

Mineral enrollment up, superintendent tells board

“Numbers are looking good” for Mineral Springs school enrollment, Supt. JonDavid Amerson told the school board at its December meeting Tuesday night, Dec. 17.

The superintendent noted that the enrollment had dipped but recovered. The remarks were related to the annual “Report to the Public” which he said was available online. Another required report on Title 1 is also online, he said.

The board went into executive session for about 15 minutes for superintendent evaluation. Supt. Amerson was called into the board’s meeting room briefly. The board returned to open meeting and took no action.

Board members present included Xavier Vaughn, Mike Erwin, Ray Hawkins, Ricky Gamble, Barnado Thomas and board president William Dixon.

Also present was K-12 principal Stacey Gaddis who gave her report.

Holiday schedule announced at St. Martin Catholic Church

The Christmas and New Years mass schedule at St. Martin Catholic Church has been announced.

All masses will be bi-lingual -- English and Spanish.

Christmas Eve -- 5:30 p.m.

Christmas Day -- noon.

New Years Day -- 9 a.m.

The church is located on West Leslie Street in Nashville, and the pastor is Rev. Salvador Vega. The public is welcome.



COMMUNITY COFFEE. Jessa Tice, Denise Musgrave, Jovie Tice, Jamey Tice, Jacey Tice, Clovy Keaster, Josh Tice, Lindsey O'Donnell and Peggy Friend welcomed the community to their annual Christmas coffee at Edward Jones Financial Advisors Wednesday, Dec. 18.



‘TIS THE SEASON FOR SINGING. First graders at Nashville Primary School presented a Christmas musical program for the Nashville Rotary Club last week. It was also ‘pajama day’ at school. Their music teacher is Stacia Petty.



HIGH SCHOOL AGRI MECHANICS WINNERS. Mineral Springs High School seniors Steven Rocha, left, and Aaron Contreras, placed third overall out of 74 teams competing at the 2024 Champion Livestock Equipment Show. The duo had designed and made equipment to keep livestock waterers from freezing, school principal Stacey Gaddis told her school board last Tuesday, Dec. 17. Their agri teacher is Heath Harrison. (Photo furnished)



THANKS FOR SERVICE. Nashville Alderman Nick Davis, right, was presented a plaque of appreciation for 20 years of service by Mayor Larry Dunaway at the city council meeting Monday, Dec. 16.

Obituary

Jimmy Bailey

Jimmy Bailey, 87, of Murfreesboro died Dec. 18, 2024.

He was born Sept. 11, 1937 in Pike City, to the late Otis Bailey and R.Vena Jackson Bailey.

He was preceded in death by his son, Keith Edward Bailey; and his six brothers, Otis Bailey, Jr., Carl Bailey, Leroy Bailey, Hershel Bailey, Paul Bailey, and Olan Bailey.

Survivors include: his wife of 61 years, Wanda Bailey; three daughters, Michelle Bailey and husband, Leo Davis, Jimmie Hughes and husband Michael, and Mary Coleman and husband, Charlie, all of Nashville; also grandchildren.

Funeral services were Saturday, Dec. 21, 2024, at Ridgeway Baptist Church in Nashville with Bro. Allen Cook officiating.

Visitation was prior to services.

The Nashville News-Leader

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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



State Trooper Nate Wilson left discusses a one-vehicle accident with a Blevins man whose wife was the driver of the Ford Taurus which skidded off Highway 371 outside Nashville in December 2004. (Photo by the late Cecil Harris)

121 years ago: December 1903

A white man named Sorrells arrived in Nashville Wednesday night to take charge of the Arkansas & Louisiana railway section at this place, filling the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Will Hickerson, colored, who held the position until last Saturday night. Sometime since D. S. Hufstedler, a white man, resigned his position after learning he was to be displaced by a Negro. The Negro was met by a mob of white people who advised him to leave town as they were not going to allow him to hold that job. He acted on the advice tendered and left.

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fresh bread daily delivered to your house, choice cakes baked of all kinds and special orders. We are agents for the celebrated Heinz goods. Matt Gosnell

78 years ago: January 1946

John Bell Roberson has arrived in the city to resume his home with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Roberson, after receiving his discharge from the Army-Air Force on the point system. He had been in service for three years, one year which was spent overseas with the Pacific Theatre as a member of a bombardment group. He received his discharge at Fort Chaffee.

Lt. Col. Olin Holt is spending a furlough with

his mother, Mrs. Ray Holt, at Tokio after 42 months service in the Army, 20 months which were spent in the European Theatre. Lt. Col. Holt will report to Rock Island, Illinois after his furlough.

67 years ago: November 1957

The man who helped design and build the Ideal Cement Company at Okay died in a Little Rock Hospital Tuesday. He was James Frederick “Jack” Kaufman, age 65 and a resident of Hot Springs.

Mr. Kaufman was a prominent civil engineer and was a civic leader as well as a company official. He was a graduate of Carnegie Tech and received a master’s degree in 1950.

