornaments to families who have lost loved ones during this past year.

Stop by this Christmas season, and take an ornament from our Remembrance Tree, which is located in our foyer.

Each ornament was hand made by our staff and has been personalized with your loved one's name, date of birth and date of death.

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the Miracle of Christmas

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Merry Christmas to our Neighbors, Friends, Team Members and Families.

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# Point of view

## Christmas tales

### When you are my age you’ve seen lotsa Yules

YES, I AM STILL HERE peeking out my window on Main Street, and I am going to share with both of my regular readers some of my favorite Christmas stories.

● ---- ● --- ●

My father was a college student in Austin, Texas, during the Great Depression. Travel wasn’t so easy, then, and he had planned to stay on campus during the Christmas holiday.

He got a package from home in the mail. It made him so homesick that he decided to hitchhike home and surprise his family for Christmas.

It’s still a long way from Austin to Texarkana, his hometown, but it was REALLY a long trip those days.

He decided not to open his package, but would wait until he got home.

He walked out to the highway and stuck out his thumb. Hitchhiking was safer in those times.

It took a couple of days to get to Texarkana. He didn’t have any money, but he did have an apple and a candy bar. They sustained him on the trek. I remember hearing him tell how cold and hungry he got.

None of the truck drivers who gave him rides were in any position to feed college boys, so the apple and candy bar (I believe he said it was a Hershey bar) had to last.

He finally arrived home, and on Christmas morning opened his package.

Inside was some money. He could have eaten and bought a bus ticket.

ANOTHER CHRISTMAS story. My family spent one Christmas in California after Dad’s Marine Corps Reserve unit was called up during the Korean War.

This is one of the few childhood Christmas trees I actually remember. The tree was decorated with candy canes, bubblegum and strings of popcorn.

My mother remembered that there was nothing on the tree that was breakable. That was because one of my younger brothers -- who was a toddler -- kept pushing the tree over.

ANOTHER CHRISTMAS story. One year the tree had only new ornaments. That was because before Christmas, the devil got into a couple of my brothers and a neighborhood buddy, and they went into the basement where Christmas ornaments were stored. They took turns stomping on the ornaments until only crunchy glass shards remained.

My mother remembers that the ornaments were expensive and were from Germany. The boys’ backsides may have been addressed.

ANOTHER CHRISTMAS story. One Christmas legend is that Santa brings switches for the stockings of little boys and girls who have been bad. (But everyone knows that little girls are NEVER bad, right?)

The two oldest brothers crept down the stairs before anyone else was up. They emptied the stocking of one brother and substituted some switches from bushes in the yard.

My parents caught on to what was happening, and told the older brothers that the switches would be used enthusiastically on the pranksters if the stocking items weren’t found and replaced immediately.

● ---- ● --- ●

CONGRATS TO our town’s Sarah Myers -- my fellow Rotarian -- who with her team roping partner won 7th place out of 740 other teams in a bigtime roping competition in Las Vegas. They won a prize of more than \$100,000.

● ---- ● --- ●

MY FASHION ADVICE to tv and movie celebrities. And there is no charge for this.

Ladies: Please don’t get medical treatment to your face in an effort to look younger.

People can always tell if you’ve had this done.

Gentlemen: Please don’t dye your hair in an effort to look younger. It is so obvious and you’re not fooling anyone.

Embrace your years.

● ---- ● --- ●

THINGS I LEARNED from opening (and believing) email: "It’s impossible to sneeze with your eyes open."

● ---- ● --- ●

WORD GAMES. Another set of twins: Rise and Shine. Military recruits memorize this on the first glorious day of boot camp.

● ---- ● --- ●

HE SAID: “I think the 24-hour news cycle has helped exaggerate the differences between the parties. You can always find someone on TV somewhere carping about something. That didn't happen 20 years ago.” George H.W. Bush, 41st President of the United States. God bless.

● ---- ● --- ●

SHE SAID: “Never lose sight of the fact that the most important yardstick of your success will be how you treat other people - your family, friends, and coworkers, and even strangers you meet along the way.” Barbara Bush, First Lady. God bless her memory.

● ---- ● --- ●

SWEET DREAMS, Baby

Mine Creek  
Revelations



By  
Louie Graves

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Presented in the public interest by the Nashville News-Leader

## Supreme Court rules in favor of Arkansas’s drug access law

**By State Sen. Jimmy Hickey Jr.**  
Arkansas won a long and hard-fought legal battle against large pharmaceutical manufacturers when the United States Supreme Court let stand a lower court ruling in the state’s favor.

The decision means that Act 1103 of 2021 is constitutional and remains in effect. “This is a big win for Arkansas’s drug access law,” the state Attorney General said in a statement after the Supreme Court ruling.

In essence, the Supreme Court upheld Arkansas law that allows hospitals to use contract pharmacies without financial penalty, under a federal drug pricing law commonly known as the 340B program.

It requires pharmaceutical companies to offer discounts to eligible hospitals in order for their drugs to be on the approved list of drugs paid for by Medicaid and Medicare.

Some hospitals pass along the savings to patients, while others use the savings to pay physicians and nurses, or to expand services. The Supreme Court has noted that “340B hospitals perform valuable

services for low-income and rural communities...”

A few years ago pharmaceutical companies began refusing to offer the discount to drug stores under contract with hospitals.

The manufacturers would only offer the discounts to in-house pharmacies located within hospitals, a development that had a significant financial impact on many hospitals.

Only four percent of hospitals use their own in-house pharmacies, according to evidence entered in the case. More often, hospitals contract with pharmacies all around the state, which means that patients who have been treated in a Little Rock hospital don’t have to return to Little Rock to get their prescriptions filled. They can get their prescriptions at a contract pharmacy closer to their hometown.

Act 1103 of 2021 was a bipartisan bill, with sponsors from both political parties. It passed the Senate by a vote of 35-to-0.

Pharmaceutical manufactures quickly sued the state Insurance Department, alleging the Act 1103 was unconstitutional and that

it was an attempt by the state to pre-empt federal regulations and that it violated federal patent law. A federal judge in Little Rock ruled in favor of the state and his ruling was upheld by the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals in St. Louis.

Also, some pharmaceutical companies argued that some hospitals used the discounts to boost profits, rather than to add services or lower prices for patients.

By refusing to hear any further appeals, the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed the lower court rulings and essentially declared Act 1103 to be constitutional.

The Insurance Department said earlier this year that 23 of 32 listed pharmaceutical manufacturers are now in compliance with Act 1103.

The original legal challenge was filed by a trade group, the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, also referred to as PhRMA.

Arkansas was the first state to enact a law requiring pharmaceutical manufacturers to offer equal discounts to contract pharmacies. Louisiana followed suit in 2023 and in 2024 six other states have enacted similar laws.

## ‘Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus’

*Eight-year-old Virginia O’Hanlon wrote a letter to the editor of New York’s Sun, and the quick response was printed as an unsigned editorial Sept. 21, 1897. The work of veteran newsman Francis Pharcellus Church has since become history’s most reprinted newspaper editorial, appearing in part or whole in dozens of languages in books, movies, and other editorials, and on posters and stamps.*

DEAR EDITOR: I am 8 years old.

Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus.

Papa says, ‘If you see it in THE SUN it’s so.’

Please tell me the truth; is there a Santa Claus?

VIRGINIA O’HANLON.  
115 WEST NINETY-FIFTH STREET.

VIRGINIA, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men’s or children’s, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.



Virginia O’Hanlon

Yes, VIRGINIA, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no VIRGINIAS. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies!

You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that’s no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You may tear apart the baby’s rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart.

Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, VIRGINIA, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

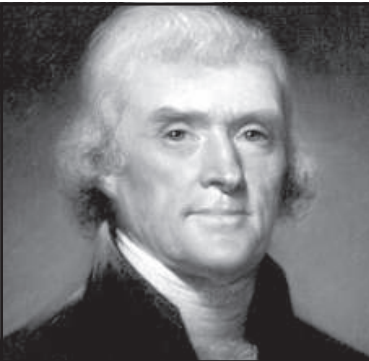
No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

## Nashville News-Leader

◆  
Louie Graves and Jane Graves (2007), co-publishers  
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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.

E-mail: [jrs@nashvilleleader.com](mailto:jrs@nashvilleleader.com)

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.





News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

**MUSIC DIRECTOR.** Jaree Hall, director of music at First United Methodist Church of Nashville, accompanied the chancel choir Sunday afternoon, Dec. 15, in the Christmas cantata “O Little Town of Bethlehem.”

## Choir

Continued from page 1A

vited by her “sister from a different mister,” Telia Dunn. “I really feel at home here. I’ve grown to love the Methodist church.”

Kristin Stavely, a Baptist and another one of The Sisters, also sang as a result of Telia’s invitation. “I really enjoy it.”

Gail Milum joined FUMC Nashville in 1966.

Most of that time, she’s been in the choir, and she says this choir is one of the best ever.

“I love it,” she relates. “I think this program is one of the best gifts we can give to our community.”

Billy Hockaday is 59 years old and has attended FUMC since he was a newborn. Retired for three years from the Arkansas Department of Transportation where

he was a resident engineer, Billy has been in the choir for 18 years.

“I love the choir,” Billy states. “It’s fun, and I’ve learned a lot in the last year.”

Don Sitzes, a dentist in Nashville, is a member of the choir at FUMC. “I like the fellowship, and the talent of the people at the piano and in the choir loft. I enjoy listening to the music here,” says Dr. Don. “I was invited to join the choir, and it sounded like a good deal.” Like so many other church music ministries, the choir where Don had been for years changed after Covid.

“I feel like something has been replaced in my life that I had lost,” he adds.

Jaree Hall is the music director, pianist and organist at First United Methodist Church.

A retired public school music teacher, she’s directed numerous musicals over her 26 years as a teacher. She’s

also been the accompanist for more than 30 years of church music programs here in Nashville.

This was her first time to combine the two, directing the choir from the piano. “Leading and playing at the same time is like having my mind divided in half,” she laughs.

“The choir worked really hard and did a great job,” she shares with pride. “It’s a privilege to work with these people. They become a part of your family. There’s something special about creating music together that is very satisfying. It’s not like anything else. I look forward to many more programs of music with this choir in the future.”