Public Record of Howard County

Items or documents that were filed, issued or recorded at the Howard County, Ark., courthouse during the period Dec. 12-18, 2024, include the following:

Marriage Licenses
(Marriage licenses cost \$60 at the County Clerk’s office)
Dec. 16. Elijah Robert Thomas, 23, Nashville, and Anna Marie Rhodes, 21, Nashville.

Civil Court
CV24-140, Dec. 12. Discover Bank vs. Shaun Mauldin. Debt.
CV24-141, Dec. 13. Discover Bank vs. Samantha Humphries. Debt.
CV24-142, Dec. 16. Crown Asset Management vs. Sonja Sampson. Debt.

Domestic Relations Court
DR24-134, Dec. 13. James Todd Baxley vs. Morgan Kay Baxley. Divorce.
DR24-135, Dec. 13. Cassandra Lowery vs. Todd Lowery. Divorce.
DR24-136, Dec. 17. Lacie Ward vs. Girbaud Ward. Divorce.

Criminal Court
No new criminal cases filed since CR24-108, Dec. 6.

Land/Property Transactions

Quitclaim Deeds

Dec. 16. Douglas Alan Younger; to Douglas Alan

Younger; aggregate 5.616 ac in S26 T9S R28W.

Beneficiary’s Deed
Dec. 18. Thomas Lee Harris and wife, Vickie Lynn Harris, and Amanda Joanne Icenhower; to Amanda Joanne Icenhower; 1 ac. in S31 T7S R28W with easement.

Distributee’s Deeds
Dec. 13. Jeremy Goodloe; to Roger Goodloe, et al, Co-Tenants; 11.018 ac in S11 T11S R23W with easement.

Dec. 18. Corey Hupp, Distributee of the Estate of Emmett Wayne Hupp, deceased; to Corey Hupp and Carey Batiste; 2 ac. in S35 T8S R27W.

Redemption Deeds
Dec. 13. State of Arkansas; to Virgil Turner, c/o Valerie Turner, Lonoke, Ark.; 4 ac. in S6 T11S R27W; delinquent taxes and penalties of \$330.46.

Dec. 16. State of Arkansas; to Randy D. Green, Hot Springs; Lot 8, Block 23, Original Town of Dierks, aka 209 Main Ave; delinquent taxes and penalties of \$424.84.

Warranty Deeds
Dec. 13. (Special) Weyerhaeuser Company; to Cathy

Jean Pugh; 10 ac. in S19 T5S R28W. \$50,000.

Dec. 13. David M. Ladenburg and Marra L. Bissell; to Jauan Dee Lewis; Lot 11 and part of Lot 12, Block 1, North Greenwood Addition, City of Nashville. \$280,000.

Dec. 13. Bobby Conway and Beverly Conway, husband and wife, and Brenda Jakubowski; to Trustess (sic) of Holiness Heritage Church; 2 tracts, aggregate 1.018 ac. in S20 T10S R27W. \$75,000.

Dec. 16. Edward Childers; to Susan Fox; aggregate 3.6 ac. in S36 T6S R29W with exception.

Dec. 16. Edward Childers; to Susan Fox; aggregate 3.6 ac. in S36 T6S R29W with exception.

Dec. 16. Donnie Parrish and wife, Sharla Parrish; to Josh Ellen and wife, Katherine Ellen; 1/4 ownership of property in S3 T10S R27W in Howard and Hempstead counties. \$300,000.

Dec. 16. Mark Parrish and wife, Betty Parrish; to Josh Ellen and wife, Katherine Ellen; 1/4 ownership of property in S3 T10S R27W in Howard and Hempstead counties. \$300,000.

Dec. 18. Gaylon Bake; to Jonathan Chandler and wife, Jamie Chandler; 1.315 ac. in S36 T7S R29W. \$78,000.

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Point of view

Passing the torch

Will ‘Mistletoe Bough’ fade from our history?

(DEAR READER: Today I am re-gifting this column for you. It’s from Christmas of 2018, but the message is still real important.)

FOR ALMOST A CENTURY, Nashville High School seniors have put on a non-Christmas play at Christmas time. They did it again this year, for the 23rd time since 1920.

I’m talking about ‘Under the Mistletoe Bough,’ a short, odd play with singing and dancing but not a single spoken word except by the narrator. It is a tragic wedding story.

Before the play began, the narrator asked anyone in audience of about 200 to stand if they were in one of the previous productions. There were more than a half-dozen who stood, including myself.

I was one of the “wedding guests” in the production of 1960. The lovely coed who sang the lead role was also present; and in the lobby before the doors opened, she and I talked about how many of our fellow cast members are no longer with us. She recalled how she and the male lead went to the home of Miss Virginia Buxton to practice under the demanding eye and ear of that community legend. What? You’ve never heard of Miss Virginia?

I think that our bunch may have been the first to put on the play in the “new” Sixth Street Auditorium. Before that, I guess the play was performed on the creaky old wooden stage of the long-gone NHS campus on Fourth Street. I don’t remember seeing the play before the year I was in it. Maybe I did. Daughter Julie was in the cast of 1988.

My congratulations to the school administration for supporting the effort, and to educators Holly Couch and Fran Strawn who staged it and have thus kept the tradition alive. As our newspaper story pointed out last week, NHS is the only high school in the world with this tradition. Most of the time, there have been gaps of only a few years in productions. Once there was a 14-year break (1963-77), but some wonderful, determined person in the school or in the community must have said: “Come on, let’s not be the ones to let this tradition die.”

This year, the kids did really super. I’ve always said that singing in front of a group of people requires giant courage. It also helps if the singers have talent. I liked the way newer songs have been added.

By participating in ‘Mistletoe Bough,’ those seniors have joined the school’s river of history. In the printed program there was a list of students who have portrayed the bride and groom since 1920. The list includes some people who went on to become very accomplished after high school. I am very, very sorry that the program did not list the outstanding male minuet dancers of the 1960 cast.

Nashville High School is unique in other ways. The school’s wonderful alma mater, for instance. A student composed that sweet tune and wrote the lyrics. You can go to football games or school events all over the country, and you’ll not hear that music anywhere else.

I have some tips to share with you just in case you’re around to see the next production of ‘Under the Mistletoe Bough.’ Don’t sit in the side rows, you’ll miss too much because of the curtain.

And, gents, please take your caps off inside the auditorium. No one teaches us anymore that it is bad manners for a man to wear a hat or cap indoors. Luckily, no one was wearing a cowboy hat this time.

No cell phones went off during the presentation, but it might be a good idea for future narrators to request that phones be silenced.

Thanks again to the school and the students for providing a fine afternoon entertainment and for passing the torch.

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HE’S DONE THE RESEARCH online, my classmate Jack Lovelis sez. He was curious about the number of big, black railroad tank cars sitting around for a long time on rail lines in Nashville.

I believe Jack because he and I are Scrapper band alumni, and great musicians never lie to each other. Well, almost never.

Jack sez there are 100 tank cars stashed at various places along the rail sidings here in town and at Ashdown. Yes, 100.

I have seen, and wondered about, the long rows of tanker cars parked here and on the rail line on the west end of Millwood Dam. And, by the way, these are all on tracks of the former GN&A Railroad. Lord knows where else cars are parked. Maybe even on a lonely siding on the banks of the Antoine River upstream at Graysonnia.

Jack sez that we are seeing the results of the controversial pipeline now carrying Canadian oil across the midwest on its way to refineries in China. Those abandoned rail tanker cars are no longer needed to haul oil therefore their owners are forced to ‘rent’ space from small railroads to store them until needed again.

I’ll let you in on a little secret. Jack was a good trumpet player, not a great one. I, on the other hand, am STILL the third-greatest trombone player in the history of the Scrapper band.

But, back in the day, Jack and I both enjoyed being in the marching band and flirting with the majorettes. Alas, there are no majorettes anymore. Maybe they’re parked on some forgotten railroad siding on the banks of the Antoine River at Graysonnia.

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THINGS I LEARNED from opening (and believing) email: "The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket.

● ---- ● --- ●

HE SAID: “Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas.” Calvin Coolidge, 30th U.S. President

● ---- ● --- ●

SHE SAID: “Christmas, my child, is love in action. Every time we love, every time we give, it’s Christmas.” Dale Evans, cowgirl

● ---- ● --- ●

SWEET DREAMS, Baby

Mine Creek Revelations



By Louie Graves

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Finances continue improvement for Arkansas Teacher Retirement System

By State Sen. Jimmy Hickey Jr.

The financial health of the state Teacher Retirement System has been steadily improving over the past decade.

For example, using very conservative criteria, retirement systems are generally considered healthy if their “funded ratio” is above 80 percent. Ten years ago it was below 80 percent but at the end of last fiscal year it was 84.6 percent. This measure the system’s capacity to pay for all future benefits of both retired and active members.

Improvement is also indicated if you measure the system’s financial health by its amortization period. Actuaries estimate that within 20 years the system will be 100 percent funded. That compares favorably to the amortization period of ten years ago, when it was an estimated 33 years. It is a marked improvement over last year’s estimated 26 year estimate.

The ratio is 100 percent when taking into account only retired members.

The system has enough funds to fully pay for all future benefits of every retired beneficiary, for the rest of their lives.

According to the system’s director, who sends regular updates to members, the retirement system hire consultants to recommend how to best make investments. The investments are diversified, to protect from excessive loss in a particular category and withstand market volatility.

About 56 percent of the system’s investments are in publicly-traded stocks, while 13.4 percent are in bonds and other fixed income categories. Alternative investments, such as hedge funds, make up 5.1 percent of total investments. Real estate accounts for 6.7 percent, private equity 13.4 percent and agriculture, timber and infrastructure 4.9 percent.

Assets are evaluated after adjusting for losses and gains over a four-year period, and at the end of last fiscal year the system’s investments earned 9.75 percent.

A snapshot of the system’s finances demonstrates how its financial health has improved over the past few years. At the end of Fiscal Year 2024 its assets were \$22.4 billion. A decade ago its assets were \$15 billion.