From your mouth to God’s ears, Jaree. This world needs more—not fewer—traditional choirs to keep SATB part singing alive, and to sing about the birth of the Savior. God bless us all in this Christmas season!

## Council

Continued from page 1A

a virtual reality training system sometime in 2025.

Mayor Dunaway, in his capacity as public works director, updated the council on projects at the water treatment plant, water stor-

age tank and South Main sidewalks.

The council also voted to purchase a large used truck from the regional solid waste agency for \$33,000.

swarkansasnews.com

## School

Continued from page 1A

29, 2026, the calendar says.

Days missed because of snow will come off winter break first, Graham said.

Reaction to the current school calendar has been largely positive, according to Graham and Personnel Policy Committee members who discussed the calendar at the November board meeting.

“I’ve had parents say that if they just have June and July off, the calendar will be a home run,” Graham said.

Highlights of the 2025-26 calendar include the following:

Aug. 4 - School starts  
Sept. 1-5 - Labor Day break  
Oct. 13-15 - Fall break

Nov. 10 - Veterans Day  
Nov. 24-28 Thanksgiving break  
Dec. 22-Jan. 5 - Christmas break  
Jan. 6 - Classes resume  
Feb. 13, 16 and 17 - Winter break  
March 23-27 - Spring break  
April 17 and 20 - No school  
May 22 - Graduation  
May 25 - Memorial Day  
May 29 - Last day of school  
Parent-teacher conference days will be Sept. 16, 2025, and Feb. 12, 2026.  
Board members approved the calendar changes 5-0.  
In other business, the board approved the purchase of a 2015 Blue Bird school bus with 86,000 miles from the Cossatot River School District at a cost of \$25,000.

The vehicle has been inspected by Nashville bus mechanic Kelsey Willard and is in good condition, according to Graham.  
Cossatot River recently bought several new buses and put some of its used models up for sale.  
The bus is a diesel and is air conditioned.  
The board voted to employ the following:  
Brittany Moore, primary school  
Todd Ledford, coach and teacher  
Phylcia Chesshir, teacher  
For the board’s December Scrapper Moment, primary school students directed by Stacia Petty presented a program of Christmas music. Petty said the presentation marked 19 years of Christmas programs for her.  
The board’s next meeting will be Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2025.

## Coach

Continued from page 1A

the kids on the team on a personal level. We’ll be connecting with boosters, sponsors, alumni. I want them to come back. My office door is always open to them. I want them to feel involved,” Chesshir said.

Chesshir said some of the players “know of me, but they were in primary school when I was here. Some won’t know me. They still have questions. I want to build relationships with them and gain their trust and respect. I felt a level of excitement in that locker room” when he held his first meeting Dec. 10. “It was a special moment.”

During off-season, Chesshir said the team will “spend a lot of time in the weight room. That’s the key to being successful next season. We want to be the strongest in the state mentally and physically. The weight room is where you build your team.”

Chesshir said his wife Phylcia and kids Paisley, Bailey and Parker are excited about returning to his hometown.  
“The kids will get to wear the same colors I did growing up. I hope my boy gets to wear #54 orange and black,” the number Chesshir wore in his Scrapper days. “We’re all excited to be back in the community and see where we can take this thing.”

For the Scrapper seniors, Chesshir is their third head

coach in three years following Mike Volarvich and Shawn Jackson. “I’ll do everything I can to make sure their senior year is special and something they’ll remember for life. These seniors deserve that.”

Chesshir had a similar experience as a Scrapper. Laird was the head coach when Chesshir moved up to high school ball as a ninth grader. Chris Wood was the coach the next year, followed by Dawson during Chesshir’s junior and senior years.

“It’s tough when a coach leaves. There’s always a different scheme, different culture,” he said.

When he’s not at the field house and stadium, Chesshir said he loves to fish. “That’s my getaway. I love to get out. I talk to the good Lord. I relax.”

He spends lots of time with his family. “Three little ones keep me busy.”



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

**PRIMARY CARE.** Coach Brad Chesshir colors with Nashville Primary School kids during Primary Care last week at Nashville High School.

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- A power line need not be sparking or arcing to be energized. Equipment near power lines can also be energized or dangerous.
- Lines that appear to be “dead” can become energized as crews work to restore power or sometimes from improper use of emergency generators. Assume all low and downed lines are energized and dangerous. If you see a downed or sagging line, contact your utility.
- If you are in an auto accident involving a downed power line, your vehicle is usually the safest place to be (unless it is on fire.) If it is safe to do so, stay in your car, call 9-1-1, and wait for electric utility personnel to arrive to deenergize the power. If you step out of the car and the ground is energized, you could become the electrical current’s path to ground and you could be electrocuted. If your car is on fire or you see smoke, make a solid, clean jump from your vehicle and hop away with your feet together as far away as you can. If you run or walk away, you could get electrocuted.
- Motorists should never drive over a downed line, as snagging a line could pull down a pole or other equipment and cause other hazards.

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# Howard County District Court

**Dec. 12, 2024**  
*BF=Bond Forfeited*  
**Howard County**  
Arnold, Chloe Green, 24, Mount Ida, \$345 BF, no proof of liability insurance; \$245 BF, failure to appear  
Banda, Felix, 57, Nashville, \$195 BF, no driver's license/expired license  
Brown, Zebedee III, 55, Mineral Springs, guilty of failure to pay registration, fined \$75 cost only  
Cebrian Monsivais, Uriel, 38, Glenwood, \$195 BF, no driver's license/expired license; \$230 BF, speeding; \$245 BF, failure to appear  
Crawley, Nicholas T., 27, Valliant, Okla., guilty of overload, fined \$462  
Crow, Wallace D., 41, Texarkana, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445  
Hernandez-Ramos, Guillermo, 38, Mineral Springs, \$445 BF, driving on suspended or revoked license  
Hopkins, Monique, 42, Nashville, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445  
Parker, David A., 46, Dierks, guilty of public intoxication, fined \$220; guilty of public intoxication, fined \$220  
Perkins, Kaivonna Latae, 20, Nashville, \$50 BF, failure to present insurance  
Rowe, Norman M., 77, Mineral Springs, guilty of no seat belt, fined \$70  
Smith, Christian 20, Mineral Springs, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$1,395 owed, sentenced to jail-suspended conditions  
Witherspoon, Roger L., 38, Nashville, \$250 BF, speeding  
**City of Nashville**  
Arnold, Maddox L., 19, Mineral Springs, \$195 BF, running stop sign or light  
Chennault, Bayden, 18, Dierks, guilty of failure to yield, fined \$195; guilty of no child restraint, fined \$195  
Crawley, Nicholas T., 27, Valliant, Okla., guilty of speeding, fined \$240  
Flowers, Keanay S., 21, Nashville, guilty of failure to yield, fined \$195  
Hale, Blakely R., 43, North Little Rock, \$45 BF, no seat belt  
Pugh, Jermaine, 35, Nashville, guilty of disorderly conduct, fined \$270  
Robinson, Freddie L., 34, Murfreesboro, guilty of refusing chemical test, fined \$260  
Rogers, Alex C., 56, Nashville, guilty of tinted windows, fined \$195  
Ross, Kelton, 16, Glenwood, \$195 BF, no driver's license/expired license  
Scoggins, Christopher, 25, Wilton, \$405 BF, speeding  
Scoggins, Gremyko M. Jr., 34, Nashville, guilty of possession of marijuana, fined \$1,075 and license suspended for six months; guilty of second-degree terroristic threatening, fined \$510; guilty of second-degree criminal mischief, fined \$410; guilty of possession of marijuana, fined \$1,075 and license suspended for six months  
Sigman, James L., 49, Murfreesboro, \$45 BF, no seat belt  
Smith, Samuel, 33, Mineral Springs, \$45 BF, no seat belt; \$245 BF, failure to appear  
Stewart, Skyhya R., 20, Nashville, guilty of no driver's license/expired license, fined \$195; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$345  
Wilkerson, Crystal Denise, 49, Dierks, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$305 owed  
Woodberry, Lakendra A., 36, Prescott, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$75  
**City of Dierks**  
Bruce, Brandy N., 43, Langley, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445  
David, Jerry, 21, Dierks, \$195 BF, no driver's license/expired license; guilty of no driver's license/expired

license, fined \$195  
Keaton, Derek T., 30, Fort Worth, Texas, guilty of speeding, fined \$260  
Smithwock, Harry, 56, Arkadelphia, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$345  
Ward, Adam L., 52, Clinton, guilty of no driver's license/expired license, fined \$195  
**City of Mineral Springs**  
Crow, Wallace D., 41, Texarkana, guilty of running stop sign or light; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245  
Smith, Samuel, 33, Mineral Springs, \$345 BF, no proof of liability insurance; \$245 BF, failure to appear  
**City of Tollette**  
Prim, Kortney Deshae, 33, Texarkana, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$345; guilty of DWI#2, fined \$1,660, sentenced to seven days in jail, license suspended and must complete DWI educational course  
**Arkansas Game & Fish Commission**  
Diaz, Romeo, 39, no address provided, \$220 BF, artificial lights from road; \$370 BF, non-resident hunting without license; \$870 BF, night hunting  
Nava, Ernesto, 36, Nashville, \$195 BF, no driver's license/expired license; \$870 BF, aiding or abetting a violation; \$220 BF, illegal spot-lighting; \$295 BF, requirements to possess another's wildlife  
Shores, Jeffrey A., 36, Oden, road-hunting, under advisement for one year to dismiss, fined \$620  
**Bench Trials**  
**Howard County**  
Marks, Tonya L., 52, Ash-down, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$885 owed; no driver's license/expired license, under advisement for 90 days to dismiss; guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445  
**City of Nashville**  
Maria, Tonya L., 52, Ash-down, guilty of no seat belt, fined \$70; guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445  
Weaver, Ivy, 39, Nashville, guilty of failure to present insurance, fined \$50; guilty of expired vehicle tags/no vehicle tags



**DIAMOND BANK CHRISTMAS.** Some of the officers and employees of Diamond Bank welcomed visitors to the annual Christmas community coffee hosted by the bank, last Tuesday. Those in attendance included (from left) Kim Smith, Jhonny Gibbs, Rusty Burk, Judi Chambers, Tim Bainum, Heath Wallis and David Burton.