The system has 142,000 mem-

bers. About 68,000 are active and 56,000 are retired. Almost 3,000 are in the T-DROP program and almost 15,000 are inactive.

The Teacher Retirement System is the largest public retirement fund in Arkansas. Its Board of Trustees makes decisions after considering their long-term effect. To quote from the system’s web page: “The ATRS Board makes decisions in terms of decades, not days, weeks, or months.”

Junk Food Restrictions

The governor announced that Arkansas would seek permission from federal agencies to prohibit the use of food stamps for sugary soft drinks and junk food snacks. The food stamp program is now called SNAP, for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

In a letter to federal officials, the governor said that SNAP “is undermining the health of millions of Americans, on the taxpayer’s dime, by encouraging families to eat highly processed, unhealthy junk food.... our federal food assistance policies are fueling obesity, diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, and a wide range of chronic health conditions across America.”

Honoring nation’s heroes at Christmas

By U.S. Sen. John Boozman

The holidays provide many opportunities to enjoy the company of loved ones and celebrate special relationships and memories. In so many respects, it truly is the most wonderful time of the year.

One reason we are able to enjoy this season so much is because we live in a great and free country. But that freedom has never been guaranteed, not at our nation’s founding or even today. It comes at an incredibly high price that none of us can take for granted.

For over two centuries, Americans have fought and died to protect our nation and interests. Their service and sacrifice have allowed us to build an open society with ample opportunity and personal liberty. We can never fully repay the debt we owe these courageous men and women, but that does not mean we should stop trying.

At this time of the year, it is especially important we remember them and reflect on everything they represent.

For active duty service members deployed far from home, we send a particular thank you for answering the call of duty even though it means being separated from family and friends. We are eternally grateful for their dedica-

tion and willingness to forfeit that privilege on our behalf.

Another act Americans use to show appreciation for our military community at Christmas is by visiting the cemeteries and burial grounds where fallen warriors now rest. These events take on many different names, but they all serve the same purpose – to demonstrate to their loved ones and ourselves that they are not forgotten.

In Arkansas, we take immense pride in organizing efforts to show our gratitude for them amid this season by adorning their graves with special tokens that are both beautiful and reverent.

Fort Smith’s Christmas Honors began in 2009 and draws hundreds of volunteers to help place Christmas wreaths on over 16,000 headstones at the city’s National Cemetery, including members of my staff who were on hand to share in this month’s moving salute.

In Little Rock, 40 Arkansas National Guard soldiers from Camp Robinson assisted local volunteers this year on the same mission for the graves of unknown service members at the Little Rock National Cemetery.

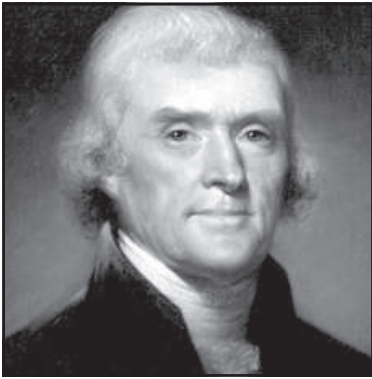
But Arkansas is not alone in this

mission. Since 1992, a national organization dedicated to executing this same tribute continues to grow in awareness and participation. Wreaths Across America exemplifies its motto to “remember, honor and teach,” as more and more people across generations engage with its effort to memorialize our veterans at Christmas.

The group is hosting over 40 events in Arkansas this holiday season to mobilize community members to help lay these emblems down among the sacred, final resting place of Natural State heroes who served our country in uniform.

It also encourages us to speak the name of each veteran aloud and thank them for their life and service, keeping their memory alive all year but especially at a time when families and friends long for one last embrace or conversation.

The holidays can bring out the best in us, and one unmistakable sign of that is our commitment to honor our military and veteran communities who make it possible for us to spend time gathering and enjoying special traditions in peace and prosperity. I, along with all Arkansans, am grateful for that precious gift.



“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.

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All letters must be signed and must not be libelous, superfluous or obscene. Letters may be edited to conform to newspaper style and to fit space requirements.

Nashville News-Leader

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Museum

Continued from page 1

Nannemann helped with small footprints leading to the dinosaur display, along with drawing grass at the bottom of the walls.

“I enjoyed the whole process. It’s the first time I’ve done something like that,” Sherman said. “It was enjoyable, even the grass.”