## Nashville City Council adopts budget, says goodbye to veteran member

Nashville City Council members adopted a budget for 2025 and bade farewell to a veteran alderman, Monday, in the council's regular meeting for December.

Alderman Nick Davis was presented a 20-year appreciation plaque by Mayor Larry Dunaway.

During the meeting, council members adopted the city's budget for the coming year.

Anticipated revenues are \$21,727,746 and anticipated expenditures are \$21,072,306.

Police Chief Amy Marion reported on a "successful" Shop with a Cop program in which State Police, County Sheriff, Nashville firemen joined with city police officers to Christmas shop with schoolkids.

She also said that via grant the department expected to get a virtual reality training system sometime in 2025.

Mayor Dunaway, in his capacity as public works director, updated the council on projects at the water treatment plant, water storage tank and South Main sidewalks.

The council also voted to purchase a large used truck from the regional solid waste agency for \$33,000.

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# Rattler senior signs up to play baseball with Rich Mountain Bucks

Following his senior season and graduation in 2025, Murfreesboro High School Rattler Brody Maroon will be taking his talents to Mena where he will next play baseball for the U-A Rich Mountain Bucks.

Maroon signed his national letter of intent to play for scholarship at the Murfreesboro High School activity room on Wednesday, Dec. 11.

“It just seemed like a good fit for me at the time,” said Maroon of UA-RM. “I went there and thought the staff was great, I had a really good visit. It just fit me better than any other offers I had.”

Maroon agreed that the moment was meaningful to him as he had worked toward this moment since he was able to envision such.

“I’ve worked my whole life to be able to play college baseball. I’ve played the game since I was four years old and this is what I’ve worked for since the very beginning.”

He didn’t know if his baseball career would extend past Rich Mountain, and that he was simply going to do his best and see what happened.

“I don’t know [if there is baseball after that] ... we’re just going to Rich Mountain for two years and see how we develop. We’re just going to take it one day at a time.”

Maroon credited many along the way in helping with his success.

“All glory to God – friends, family and any coach that has coached me along the way from the time I started playing ... they

have helped me be the best I can be.”

To conclude his statement, Maroon was simple. “Go Bucks.”

Murfreesboro Rattlers head baseball coach Marc McRae said he had enjoyed coaching Maroon and was exited about his future prospects.

“It’s been a very fun three years getting to coach him – he is a fantastic person -- and it will be a fun senior season, especially now that we have this as a finality ... now he gets to go have fun his senior season.”

McRae said that Maroon possessed a gift that allowed him to reach this point – the ability to see an outcome and work toward it.

“The thing we’ve known about Brody for a long time is that he’s had a plan to arrive here – and that’s half of it. Having the intention to go an seek this, because it takes so much work because you have to devote yourself to this a long time before today [signing day]. That’s the thing about it – he’s been putting in that work, going to all the different camps and summer ball, he’s been doing all the things it takes to give him the opportunity to arrive where he is right now.”

Also, what makes Maroon successful, is his mental toughness in combination with his physical capability.

“You knew early on that he had the physical ability – but there is a lot of people that have the physical ability to move on. It take more than just the physical ability, so when you see a kid that

takes what physical talents he has and is able to then take that to the level he has, it’s a good thing. He had just set his mind – this is the goal – but how do we go achieve that goal? He has had a transformation of himself over the years from a guy who was really just relying on that physical ability to propel him into someone who can enhance himself and be better by getting his mind and his body in the right shape. He has been putting a lot of effort into that, and that’s something that you don’t talk about with kids. Brody has a transformation from ninth grade Brody to senior Brody – physically, mentally, emotionally – and all of that has been toward the light of this. It’s exciting to see him meet that goal.”

McRae also looks forward to both the near and more extended future.

“I’m excited for his senior season – because it will be an incredible season for him – and for us as a team because of that – and then to see that as he continues on to Rich Mountain and the where he goes from there.”

While Maroon didn’t wish to make predictions on his future, McRae thinks it’s quite possible that Maroon finds a way to continue playing baseball after UA-RM.

“I think he can, I definitely do – he has the ability to. Getting him to Rich Moun-



THE MAROON FAMILY. Scott, Brody, Carie and Abby at last week’s signing event.

tain is a great, great place for him to develop at the college level. It’s what you are going to see nowadays, when you see kids entering college, especially at the baseball level, you’re going to need to have that building stage, that growing stage, and really just putting all your time and effort into baseball, as opposed to baseball just being something you are doing along with A, B, C, D, E, F, G. It’s then ‘this is what we do’ – we go to class, we get better at baseball, and that’s what’s going to benefit him the most.

“He’s going to get there and really devote some time and energy to it, and with that I full believe he’s going to be able to move on who whichever the next guy that is lucky to get him is. I’m just super proud for him and excited to see what happens in his future,” McRae concluded.



*Faith makes all things possible,  
Hope makes all things work,  
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Kids: color stuff in!

### The Night Before Christmas!

The night before Christmas is an evening filled with wonder and surprises. Each family has its own way of celebrating as they wait for Christmas morning to arrive: trimming a tree, joining in Christmas caroling or sharing hot chocolate and Christmas cookies. A fun custom is the hanging of stockings by the fireplace in hopes of finding small candies and treasures in them on Christmas morning!

What might Santa tuck into a stocking to be found on Christmas morning? **Can you find and circle the surprises listed in the stocking?**

**Merry Christmas to you and your family!**

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nuts

1. one family is putting up its Christmas \_\_\_\_\_ and decorating it.  
2. when Mary and Joseph could not find a room in Bethlehem, an innkeeper offered his \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. lighted \_\_\_\_\_ are in our windows.  
4. children hang their \_\_\_\_\_.  
5. families attend church \_\_\_\_\_.  
6. kids remember to leave cookies and milk for Santa Claus and \_\_\_\_\_ for his reindeer.  
7. a family's favorite Christmas \_\_\_\_\_ is being read aloud.  
8. in one story, animals can talk at midnight; they are given the gift of \_\_\_\_\_ for one special night.  
9. friends and families join together to stroll the block and sing Christmas \_\_\_\_\_.  
10. Santa Claus is busy delivering \_\_\_\_\_!

1. carols  
2. sugar  
3. services  
4. manger  
5. stockings  
6. gifts  
7. candles  
8. story  
9. tree  
10. speech

### Treats for the Reindeer Pulling the Sleigh!

Gosh! We do all the work pulling the sleigh on Christmas Eve and Santa gets the cookies and milk left out by children everywhere. Maybe some thoughtful children would leave us a little bit of sugar as a treat! Oh, we like these too:

Find and circle at least 25 nouns that are plurals – meaning “more than one.” (Hint: they end with the letter ‘s’.)

To see what treats the reindeer want, color in the puzzle using the color key below:

R = Red  
O = Orange  
G = Green

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Junior Outlaw Maclane Smith #3 vs. Caddo Hills



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Junior Outlaw Jacoby Faulkner #5 vs. Caddo Hills



Senior Lady Outlaw Gracie Thigpen vs. Caddo Hills



Junior Lady Outlaw Lilly Hogg vs. Caddo Hills



Junior Outlaw Braydon Palmer #15 vs. Caddo Hills

## Dierks basketball road report from Caddo Hills, Cutter-Morning Star

The Dierks junior Outlaws and the senior Lady Outlaws picked up win on Dec. 10 on the road against Caddo Hills while the senior boys lost their game.

The Junior Outlaws won their game 36-24 and the senior girls rolled up a 67-21 win.

The Lady Outlaws had four shooters hit in double-figures - Addison Hill 18, Milee Harrison 15, and Gracie Thigpen and Aspen Pugh with 12 each.

Wrapping up the Dierks scoring were Ryleigh Simmons with five, Hannah Kirby with three and two points from Raylie Walston.

In the senior Outlaw 50-40 loss, Landen Young led the scoring with 17 points followed by nine from Kolton Gadbury. Peyton Boeckman hit seven points and Dylan Moore added six points.

On Dec. 113, the Dierks junior girls and

both senior high teams traveled to Cutter-Morning Star where both girl teams won and the senior boys were dropped by a 61-48 score.

The junior Lady Outlaws continued their winning ways with a 44-28 win and the senior girls edged out their opponent 65-63.

The senior Lady Outlaws had three shooters hit in double-figures against CMS - Harrison 17, Hill 16 and Simmons 15.

Also hitting buckets for Dierks were Pugh with seven, Walston with five and Thigpen with three.

Senior Outlaw Young again led the Dierks scoring against Cutter-Morning Star with 17 points. Adding to the point total for Dierks were Moore with nine, Cadbury and Ben Ernest with seven point each and Boeckman and Jordan Hill with four points each.

All Photos By Nikki Fields Images & Designs



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# Nashville hosts Bankers' Classic

News-Leader photos/JOHN R. SCHIRMER



Sofia McCauley (left) maneuvers around the Cossatot River defender in Nashville's 75-24 win Dec. 11 in the Bankers' Classic at Scrapper Arena.



Scrapper cheerleaders encourage their team in the Nashville Bankers' Classic last week at Scrapper Arena. The Scrapperettes went 2-0 with wins over Cossatot River and Acorn. The Scrappers were 2-1. They defeated Acorn and El Dorado but lost to Bradley.



Channing Scott (20) pursues the Nevada ball carrier Dec. 11 in the Scrappers' 60-59 loss.



Karstyn Scrivner (24) scores two of her 16 points in the Scrapperettes' 75-24 win over Cossatot River Dec. 11.



Demetrus Shelley (2) keeps the ball away from the Nevada defender.



Johnte Taylor (4) puts up a shot against El Dorado in the Scrappers' 78-59 win over the Wildcats Dec. 14.



Mercy Hagler (25) goes after the ball as Ava Basiliere (44) moves in to help in the Scrapperettes' win over Acorn Dec. 14 in the Bankers' Classic.



Coach Aaron Worthen watches the Scrappers.



Austin Finley tries for a score in the win over El Dorado.



Ava Basiliere (44) controls the ball against Cossatot River Dec. 11 at Scrapper Arena.