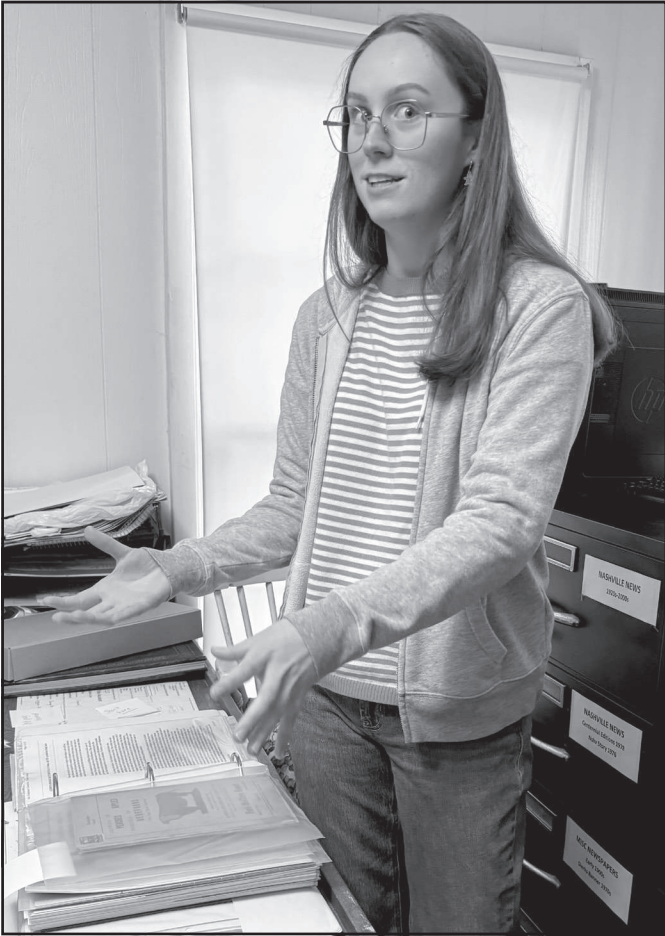
The challenge was “putting it all together to make it interesting and orderly and easy to understand,” she said.

The exhibit includes a display case of Southwest Arkansas dinosaur bones which the museum had acquired a few years ago. Sherman rearranged them in the case and moved other artifacts into the dinosaur room.

The project took the entire semester, according to Sherman. “The hardest part was the labels and making everything understandable to the public.”

Nanneman “helped build it. She guided my steps. She understood that I wanted to make it fun, and she was able to help me.”

Sherman will move to Little Rock in January and will be a full-time graduate student.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

DOCUMENTS. Hannah Sherman shows some of the documents she scanned at the Old City Hall Museum.

She will take three classes and will be a graduate assistant at the Clinton Presidential Library where she will work in the archives.

“I’m excited. I’ve already done some archival work,” she said. Her work will be “primarily digitizing.”

She will spend three semesters at UALR and will graduate with her master’s degree in Public History in 2026.

“I have no idea where to go next,” Sherman said, but she could stay in Little Rock as a graduate assistant.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

RATION BOOK. Hannah Sherman displays a World War II ration book from the files at the Old City Hall Museum location in Nashville. Sherman recently concluded a one-semester graduate internship with the Howard County Historical Society.

Hannah Sherman of Nashville spent the fall semester with the Howard County Historical Society through a University of Arkansas at Little Rock graduate internship. She scanned documents, catalogued historical items, and created the dinosaur room at the county museum.

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Park

Continued from page 1

The state of Arkansas became interested in Woolly Hollow in 1971. “It took about two years of legislation before we officially became a state park in 1973,” Nicole shares.

The cabin that Martin Woolly built 90 years earlier was moved three miles from its original location to the banks of Lake Bennett and restored by the Conway Chamber of Commerce, the Faulkner County Historic Society, and Archie Troxell, a Woolly descendant. It sits today next to the Visitors Center, and is the focal point of the park.

RVs arrive at the Visitors Center in a steady stream on a recent week-day.

“People come here to get away,” Nicole states. People looking for some peace and quiet.

“Our park is limited on internet access due to the fact that we are in a hollow, but we stay busy year-round. Our heavy season is from March to New Year’s.”

Most of the visitors don’t seem to mind the lack of internet access.

My idea of “roughing it” is checking into a Holiday Inn where I didn’t have a reservation, but if you’re one of the many in our area who enjoy camping, you might

News-Leader photo/DON HALL

Texarkana native Nicole Koch is a state park ranger at Woolly Hollow State Park north of Conway.

want to look into Woolly Hollow State Park. Beat the rush and go in January or February.

“This is a beautiful park to visit, a wonderful park if you’re wanting to get away to a nice, quiet spot,” Nicole says with pride. “It’s just an all-around good get-away.”

And, I would add, it has a really cool name.

News-Leader photo/DON HALL

Woolly Hollow State Park is a well-kept secret, according to park ranger Nicole Koch.

News-Leader photo/DON HALL

Lake Bennett was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the Depression.