Scrapper defenders force a turnover against El Dorado Dec. 14.



Mercy Hagler (25) keeps the ball away from the Cossatot River defenders.



Angel Watson shoots a 3-pointer.



### The Choice To Tear Down or Build Up

I watched some men tearing a building down,  
A group of men in my home town.

With a heave and a ho and a mighty yell  
They swung the ball and a side wall fell.  
And I said to the foreman  
Are these men skilled, the type you'd hire if you want  
to build?

And he smiled, then laughed and said no indeed,  
Common laborer is all I need.  
For we can tear down in a day or two  
What it took a builder years to do.

As I turned, I shook my head.  
I knew there was truth in what he said.  
And I thought to myself as I walked away,  
Which of these roles am I going to play?

Am I a builder as I work with care?  
Measuring life by the ruler and the square.  
Am I shaping my deeds to a well-laid plan?  
Carefully doing the best I can.

Or am I a wrecker as I walk the town,  
Content with the labor of tearing down?

*Note: This poem was introduced to Nashville by former Coach Billy Dawson, who recited it in 2004 at his first meeting with the Scrappers. Coach Brad Chesshir, who played on two of Dawson's state championship teams, referred to the poem at his first team meeting Dec. 10. Dawson heard the poem from Coach Lou Holtz.*



**‘GET YOUR MIND RIGHT.’** New Scrapper Coach Brad Chesshir tells fans to get their minds right following his introduction between games at the Nashville Bankers’ Classic Saturday night, Dec. 14. Chesshir’s wife Phylicia, son Parker and daughters Bailey and Paisley were on the court, along with a group of Scrapper football players.



**INTRODUCTION.** Superintendent Doug Graham (left, holding microphone) introduces new football Coach Brad Chesshir and his family between basketball games Dec. 14 at Scrapper Arena. The Chesshir family includes daughter Paisley, son Parker, wife Phylicia, Coach Brad Chesshir and daughter Bailey. During the introduction, fans watched a video of Chesshir when he played for the Scrappers and heard comments from former teammates and coaches.



**WELCOME HOME.** Scrapper cheerleaders presented gift baskets to the Chesshir family Saturday night.



**FIRST MEETING.** Coach Brad Chesshir holds his first team meeting with the Scrappers Tuesday, Dec. 10, in the fieldhouse. Chesshir was hired as the head coach in a special school board meeting Dec. 9. He played high school football at Nashville, where he was a member of two state championship teams coached by Billy Dawson. He returned to Nashville in 2014 and was defensive coordinator when the Scrappers won the 2015 state title under Coach Mike Volarich.

**254 days** remaining  
in the Countdown  
to Coach Brad  
Chesshir’s first game  
at Magnolia

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## SPORTS LEADERS

Players of the Week as selected by  
The Leader sports department

Karstyn Scrivner, Nashville

**Karstyn, a Scrapperette junior,** scored the 1,000th point of her career Dec. 11 in Nashville’s 76-24 victory over Cossatot River in the Nashville Bankers’ Classic. Her first points came Nov. 10, 2022, when she scored 8 against Cutter as a Jessieville Lady Lion.

This weekly feature sponsored by  
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## Diamond Insurance

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Diamond Insurance’s Jon Wesche, Eva Linville, Autumn Sullivan, Phillip Turner, Micah Martin, PJ Cox and Christy Flaherty would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

We will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 24 and Wednesday, Dec. 25 for Christmas and will close at Noon Tuesday, Dec. 31 and be closed Wed., Jan. 1 for New Years so our employees can enjoy time with their families.

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HOLIDAY BONUS CASH	-\$1,500
	\$45,020
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# MCC Diamond Jingle 5K raises over \$4,000 for Angel Tree

The Murfreesboro Chamber of Commerce 5K Team sponsored their third annual Diamond Jingle 5K on Saturday, Dec. 7.

The 5K was Powered by Husqvarna and all proceeds from the event will go the Angel Tree program to help sponsor gifts in the Murfreesboro and Delight areas.

The Diamond Jingle 5K annual event was created to help support The Angel Tree program.

This program is a non-profit that collects monetary or physical gifts purchased by individuals who have adopted an angel from the tree. The gifts are then given to needy children in the area who may not otherwise have gifts at Christmas.

Gifts the children request are often items that most of us take for granted, such as socks, pajamas, shoes, and jackets, in addition to toys.

This year the 5K was able to raise over \$4,000 to help support their fundraising efforts. It is with much gratitude that they would like to thank their very generous sponsors:

DIAMOND JINGLE SPONSOR – Husqvarna

DIAMOND SPONSORS – First State Bank of Murfreesboro, Jackson Title, and Dr. Abigail Wilhite

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JINGLE SPONSORS – Cash Savers of Nashville, J & S Auto Supply, Dr. Rhodes at Murfreesboro Dental Care, and Texarkana Machine Shop

“We truly appreciate our sponsors, many volunteers, and participants in making this event such a success for our fundraising ... we hope to continue to grow this year after year!” said Murfreesboro Chamber of Commerce President Lisa Harvill.

**Winners of the 5K event:**

Overall Male – Alec O’Neal

Overall Female – Maddie O’Neal

Ages 11-19 Male – Kelton York

Ages 11-19 Female – Nykiah Dixon

Ages 30-39 Male – Sam McClendon

Ages 40-49 Male – Jacob Gold

Ages 40-49 Female – Misti Gold

Ages 50-59 Male – Jorge Bautista

Ages 50-59 Female – Kim Conant

Ages 60-69 Female – Sondra Lingo

Ages 80+ Male – David Samuel



**A VISIT WITH THE GRINCH.** Joyous Mounts and great-granddaughter Kaylynn Stuard were on hand for the Murfreesboro Band Boosters’ A Very Grinchmas Breakfast at the Murfreesboro Senior Adult Center. The event included breakfast, crafts, treats and a photo with The Green One.

## Arkansas State Police Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign runs into new year

During this busy winter holiday season, the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and Arkansas law enforcement are teaming up to remind drivers: Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.

This high-visibility impaired driving awareness and enforcement campaign runs through Jan. 1, 2025. In support of the law enforcement community’s dedication to protecting the lives of residents in their jurisdictions, drivers will see officers working together during the holiday season to take drunk drivers off the roads.

Alcohol-impaired driving is deadly and continues to be a factor in fatal traffic crashes in the United States, especially during the holidays. During the 2018-2022 December months, there were 4,759 people killed in alcohol-impaired-driving crashes.

In December 2022 alone, 1,062 people died in alcohol-impaired-driving crashes. Unfortunately, males and young people are at greatest risk for injury or fatality: In December 2022, drunk male drivers were involved in fatal crashes at a much higher rate (22%) compared to female drivers (16%), and young drivers ages 21-34 accounted for the highest percentage (25%) of alcohol-impaired drivers involved in fatal traffic crashes.

“Drunk driving is deadly and illegal, and it should never be an option for getting home,” said Arkansas Public Safety Secretary Colonel Mike Hagar. “We want our communities to have a joy-filled holiday season, but we want everyone to do so responsibly, and that means refraining from drinking and driving. There are too many choices for a safe ride home. Use them,” he said.

Drivers should be safe during the holidays by planning ahead if they intend to drink.

They shouldn’t wait until after drinking to plan how to get somewhere. Impairment clouds a person’s judgment. Drivers should secure a designated sober driver or call a taxi or rideshare for a sober ride home.



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## Arkansas 2024 Officers of the Year Awards

Attorney General Tim Griffin recently honored law enforcement officers from across Arkansas at the 2024 Officer of the Year Awards luncheon.

Honorees are officers from each of the state’s counties, five regional winners, two recipients of the Dwayne Yarbrough Distinguished Service Award, four valor tributes (officers who died in the line of duty) and one statewide Officer of the Year. This year’s honorees are:

**Statewide Officer of the Year:** Chief Deputy John Cutrell, Calhoun County Sheriff’s Office

**Northeast Region:** Corporal Marcus Simpson, Arkansas State Police

**Southeast Region:** Chief Deputy John Cutrell, Calhoun County Sheriff’s Office

**Southwest Region:** Deputy Joshua Butterworth, Polk County Sheriff’s Office

**Central Region:** Trooper Austin Duncan, Arkansas State Police

**Northwest Region:** Deputy Tyler Himes, Crawford County Sheriff’s Office

**Valor Tributes:**

Officer Michael “Cain” Maxheimer, Shannon Hills Police Department

Deputy Justin Smith, Stone County Sheriff’s Office

Officer Tommy Foster, Jr., Conway County Detention Center

Corporal Raymond Kuuchi, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Police Services

**Dwayne Yarbrough Distinguished Service Awards:**

Corporal Lonnie Stone, Flippin Police Department

Sergeant Justin Wagner, Polk County Sheriff’s Office

**County Officers of the Year:**

Arkansas County: Deputy Patrick Johnson, Arkansas County Sheriff’s Office

Ashley County: School Resource Officer Robert Black, Crossett Police Department

Baxter County: Agent Bobby Hicks, Arkansas Department of Corrections – Division of Community Correction

Benton County: Corporal Joshua Fritz, Siloam Springs Police Department

Boone County: Deputy Tyler Nichols, Boone County Sheriff’s Office

Bradley County: Trooper First Class TreVaughn Moore, Arkansas State Police

Calhoun County: Chief Deputy John Cutrell, Calhoun County Sheriff’s Office

Carroll County: Officer Zachary Gray, Berryville Police Department

Chicot County: Trooper David Menotti, Jr., Arkansas State Police

Clark County: Lieutenant Dean Palmer, Arkansas Police Department

Clay County: Trooper Christian Underwood, Arkansas State Police

Cleburne County: Assistant Area Manager SRT Marcus “Levi” Lovin, Arkansas Department of Corrections – Division of Community Correction

Cleveland County: K-9 Officer Austin Powell and K-9 Annie, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

Columbia County: Trooper Justin Cherry, Arkansas State Police

Conway County: Assistant Chief Trent Anderson, Morilton Police Department

Craighead County: Special Agent Heath Gurley, Arkansas State Police

Crawford County: Deputy Tyler Himes, Crawford County Sheriff’s Office

Crittenden County: Trooper Dairren Evans, Trooper Dylan Evans, Corporal Billy Martin, Arkansas State Police

Cross County: Trooper First Class Kristopher McCrea, Arkansas State Police

Dallas County: Trooper First Class Jimmy Plyler, Jr., Arkansas State Police

Desha County: Deputy Alan Hernandez, Desha County Sheriff’s Office

Drew County: Sergeant Chris Austin and K-9 Aiko, Drew County Sheriff’s Office



**LOCAL OFFICERS EARN HONORS.** Nashville Police Department Criminal Investigator Tim Bolin (at left) and Sgt. Shaun Furr with the Pike County Sheriff’s Department were selected as Officers of the Year for their respective counties. Bolin has been in law enforcement since 2011 and Furr has worked in the field since 2005.