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District 7-4A All State - Zaccheus Harris, Jamison McIntosh, Khaleel Canaday
District 7-4A First Team - Roochie Wiley, Jaydon Williamson, Brayden Erby, Karson Chambers, Tucker Dixon
District 7-4A Second Team - Kajuan Swift, Skyler Gibson, Bryce Perrin, Ja’Marion Conway, Alexis Brizo

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When ice and heavy snow bring down limbs and power lines, safety is a consideration indoors and out. Make sure you know how to weather the storms. When outside, stay away from downed power lines:

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- 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. 19, 2024
BF=Bond Forfeited
Howard County
Benson, Bliss, 35, Nashville, guilty of failure to pay registration, fined \$210
Cooper, Kevus L., 40, Idaho, \$260 BF, speeding
Couch, Cameron A., 30, Nashville, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445
Ewert, James B., 68, Nashville, guilty of driving left of center, fined \$195; guilty of no seat belt, fined \$70
Gibson, Kevin, 45, Nashville, \$230 BF, speeding
Griffin, Doinicia Breon, 26, Texarkana, Texas, guilty of speeding, fined \$250

Haney, Marcus S., 29, De Queen, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$345
Hill, Miles Macory, 21, Mineral Springs, guilty of obstructing government operations, fined \$370
Howard, Niesha Lacole, 22, Nashville, \$345 BF, no proof of liability insurance; \$245 BF, failure to appear
Hunter, Casen C., 17, Lockesburg, \$195 BF, loud exhaust; \$385 BF, speeding; \$245 BF, failure to appear
Iacoueli, Nicolas, 20, Mineral Springs, guilty of obstructing government operations, fined \$370
Kropf, Rachel, 34, Mineral Springs, \$270 BF, allow-

ing livestock to run at large; \$245 BF, failure to appear
Kropf, Trevor David, 33, Mineral Springs, \$270 BF, allowing livestock to run at large
Mays, Elvonte, 20, Nashville, \$195 BF, no driver's license/expired license; \$195 BF, no child restraint
Mitchell, Iretha D., 54, Broken Bow, Okla., guilty of careless or prohibited driving, fined \$345
Moore, Corey dare, 51, Mineral Springs, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$2,325 owed
Sherman, Tyler R., 25, Texarkana, \$290 BF, speeding
White, Leilani Leslee,

21, Texarkana, Texas, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$1,125 owed
City of Nashville
Bagley, Charlotte, 76, Nashville, \$145 BF, no proof of liability insurance
Dallas, Montana Dawn, 29, Nashville, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$345
Delarosa, Emilio, 42, Nashville, \$195 BF, no driver's license/expired license
Enrique Martinez, Hugo, 23, Nashville, \$195 BF, no driver's license/expired license
Hill, Maegan, 29, Nashville, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445; guilty of

no seat belt, fined \$70; guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445
Hostetler, Irene, 40, Washington, \$230 BF, speeding
Logan, Shatina, 50, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$705 owed; guilty of possessing open container of alcohol in motor vehicle, fined \$220
Long, Andrew M., 37, Caddo Gap, \$195 BF, running stop sign or light
Lopez, Ariel Elder, 37, Hope, guilty of no driver's license/expired license, fined \$195; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245
City of Dierks
Barbre, Steven Adam,

43, Dierks, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445; guilty of expired vehicle tags/no tags, fined \$195
Hedge, Tanner K., 29, De Queen, guilty of speeding, fined \$405; guilty of careless or prohibited driving, fined \$345; guilty of driving left of center, fined \$195
Hunter, Casen C., 17, Lockesburg, \$260 BF, speeding
City of Mineral Springs
Gonzalez, Jose G., 19, Texarkana, Texas, \$195 BF, no driver's license/expired license; \$195 BF, running stop sign or light; \$245 BF, failure to appear

First Day Hikes at Arkansas State Parks Get A Leg Up On The New Year

Arkansas State Parks provide an opportunity to commemorate the new year outdoors with First Day Hikes on Jan. 1, 2025.

“Visiting a state park and participating in First Day Hikes is a special way to start off a new year in a healthy direction,” said Shea Lewis, secretary of the Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism and director of Arkansas State Parks. “Our state parks offer year-round recreation and are an avenue for people to experience the outdoors and foster respect and stewardship for nature.”

First Day Hikes have been a statewide event for Arkansas State Parks since 2014 and have become an annual tradition for many. Some return to the same park each year while others seek out a new park experience to try out for it. The project is part of a nationwide event for all of America’s State Parks and is coordinated by the National Association of State Park Directors.

This year there are more than 1,000 hikes available in state parks around the country.

As part of First Day Hikes in Arkansas, 46 ranger-led, guided hikes take place in 36 Arkansas State Park locations on Jan. 1. The hike start times, terrain difficulty and distances vary, but the aim is the same: to enjoy time outside with family and friends.

“We are thrilled that the First Day Hikes event has grown into such a special tradition for so many people,” said Kelly Farrell, chief of interpretation and program services for the Division of Arkansas State Parks. “This year, we are excited to continue with this national event taking place in 50 state park systems. We hope you enjoy starting 2025 outdoors, kicking off the new year with a healthy, invigorating activity and fun memories. Whether you go a quarter mile or a dozen, you are part of the First Day Hikes movement and part of something huge and exciting.”