Faulkner County: Officer Darnell Flowers, Arkansas Department of Corrections – Division of Community Correction

Franklin County: Trooper Dalton Lewis, Arkansas State Police

Fulton County: Sergeant Justin Nowlin, Arkansas State Police

Garland County: Trooper Justin Parker, Arkansas State Police

Grant County: School Resource Officer Sandra McCool, Sheridan Police Department

Greene County: Corporal Stephen Pace, Paragould Police Department

Hempstead County: Trooper First Class Trevor Dew, Arkansas State Police

Hot Spring County: Corporal Anna Eubanks, Malvern Police Department

Howard County: Investigator Tim Bowlin, Dierks Police Department

Independence County: Deputy Sherman Rucker, Sergeant Zachary Spohr, Independence County Sheriff’s Office

Izard County: Lieutenant Robert Cross, Arkansas Department of Corrections – Division of Correction

Jackson County: Corporal Marcus Simpson, Arkansas State Police

Jefferson County: Trooper James Harrell, Arkansas State Police

Johnson County: Corporal James Harmon, Lamar Police Department

Lafayette County: Assistant Chief Daniel Simmons, Lewisville Police Department

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Little River County: Trooper First Class Ian Nelson, Arkansas State Police

Logan County: Corporal Jed Bolyard, Arkansas State Police

Lonoke County: Trooper Ana Escamilla, Arkansas State Police

Madison County: Game Warden Caleb McClanahan, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

Marion County: Deputy Brett Castle, Lieutenant Silas Gibson, Sergeant Mark Lee, Marion County Sheriff’s Office

Miller County: Sergeant Kyle Caudle, Sergeant Matt Warner, Texarkana Police Department

Mississippi County: Sergeant Jared Camp, Manila Police Department

Monroe County: Trooper Gavin Taylor, Arkansas State Police

Montgomery County: Sergeant Emily McCaghren, Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office

Nevada County: Sergeant Jeremy Hendrix, Nevada County Sheriff’s Office

Newton County: Chief Deputy Mike Blocker, Newton County Sheriff’s Office

Ouachita County: Chief Nathan Greeley, Bearden Police Department

Perry County: Investigator Todd Bonds, Perryville Police Department

Phillips County: Trooper Dairren Evans, Arkansas State Police

Pike County: Sergeant Shaun Furr, Pike County Sheriff’s Office

Poinsett County: Lieutenant Jay-Ryan Woods, Poinsett County Sheriff’s Office

Polk County: Deputy Josh Butterworth, Polk County Sheriff’s Office

Pope County: Corporal Kevin Hobby, Russellville Police Department

Prairie County: Trooper Rand Lace, Arkansas State Police

Pulaski County: Special Agent Travis May, Arkansas State Police

Randolph County: School Resource Officer Felipe Baiza, Maynard School District

St. Francis County: Trooper Blake Irvin, Arkansas State Police

Saline County: Trooper First Class Austin Duncan, Arkansas State Police

Scott County: Trooper Justin Shackelford, Arkansas State Police

Sebastian County: Trooper Tucker Phelps, Arkansas State Police

Sevier County: Patrolman Rene Ramirez, De Queen Police Department

Sharp County: Senior Corporal Roger Tate, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

Stone County: Special Agent Drew Widner, Arkansas State Police

Van Buren County: Special Agent Kevin Brown, Arkansas State Police

Washington County: Special Agent Heath Gurley, Arkansas State Police

White County: Corporal John Long, White County Sheriff’s Office

Woodruff County: Constable Johnnie J. Hodge, McCrory Township

Yell County: Officer Jesse Keeling, Officer Anthony Ochoa, Danville Police Department



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Warm Christmas Wishes

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**Merry Christmas!**

*As the year draws to a close, we find ourselves reflecting on the past months. The illnesses, trials, tribulations, heartaches, laughter, love, joy, good and bad times. Hearing news of the violence, illnesses and trials that other cities and communities are going through makes us realize how truly blessed we are to live in a community that has so much love, kindness and hometown feeling. My prayer for the coming year is for us all to have good health, joy, love and prosperity for our Nashville Community and always be proud to call Nashville a great place to call home.*

**From Mayor Larry Dunaway and All City Employees, we wish a Merry Christmas and God’s Blessings to each and everyone.**



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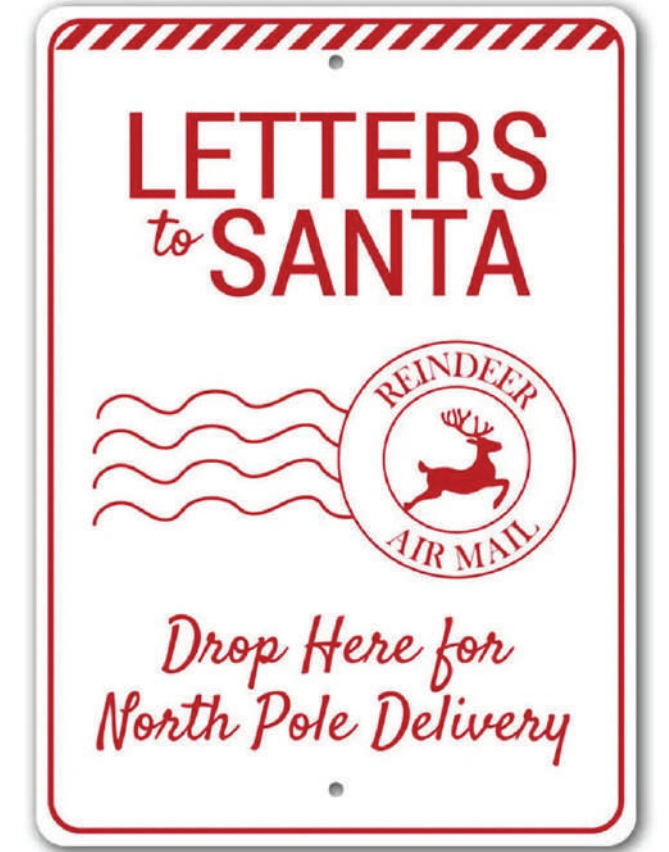
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**Casey Goodwin’s Kindergarten**  
I want Santa to bring me...  
A yo-yo, bracelet, rings, sparkly blue pencil, and a little house with a little doll.- Yareli Alamazon  
Army men with castle tanks - Brett Barfield  
A rainbow yo-yo, a baby doll with bottle, and for my brother a bouncy ball.- Iva Chambers  
Money, a star for our tree, and a drum.- Kyler Dixon  
A barbie dream house, pants for school, dolls that sit and move their hands with long hair, shoes and boots, and a white dress for outside, a brown hairbow, and a baby shopping cart. - Alondra Espino  
A pet dog. - Aubree Hopkins  
Candy cane and color pencils. - Clarah Hopson  
A barbie dream house, crowns, wands, high heels, and dresses. - Tinlee Jamison  
A dinosaur, a giganotosaurus play set, a Godzilla, and a new red car, a Lamborghini- Alexander Maldonado  
A drone, a gun (but not a BB gun), PS5, and golf balls. -Dax McElyea  
A scooter, lots of squishmallows, a rainbow color change pillow, rings, a robe, and gumballs- Caroline McRae  
A soccer ball, some army men, some tanks and jets. - Carter Michaud  
Spiderman. - Emir Nava  
Barbie dolls that has lids, make-up with eyeliner, eye shadow, lipstick that’s red, and stuff for the eye lashes, a mermaid doll, a mermaid camper, and color pencils. - Mckynzie Parks  
A big car house, a baby for my little sister, a scooter, more cars and a race track. - Cesar Sanchez  
A squishmallow, a candy cane, a ring, make-up, a mermaid barbie doll, and a mermaid friend. - Avery Sunderman

**Cynthia Bailey’s Kindergarten**  
Sienna wants a new bed and some Barbies.  
Ma’Kynzee wants a Barbie house, some new Barbies, and a phone.  
Darion wants a bag of bubble gum, a tent, and a Lego set.  
Ethan wants a drone, a 4-wheeler, and a Nintendo switch.  
Kiyair wants some Legos, a car, and a ball.  
Arianna wants some Barbies and a Squishmallow.  
Jose wants s Teddy and a Spiderman toy.  
Lloyd wants a motorcycle and a Pikachu stuffed animal.  
Pepper wants a Barbie doll and a baby doll.  
Giovanni wants a teddy bear, a scooter, and Spiderman toy.  
Josie wants a mini Darcey, a mini Josie, and pixie.  
Ensley wants a necklace and a ring. I would also like some flowers for my bedroom.  
Adriel wants a candy cane SquishMallow and a Squish-Mallow God.  
Cataleya wants a Barbie doll and a stroller for my baby.  
Kamrie wants some hermit crabs and a tank with all the supplies.  
Christopher wants a dirt bike and a real monkey.  
Casalyn wants a baby doll with a house, and an Ariel doll.



**YOU KNOW IT WAS GOOD.** The Howard County Extension Homemakers held their annual fundraiser bake sale last week with plenty of goodies to offer. Pictured during the early part of the sale are (sitting) Dana Newberg and Joy Barr and (standing from left) Tina Conzel, Sherry Wright, extension employee Dawson Bailey, Pam Wynn, extension employee Samantha Horn, Laura Dupree and Jean Ince.

**Amber Mishler’s Kindergarten**  
Kallie Beene -- makeup, Barbie house, and an Elf on the Shelf.  
Gabriel Childers -- remote control frog, transformer, and a remote control spider.  
Kambrie Davis -- toy car, makeup, and Barbie baby.  
Jazmin Garcia -- Hello Kitty blanket, pillow, and a puppy.  
Jameson Goolsby -- a box of silly string, Spiderman shoes, and Spiderman gloves.  
Isaac Gracida -- a Paw Patrol tower, Chase monster truck, and a lanky bot mystery.  
Everleigh Hillard -- a little life pet, a whole box of Christmas mini brands, and a whole family of Squishmallows.  
Gatlin Kinkade -- a Ninetindo, a bike, and a blue car.  
Mattie Miller -- a unicorn sweater, mermaid tail, and a boy Barbie.  
Hadley Pack -- Barbie makeup, electric Barbie car, and a new Barbie dreamhouse.  
Dixie Pinegar -- a small electric Barbie car, razor scooter, and toy makeup.  
Cristina Ruiz -- a fake nail machine, robot cleaner, and an Elf on the Shelf.  
Isaiah Smith -- an electric scooter, bike, and a remote control car.  
Trenton Smith -- a bumble bee toy, toy truck, and a remote control Spiderman.  
Jorja Haynes-Trotter -- toy car, frog, and a Barbie.  
Kane Williamson -- a big transformer, sonic, and his friends.  
The children will leave cookies and milk for Santa’s visit.

**Shannon White’s Kindergarten**  
Najih Ali- a PS5.  
Everlynn Childs- lots of makeup, a Wednesday pet, Elf of the shelf and a comfort pickle.  
Noah Ganous- a robot dragon and a T-rex dinosaur.  
Kasen Green- a pet snake, a remote-control dragon, Hot Wheels track and a PS5.  
Chloe Grissom- a remote-control puppy, a watch, lip gloss and nail polish.  
Avery Lowrey- a loft bed and a backpack for my cat.  
Jasmine Hane- LOL Doll and LOL doll house.  
Justice Madison- Barbie Dolls, an iPhone 13 and unicorns.

Landen Nevarez-Arce: a real phone.  
Adrian Pioquinto- a Nintendo Switch.  
Melanie Pioquinto-Barbie Dolls and new books.  
Rex Reeves- a PS6, a Monster truck and a remote-control bull.  
Ivy Slaton- lots of toys.  
Jolee Stanley- lots of Spider Man stuff, a gumball machine and a PS4.  
Julianne Stanley- pretend make-up, a baby doll with bottles and diapers and an American Doll.  
Zane Teague- a dirt bike, a motorcycle and a yodeling pickle.  
Preston Wakefield- a 4-wheeler, an initial “P” for my room and an iPhone 15.  
**Angela Dodd’s Kindergarten**  
Ben Adams -- a drawing robot, an Ultimate fart blaster, and a mini fart blaster.  
Carter Cobb -- the Plants/ Zombie game, a Spunky Plus game, and a store.  
Charlee Cupples -- a necklace, a pencil, and a dog.  
Declan Davis -- some race cars, a remote control car, and some Army soldiers.  
Tay’sean Germany -- a football, a game, and a bee toy.  
Kingston Gulley -- some shoes, a motorcycle, and some Legos.  
Sharleen Hanson -- a Barbie doll, a stuffed animal cat and dog.  
Adilynn Hernandez -- a Barbie doll, a baby and a scooter.  
Julia Jones -- a toy baby doll, a notebook, and a Barbie doll.  
Arabella Lima -- a Barbie doll, some clothes, and a yo-yo.  
Levi Lingo -- a Spiderman house, a Spiderman hat, and some Spiderman shoes.  
Ella Morrow -- a Barbie Dream House, a Barbie doll, and a fingerling monkey that goes on your finger.

More Next Page>

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas...

May the joy of Christmas fill your heart with joy and love. Wishing you all the best in the coming year.

**Aaron Brasel Law Office**  
Nashville • 870-845-4100

Merry Christmas!

Tis the season once again to let you know how much we appreciate your goodwill and friendship all year long. Wishing you a warm and safe holiday with lots of joy and happiness.

PATAcakes Catering

Stephanie 870-451-3821 & Wendy 870-451-3398

WISHING YOU A MEMORABLE HOLIDAY SEASON

We know we'll never forget the goodwill and support you've shown us. Many thanks for seeing us this year.

**NASHVILLE**  
Vision Center  
708 S. Main  
Nashville • 870-845-5211

May your holidays be SHINY and BRIGHT!

Wishing you a warm and safe holiday with lots of joy and happiness. Thank you for your business this year.

**Merry Christmas**

**York Gary**  
WE GO THE EXTRA MILE

1420 W. Leslie  
Nashville  
870-845-1536  
yorkgaryauto.com

God bless your home

One of the real joys this holiday season is to pause and take the opportunity to say thank you and wish you the very best this holiday season.

**Nashville Family Dentistry**  
700 N. Main #1 • Nashville • 870-845-1263

Merry Christmas!

Here's hoping that your holiday, Leaves you laughing all the way And for your visits all year through, We send our thanks to all of you!

**Shelter Insurance**  
812 S. Main • Nashville • 870-845-1836  
Steve Tate, Agent #10170422

To Our Brightest Stars... Our Customers!

Thanks for playing a supporting role in our success this past year. With best wishes to all for a happy and healthy holiday season!

1512 S. 4th St. \* Nashville



# More Letters to Santa

**Angela Dodd’s Kindergarten (Continued)**  
Bransen McFadden -- a robot, a Minion toy and an Elmo.  
Liam Poulton -- a Mario car, a slapping bracelet, and a water gun.  
Jamie Singleton -- a light up Santa, a phone, and a Barbie doll.  
Andres Wesson -- a drone, a phone, and a tent.  
All the children promise to leave Santa some milk and cookies.

**Jennifer Pinkerton’s Kindergarten**  
Dear Santa, Please bring me...  
a book about Christmas and a bike. - Angel Bustamante  
a Nintendo Switch and that’s it. - Julio DeLaRosa  
some books, Clifford the big red dog, and a kitty cat. - Keylee Hallmark  
a remote-control car and Beyblades. - Brandon Hill  
a stuffed animal bunny, a headband with a hair bow on it for the bunny to wear, and a hat for my teddy bear. - Eden Johnson  
some Stitch shoes, a kitchen toy so I can play with my sister, and a playground outside my house. - Kylie Jones  
a car like you can drive in for kids that can go fast and a remote-control motorcycle. - Easton Marshall  
a dirt bike with a helmet and an electric scooter. - Beckett Mason  
a T-Rex dinosaur. - Tommy Payton  
a wicked witch that is green and a princess (she’s pink). - Samantha Pintler  
a Breyer horse, an electric pink scooter with a pink helmet, and a horse stable with 3 stalls. -Joely Pryor  
a pimple popper game, red shiny shoes with sparkles and heels, and The Tannerites Movie. - Taylin Smith  
Legos, a toy dinosaur T-Rex, and a Paw Patrol toy. - Stewie Stroud  
a remote-control car and some slime. - Mariyah Swift  
a kitchen toy, some Play-Doh, and some slime. - Ellie Witherspoon

**Ginger Blue’s Kindergarten**  
Adilynn Ackley-I want a stuffie cat, a pretty cup, and some more Barbies.  
Zariunna Alexander- I want a walkie talkie, a doll, and slime.  
Adrian Bustamante- I want slime and a Batman toy.  
Layla Capetillo- I want a Barbie Dream house, stickers, and slime.  
Brahm Chambers- I want a magic wand, some Rainbow glasses and slime of course.  
Rylee Galente- I want a toy Barbie, some slime, and a headband.  
Cartier Gaston- I want a football helmet, a candy cane, and a monster truck.  
Amelia Herndon- I want a mermaid doll, a slide that can go on my treehouse, and a baby doll that can close its eyes and crawl.  
Haizleigh Hill-I want this monkey that has a water bottle, a Big Barbie Dream House, and water slime.  
Aubrie Jefferson-I want a big doll, and gummy bears, and marshmallows.

Oshea Jordan-I want some legos, some playdoh, and a Sonic toy.  
Owen Lovelis-I want a toy correl, a toy dinosaur, and a squeeze chute.  
Ada Morrow-I want some slime, a water slide, and an itty bitty toy monkey that hangs on your finger. I saw it at WalMart.  
Melissa Najera-I want a Barbie and a swing,  
Sterling Parker-I want some slime, a Fart playdough, a big black truck, a 4-wheeler, and a razor.  
Harper Pham-I want glow in the dark slime, some big Barbie dolls, and a stuffed animal that looks like a sloth.  
Liam Soto- I want a PS5 game, a Batman toy, and Legos.  
Cristal Marrufo-I want toys and a doll.

**Becky Horne’s Second Grade**  
Josias Betancourt- I want a Pokemon, a Nintendo Switch, and a PS 5  
Ari Briggs- slime, a big bucket of Play-Doh, and an American Girl doll  
Reed Chesshir- I want Legos, a Hoverboard, and a scooter  
Kyleck Dansby- iPad, Hoverboard, and a bike  
Orlando Espino- a Chromebook, a box of Legos, and a Nintendo Switch  
Jack Griffin- Elf pets fox and reindeer, and a real St. Bernard puppy  
Layla Grissom- a doll, Legos, and a tiny dress for my doll  
Audrey Gunter- to win the State Fair, a bucket of Legos, and an iPad.  
Pedro Lacio-Morales- slime, a toy car, and Pokemon  
Lucas Lingo- Golden V-Bucks card, a purple V-Bucks card, and a Blue V-Bucks card  
Kali Madison- a Barbie doll, an Elf, and some makeup  
Irisyn Mays- 100 La La Loopsies, 1,000 shaggy teddy bears, and 2 silver bells  
Victoria Murillo- a ballerina Barbie doll, slime, and Legos  
Andres Navarrete - I want a soccer ball, Legos, and a math game  
Liam Paz- I want a bike, a toy box, and a Dog Man book  
Millie Petty - a surprise, a good 2025 year, and a sleigh bell  
Wyatt Roberts- I want a RC car, a blue bike, and a Bark phone  
Mateo Ruiz-Cabrera- a reindeer, 4 packets of slime, and an Elf on the Shelf  
Abigail Vega - I want a phone, a plushie, and clothes  
Fisher Westfall - a BB gun, a good Christmas holiday, and a phone  
Rhodey White - V Bucks, my family to be happy, and Legos  
Royalty Williams- a bike, an Elf for my home, and a hoverboard.