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ANOTHER CHAMBER COFFEE. Ivan Smith Furniture was host for the Nashville Chamber of Commerce's community coffee held on Dec. 17. In attendance were (from left) Jarrett Rogers, Liz Tomerlin, Barry Bissell, Michael Morrow, Maira Couch, Carlos Martinez, John Henderson, D'Ann Henderson, Kevin Dalrymple, Laci Gray, Maddison Martinez, Aaron Tollett, Tina Carer, Tim Pinkerton, Kristen Stavely, Susie Berroquin, Kim Westfall and Sunny Myers.

Christmas is almost here and we...



...hope to hear jingling on the rooftop!



Kids: color stuff in!



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Christmas is Coming!

Color in everything.

Christmas is coming! Every day there is something to do to get ready for the holidays. I just finished making Christmas cards with photos on them for my family and friends. Right now I am hanging this wreath I made on the barn door.

Symbols of the holidays are all around us – candles show light and warmth, and bells joyously peal.

Holiday Symbols!

Read the clues below to fill in the crossword with symbols of Christmas!

- gift bringer
- heavenly messengers
- large burning chunk of wood
- town where Christ was born
- ring in Christmas with these
- kind of tree decorated at Christmas
- carried the Kings
- people kiss under this
- three of them brought gifts
- tree decorations
- lighted to show warmth and joy
- ring of greens
- marked the place in the sky
- birthday of Jesus Christ
- songs of the season
- written holiday greetings
- plant that brightens holidays

Christmas

wreath

ornaments

mistletoe

angels

camels

cards

Santa Claus

yule log

candle

carols

Kings

evergreen

stars

Bethlehem

What Plant is This?

Use these letters to spell the name.

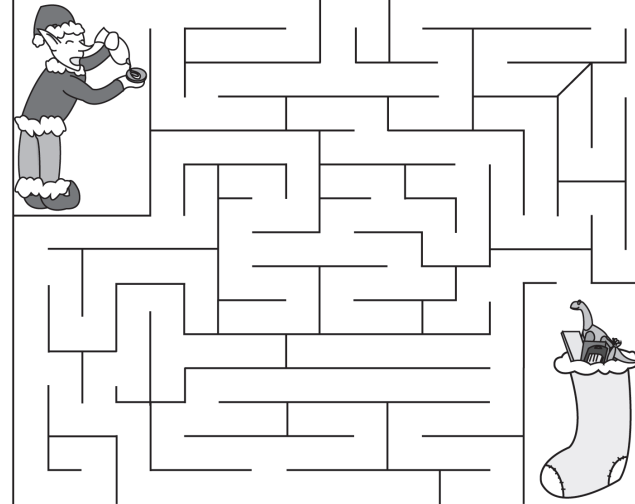
t a n o e

This plant used to brighten the holidays is native to Mexico. The "flowers" are actually leaves!

p i s s i l i

Stuffing the Stocking!

Can you help Starlight, the elf, stuff the cookie into the stocking?



Hark! The Herald Angels Sing...

Many voices and musical instruments are used to create all the beautiful carols that we hear everywhere.



Hark! Hark!

Can you fill in the names of the instruments that are missing from the lines of these Christmas songs?

- I played my _____ for Him
pa rum pum pum pum -
I played my best for Him
pa rum pum pum pum -
- With little tin _____
and little toy _____,
Rooty-toot-toots and rummy-tum-tums,
Santa Claus is coming to town.
- It came upon a midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth, to touch their _____ of gold;
- Jingle _____, jingle _____, jingle all the way!



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Old Pike County hospital to come down

By P.J. Tracy
Murfreesboro Diamond

The Pike County Quorum Court was told that they needed their future plans for the former Pike County Hospital on record for future grant possibilities. As such, it is now on record that if they can acquire the funds to tear it down, they will.

Justice of the Peace Paul Baker inquired if any grants were available for demolition. Pike County Judge Eddie Howard said there was, but it was highly competitive and max out at \$500,000.

He also noted that the grant to remove the asbestos from the building that was previously awarded the county was in action and that tests had been sent off for lab results prior to the actual work of removing the carcinogenic substance from the structure.

While the court ultimately agreed that removal of the building was the best option, Baker voiced the regret that it ultimately had to come to that.

“It’s a shame that it can’t be turned into something.”

Howard agreed, but noted the age of the building was an issue in his professional opinion.

“You can spend a lot of money on a 60-year-old building and still have a 60-year-old building.”

He added that the removal of the building would

open up a piece of real estate in Murfreesboro.

In other Quorum Court news, Howard told the court that a \$215,000 used chip machine was purchased by the county after it was traded in by White County for a new model.

The 2013 machine will accomplish up to 22 feet of roadwork at a time, compared to the county’s older machine at 10 feet.

The adjustable 22 foot machine will match the size of the oil truck the county employs, thus making chip and seal jobs easier.

Howard said an equivalent machine would cost \$550,000 brand new. He added that the used machine had “low hours and in great shape” and all the “wear items” had been rebuilt or replace prior to the purchase – including the augers, bearings and vibrator. He said it was his goal to have a shed built to park the machine under.

The court had the task of approving a number of yearly ordinance, including ordinance 2024-11, an ordinance that allows for the levying and collection of taxes for 2024 to be collected in 2025. There is no change to any of the figures included over the same from last year.