**Karen Allen’s Second Grade**  
Brody: Nintendo Switch, games, Christmas sweater, basketball, Elf Stuffie  
Sadie: baby doll, Barbie Dreamhouse, foam, new boots  
Maeslyn: computer, bike, teddy, stuffie, Junie B Book  
Baylor: Many brands, snackanimals, drawing board, American Girl doll, playhouse  
Sophia: dirt bike, coloring set, bracelet maker, Barbie house

Pedro: VR headset, Iphone, PS5, TV, charger  
Zayden: PS5, Game, Robot, soccer ball, Nike shoes, LED lights  
Kenndy: Uggs, blanket, baby duck, cow print stuff  
Kenan: Iphone, puppy, PS5, controller, TV  
Jordan: PS5, Iphone 16, bike, dog, toy dog  
Kiptin: Iphone 16, dirt bike, computer, headset, X-Box controller  
Emma: bike, Junie B book, gymnastic bars, beam, squish mellow  
Francisco: claw machine, lego Christmas tree, air hockey, lego set  
John: new elf, stuffed elf, pompom, squish mellow  
Kelsyn: duck, pigs, goats, sheep,  
Harley: PS5 , controller, mike, Roblox gift card, dirt bike  
Kayla:dog, mini brands, barbie, books  
Hunter: V Bucks, Hot Wheels, RC car, TV  
Nathan: Joke Book, Monopoly Go, Bike, Books, Electric Scooter  
Pamela: Lol doll, teddy bear, Playstation cards, books  
Kaiden: Nintendo Game, PS5, phone, tablet, squish mellow  
Ashlyn: gumball machine, color barbie reveal doll, barbie computer, head phone, mini brands

**Mrs. Macy’s Kiddie Korner**  
Dear Santa,  
My Christmas Wish is:  
Bridger Howard, 5, - Excavator with a seat, dump truck & front loader with all the seats  
Jovi Moore, 2 - Elsa & my Mommy, Daddy, and Eli & Treston  
Maverick Stewart, 4 - Monster truck to pull my car, Sissy wants a Princess Peach & I love Mario  
Laney Whitworth, 3 - Trampoline & a horse  
John Tyler Serrano, 4 - Indoraptor & a big tank, Optimus Prime that turns into a truck. Santa I have been good.  
Josie Dove, 3 - Unicorn light & sky truck, Santa eat some cookies  
Ella Grace Zylks, 2 - Huge Elsa, Grinch & Cindy Loo Hoo  
Madison Serrano, 2 - Elsa & 2 toys  
Thomas B. Britt, 4 - Bow & Arrow, truck I can ride with remote controller, Santa I have been good all day  
Savvy Jacques, 3 - Flower cup, squishy pillow, pink Power Ranger costume & a tree.  
Cooper Rowland, 3 - Marshall monster truck, Marshall with big wheels, I like the snow, please come to my house  
Hudson Moore, 4 - Chase monster truck, bow & arrow, pet hamster named Snowy  
Ila Morrow, 4 - New gun, thank you Santa  
Rhett Tollett, 3 - Bunch of Ghostbusters & robots. Santa come to my house because the elves didn’t see me.  
Denten Dunn, 4 - Bow & arrow & target, Chase monster truck that shoots arrows, 20 gauge, goggles that go under-water, brush like J.T’s. I have been nice.  
Blake Smith, 2 - Baby & colors.



## Merry Christmas to all our customers!

Thank you for shopping local and keeping Main Street alive!

### Sharpe’s Dept. Store

120 S. Main \* Nashville \* 870-845-2115

Open this Sunday, Dec. 22 from 1 - 5 p.m.  
Mon. - Fri. 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.



## Merry Christmas

May the good times and treasures of the present become the golden memories of tomorrow. Wishing you lots of love, joy and happiness.

### Ferguson Health Care

114 S. Main St • Nashville  
(870) 845-0033

## A VERY MERRY SEASON TO YOU!

Here's hoping your Christmas brings, peace and joy and all good things.

Thank you for giving us the precious gift of your friendship.

### 10-Minit Lube

701 S. Main • Nashville • 870-845-0108





## To All Our Good Neighbors At Christmas

Best wishes for a great holiday season!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from


### Murfreesboro Dental Care

Murfreesboro \* 870-285-2551

Audra Rhodes, D.D.S. \* Darwin A. Turner, D.D.S

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6



With exceeding great joy,

we wish you and yours a truly miraculous Christmas.

## SCOTT’S AUTO BODY

506 S. MAIN • NASHVILLE  
870-845-9909



## MERRY CHRISTMAS

from our family at

### Wilkerson Funeral Home

110 E. 4th St. • Dierks  
870-286-3088

## Merry Christmas


We'd like to thank all our customers and friends this holiday season for making this a great year.

### RAY’S REALTY



724 S. Main  
Nashville  
870-845-2900





## Glory To the Newborn King!


“And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid himin a manger; for there was no room at the inn.” -Luke 2:7

May you and your loved ones draw strength and inspiration from the miracle that is Christmas, and its message of faith, goodwill and peace on earth. Noel.



### TEAGUE & TEAGUE INSURANCE

219 N. 2nd St. • Nashville • 845-5303  
Insurance #245691



## May your holiday deliver an abundance of joy and good cheer

### G-Bar Construction

### Sand & Gravel

870-845-7053  
Mike Goodson

870-557-9107  
Chris Goodson



’Tis the season to celebrate good friends & neighbors like you. Your trust means everything to us.

## Thanks!

### Nashville Rural Public Water Authority

1303 Mine St. \* Nashville \* 870-845-5442





**CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY AT DIERKS BANK.** The Dierks branch of First State Bank recently held its annual customer appreciation day. Those in attendance included (from left) Katlin Adams, Carlos Martinez, Kyla Myers, Michelle Burk, Lauren Nichols, Branch Manager Kaitlin Miller, Chief Operations Officer Cynthia Arndt, Assistant Vice President Monica Allen, Chief Information Officer Chris Burke, Clayton Alspaw and Senior Vice President Ethan White.

December

Dierks School

District Students

of the Month

Junior High School

Klay Helms

High School

Paige Eason

&

Abigail Vaughn

Student of the Month

Klay Helms

Student of the Month

Paige Eason

Student of the Month

Abigail Vaughn

# Attend Church This Sunday!

HOLY MASS

St. Martin’s Catholic Church

1011 W. Leslie •Nashville

Sunday (Eng.) - 9 a.m.

Sunday (Esp.) - 11 a.m.

Wednesday - 6 p.m.

Thursday - 8 a.m.

1st Friday - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday (Esp.) - 6:30 p.m.

Fr. Salvador Vega, Pastor

Welcome • Bienvenidos

LOCKESBURG FIRST

UNITED METHODIST

CHURCH ~ 11:00 A.M.

& MT. CARMEL UNITED

METHODIST CHURCH

12:15 P.M.

TOMMY HALSELL, PASTOR

Everyone is always welcome!

You are invited to worship with us at...

Center Point

Missionary

Baptist Church

211 Church St. • Center Point

Pastor: Jaron Tipton

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Evening Service 5:00 p.m.

-- Non-Denomination --

New Life in Jesus

Christ Church

913 South Main St. • Nashville, AR

Sunday Morning Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday Evening Worship 5:30 p.m.

Pastors: Lankford & Mary Alice Moore

EBENEZER UMC

318 West Dodson • Nashville

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors”

Scott Memorial

(Paraloma Community)

First & Third Sundays Monthly

Sunday Worship 9:15 a.m.

Pastor: Ellis Ray Floyd

Futrell Marine

Hwy. 371

Nashville

(870) 845-3122

295

Facts About The

BIBLE

BY JOHN LEHTI

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This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of IIChronicles Chap. 24 and IIKings Chap.12 consolidated

ZECHARIAH A YOUNG PROPHET

ZECHARIAH HAS BEEN STONED TO DEATH WITH KING JOASH'S APPROVAL, BUT, WITH HIS DYING BREATH, THE YOUNG PROPHET HAS WARNED THE KING THAT THE LORD WILL PUNISH HIM, AND NOW....

...IF KING JOASH IS WORRIED AT ZECHARIAH'S PROPHECY, HE SHOWS NO SIGN OF IT, BUT....

...WITHIN A SHORT TIME, THE ARMY OF KING JOASH IS DEFEATED BY A MUCH SMALLER SYRIAN ARMY--A SURE SIGN THE LORD HAS TURNED AGAINST ISRAEL....

...AND LYING DEAD ON THE FIELD, AFTER THE BATTLE, ARE THE BODIES OF THE PRINCES WHO CONSPIRED AGAINST ZECHARIAH, AND KING JOASH, HIMSELF, SORELY....

...WOUNDED IN THE BATTLE, IS SOUGHT OUT AT NIGHT AND MURDERED IN HIS OWN BED BY MEMBERS OF HIS HOUSEHOLD! THIS ZECHARIAH'S PROPHECY IS CARRIED OUT TO ITS LAST, AND FINAL WORD--ALL OF WHICH HAS BEEN RECORDED IN II CHRON. CHAP. 24, AND II KINGS CHAP. 12

SAVE THIS FOR YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL SCRAPBOOK

First Baptist Church

415 N. Main • Nashville

Come Worship With Us!

Sunday school 9 a.m.

Morning worship 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

Evening worship 6:00 p.m.

Rev. Kevin Sartin

Immanuel Baptist Church

Immanuel St. • Nashville • 845-3414

www.myimmanuel.com

Pastor: Paul Herndon

Sunday: Sunday School - 9:55 a.m.

Worship (KMTB-fm) - 10:55 a.m.

Worship - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday: GROW - 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Youth - 5:30 p.m.

First United Methodist Church

1403 W. Sunset St. • Nashville

870-845-3030

nashvillefumc.org

Pastor: Pam Estes

Sunday school 9:45 a.m.

Worship 10:50 a.m.

Facebook Live or listen to 105.5 FM

Come worship with us!

First Church of God

Community Oriented & Christ Centered

946 MLK, Hwy 355, Tollette, AR

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

Worship 11:00 a.m. • Youth 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday evening service 6:00 p.m.

Rev. Charles Green, Pastor

Be our Guest at

Cross Point Cowboy Church

Sunday Services 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study for all ages at 6:30 p.m.

Hwy 371 W. of Nashville

“Pointing People to the Cross”

Pastor Don Jones

To Advertise your Church or Business

Call Tracy at 870-845-0600

What to do with your real Christmas tree

By Dawson Bailey

Howard County Extension Agent – Agriculture

Utilizing a real Christmas tree may be an old family tradition or you may have just wanted to experience a house filled with the smell of a live tree for the holidays. When the holidays are over and it is time to dispose of the tree, find an environmentally friendly way to repurpose your tree.

Each real Christmas tree represents an environmentally and economically friendly choice. Trees in a Christmas tree farm provide the same benefits as natural forests, cleaning the air, and stabilizing the soil. Buying real trees also supports the local economies. Unfortunately, many trees will end up in a landfill after they have served their purpose.

Some real Christmas trees can be purchased in a container or balled and burlapped. These trees can be planted in the landscape to enjoy after the holiday season. When replanting a tree, do not place the tree on top of or around septic systems. They should also be placed away from structures to keep from becoming a fire hazard. You may also plant a tree without roots to attract wildlife. Although it will not grow, it can still provide food or shelter to many

wildlife species. To make it more attractive to wildlife you may add bird feeders or birdseed ornaments made with natural materials. Avoid planting a tree without roots near vehicles or play areas for children or pets. Laying a dead tree on the ground will deliver many of the same benefits with much less work.

Used Christmas trees can be sunken in bodies of water to create fish habitat. Trees in ponds may provide a sanctuary and protective structure. Creating a habitat for fish is beneficial for anglers or anyone who wants a healthy pond ecosystem and may also help you catch a few more fish. The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission has worked over the years to establish Christmas tree drop-off locations. Last year, there were several locations that accepted trees, but you may call beforehand to see which locations are open for this year.

Christmas trees can also be chipped into mulch. This mulch can be used for a variety of needs around homes, lawns, and gardens. Mulch can be used around the base of trees and gardens as an insulator to help the plants withstand the cold. This mulch can also be added to the compost pile as a form of organic material.

Unity Baptist Church

380 Buck Range Road

Pastor:

Bro. David Cassady

Sunday Service

10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

WOODS & WOODS

PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS, PA LTD.

118 N. Main - Nashville - 845-4422

Jason Lenderman, CPA

Delight Methodist Church

E. Antioch Street • Delight

Morning Services - 11:00 a.m.

Prayer Meeting - Wed. 6:30 p.m.

Jim Henderson, Pastor

HOLLY CREEK Missionary Baptist Church

705 Main St. • Dierks • 286-2010

Sun. School 10:00 a.m.

Sun. Morning Worship 10:50 a.m.

Sun. Evening 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday WOW 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Pastor: Bro. Brian Finn

Radio Program: 9:45 Sunday Morning • B99.5 FM

Visit us at: www.hollycreekmbc.net

First Christian Church

500 N. Main • Nashville

(Corner of Main & Bishop)

845-3241

Sunday Bible School - 9:45 a.m.

Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

Minister: Jim Pinson

MINERAL SPRINGS CHURCH OF CHRIST

318 Bridgeman Dr. • Mineral Springs

870-287-5652

Sunday Bible Class: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday Service: 6:00 p.m.





**NATIONAL 4-H CONGRESS.** Christian Trombley and Sarah Lamb were both awarded a trip to Atlanta, Ga., to attend the National 4-H Congress because of their impressive record books turned in earlier this year. National Congress has been a 4-H tradition for more than 100 years and recognizes state and national winners. Youth that attend this event participate in 100 service-learning hours, workshops designed to develop and enhance their leadership skills, plenary sessions with outstanding speakers and entertainers, tours, recreational opportunities throughout the city, and listen to keynote speaker Dr. Laymon Hicks. There are youth from across the country that make this a memorable experience for our youth. Lamb and Trombley are pictured here with Howard County 4-H coordinator Samantha Horn. If you would like to join Howard County 4-H, contact the Howard County Extension office at 870-845-7517.



**QUILT WINNER.** The Howard County Extension Homemakers held the drawing on Dec. 13 for the Christmas quilt being raffled off as a fundraiser. Shirley Wright, a member of the Twilight EH Club, was the winner. Proceeds from the raffle will be used to purchase a new heater/air conditioner for the upstairs meeting room at the EH Center.

Got a Local Photo or Story Idea?

Contact The Nashville News-Leader!

870-845-0600

swarkansasnews.com

418 North Main in Nashville

Stavely and Associates

#24043481 - Brick home located in Dildy Estates, offers over 2260 sq ft of living space on approx 3 acres. Home has 4 bedrooms and 3 full baths, large living room with cathedral ceiling, spacious master suite with cathedral ceilings, large walk in closet and master bath with double vanity, jacuzzi tub an separate shower, kitchen with walk in pantry, stove and dishwasher to convey and a breakfast nook. Separate dining room, can be used as an office, large laundry room and additional storage room. A guest bedroom with private bathroom and a jack-jill bath joining two additional bedrooms. Home has been updated with all new windows, newer floor coverings, CH/CA, double garage, large front porch and small patio. Home was built in 2001, all electric on rural water. Contact our office for more details or to schedule your private viewing. **PRICE \$330,000.**

For more home, farm or land listings visit [www.stavelyandassociates.com](http://www.stavelyandassociates.com)

Eddie Stavely, Principal: 870-845-9000

Kristin Stavely: Executive Broker: 870-845-9068

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PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HOWARD COUNTY,  
ARKANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF  
THE ESTATE OF CLYDE ANDERSON BELL 31 PR-24-69

**NOTICE OF PROBATE-INTESTATE**

Last known address of decedent: 722 S Crawford, Mineral Springs, Howard County, Arkansas.  
Date of death: April 25, 2020  
Lizann Bell was appointed the Administratrix of the Estate of Clyde Anderson Bell, by order dated December 4, 2024. All persons having claims against the estate must exhibit them, duly verified, to the undersigned within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or they shall be forever barred and precluded from any benefit in the estate.  
This notice first published the 11<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2024.

Lizann Bell, Administratrix, by  
Aaron R. Brasel, ABN 2009138  
Post Office Box 813  
Nashville AR 71852  
(870) 845-4100 – Telephone  
(AB: 25, 26)

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**NASHVILLE NEWS-LEADER CLASSIFIEDS**

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News-Leader photos/COURTESY OF GLORY BEE MINISTRY  
**SOME TIME WITH SANTA.** A Breakfast with Santa event on Dec. 7 at the Mineral Springs Church of Christ was held as part of a fundraiser for The Glory Bee Ministry Soup Kitchen and Food Bank. Pictured her with Mr. and Mrs. Claus are Carmelo Flowers (at left) and Samuel Murphy.



## Superintendent: Search for new head Rattler coach progressing

Murfreesboro High School’s search for their next head coach is progressing well, according to South Pike County Schools Superintendent Tanya Wilcher.

Wilcher said the school had received 15-16 applications as of Monday morning, and had interviewed three candidates last week and plans to interview three-four this week on campus.

“We are excited and very hopeful to find the right per-

son and the right fit for us. We are getting a very good pool to look at – quite a few with head coaching experience, which is something we haven’t always gotten in the past.”

Wilcher said the plan was to interview the most interesting candidates prior to the district’s Christmas break, which begins at the end of the school day on Friday, Dec. 20 and will run through Monday, Jan. 6 of 2025.

She said that it was likely, though not guaranteed, that any final decision would take place following the holiday break to ensure that the interviewing process was a thorough as possible. “Just because we are interviewing all the way up through Thursday ... but we have some candidates now that we feel like are very, very qualified. If we happen to definitively find the one before then, then we’ll do it.”

## Sex offender charged in Pike County

A Murfreesboro man has been charged in Pike County with failure to meet requirements of being a sex offender.

Jeremy Rankins, 44, was charged Dec. 13 with failure to comply with registration and reporting requirements to cooperate with the assessment process. The charge is a Class C felony.

According to case records, an investigation started on Dec. 4 after local law officials determined Rankin was not living at his registered address on Highway 19 North in Murfreesboro. Rankin

had been staying in town at an abandoned property belonging to a relative and also staying sometimes in Nashville.

Pike County Investigator Jason McDonald noted in the case that Rankins was in violation of sex offender registry requirements by failing to report his temporary living arrangements and not disclosing an alternate phone number to his registry.

Rankins is currently in county custody on \$75,000 bond and is expected to formally arranged on Jan. 6.

On Dec. 13, Daniel Cruz,

18, of Glenwood, was charged in Pike County with possession of methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia. Cruz was arrested on Dec. 9 near the Glenwood City Park on an outstanding misdemeanor warrant. A search during the arrest allegedly found a baggie of meth and start used for ingesting the drug.

Cruz is currently in county custody and has yet to make a court appearance on the charges.

### Merry Christmas from Power Pharmacy

Rachel Foshee, Kristy Strong, Arlie Richard, Jodi Troutt, Jennifer Morrow, Sandra Fuentes, Brenda McCrary, Jacque Howard, Kim Raulerson, Karon Baxley, Sheila Hicks, Denean McWhorter, Logan Pennington and Ava Ragar. Not pictured Rudith Mendoza

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## Hempstead Co. ECC receives funds

Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders recently joined the Arkansas Economic Development Commission (AEDC) to award 13 communities with \$10 million through the Arkansas Site Development Program. This funding will be used to enhance industrial sites across Arkansas.

The communities receiving funds include Arkadelphia, Berryville, Hope,

Jonesboro, Little Rock, Malvern, Monticello, Morrilton, Newport, Prescott, Searcy, Stuttgart, and Texarkana. AEDC received a total of 28 applications for the Arkansas Site Development Program, totaling \$44,646,370.37 in requested funding.

The Hempstead County Economic Development Commission – Hope received \$4,602 as part of the program.

### Merry Christmas

### Spring classes begin January 16, 2025

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