All real and personal property in Pike County will face a .0015 mills for County General and Roads

each, with a .0003 mills for the County Library.

Millages collected by school districts in the county were previously approved by voters, including (both real and personal property) .0305 mills for Nashville School District, .043 mills for Dierks School District, .041 mills for both the South Pike County and Kirby School Districts and .0409 for the Center Point School District.

Rates collected by municipalities in Pike County, both real and personal property, include Murfreesboro .003, Daisy .0049, Glenwood, Antioch and Delight .005 each.

The ordinance also allows for the collection of .0005 mills on real and personal property on a voluntary basis for the Pike County Conservation District.

Ordinance number 2024-12 allows the county to purchase items or services in calendar year 2025 from people with direct ties to the government of Pike County, including

Howard Building and Supply (owned by Pike County Judge Howard), up to \$10,000.

John Plyler’s Home Center (owned by Justice of the Peace John Plyler), up to \$10,000.

Farm and Ranch Feed (owned by Dana Cowart, sister of Clerk Randee Edwards), up to \$10,000

Doyle Howard Construction (owned by Scott

Howard, brother of Judge Howard), may bid on Pike County Construction Projects without bias

Epperly Graphics (owned by Kelly Epperly, a PCSO dispatcher), the only county business that offers embroidery services

Plyler and Robbie Crock-er abstained from the vote that approved the measure.

The court also passed a measure that will establish a mandatory direct deposit system for all county employees. It will mandate that all employees have a checking account at a bank or credit union.

Pike County Treasurer Loletia Rather said that payments would have to be at financial institutions by 2 p.m. on Wednesday for a Thursday payment and that it was planned that the January 2, 2025 be the first exercise of the new procedure.

She added that besides saving the county money, it was also a security measure to not have paper checks floating about.

Plyler, denoting he was for the measure (and indeed voted for it), sardonically noted that it was yet another step toward a cashless society.

The court also approved the 2025 budget that totals just shy of \$10 million dollars.

Highlights included 27 payrolls in 2025 instead of 26 (happens every seven

“You can spend a lot of money on a 60-year-old building and still have a 60-year-old building.”

years), a five-percent raise for elected officials and full-time employees (matches 2024), part-time and certified employees receive a 50-cent per hour raise, the worker’s comp modifier raises from 1.02 to 1.40 due to the number of claims in 2024, two new patrol cars for the Pike County Sheriff’s Office, new server costs to be split between the Pike County Collector’s and Assessor’s offices, and the Assessor office’s travel budget has been aligned with the other county offices.

Additionally, Pike County will take over all Glenwood District Court and Glenwood will reimburse Pike County 25% of the operational costs (approximately \$20,000/year). The District Judge’s salary will be split between Pike and Howard Counties (\$29,325 each), the City of Glenwood (\$4,398.75) and the City of Murfreesboro (\$4,985.25).

Changes were also added to the Pike County Personnel Handbook which included a mandate that time off – outside sick leave – first utilize accrued comp time before vacation time, defining sick leave and its allowance more directly, and a mandate that same sex (but not opposing sexes) department members traveling for training stay in a shared room (up to \$150/night).

Copies of both the budget and personnel handbooks are available to the public for copying and inspection at the Pike County Clerk’s office in Murfreesboro during regular business hours Monday through Friday (excluding holidays).

Through the close of November, Rather reported the following opening/closings for county accounts:

County General \$1,389,728.57/\$1,415,447.45

County Road \$1,009,352.95/\$699,847.43

County Landfill \$879,770.40/\$900,695.38

All County Accounts \$7,525,963.14/\$7,333,385.85

Retirement event at Murfreesboro Dec. 27

There will be a retirement reception for Randy Miller, a 46-year employee of the Murfreesboro Water and Sewer Department on Friday, Dec. 27 at the Murfreesboro City Hall.

The event will be held from 11 a.m., to 1 p.m.

Attend Church This Sunday!

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*Facts About The***BIBLE**

BY JOHN LEHTI

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MESHA AND THE MOABITE STONE

MESHA WAS THE MOABITE KING WHO ERECTED WHAT HAS BECOME KNOWN AS “THE MOABITE STONE.” THIS STONE WAS RAISED TO COMMEMORATE THE SUCCESSFUL REVOLT OF THE KINGDOM OF MOAB, LED BY ITS KING MESHA, AGAINST THE KINGDOM OF ISRAEL AFTER THE DEATH OF KING AHAB IN BATTLE. (II KINGS 3:6) EVER SINCE THE DAYS OF OMRI, KING OF ISRAEL, MOAB HAD BEEN PAYING TRIBUTE TO ISRAEL. THE BIBLE TELLS US THIS TRIBUTE AMOUNTED TO 100,000 LAMBS AND 100,000 RAMS WITH ALL THEIR WOOL! (II KINGS 3:4) THIS WAS A COSTLY PAYMENT, YEAR AFTER YEAR, AND WHEN KING AHAB WAS KILLED AND ISRAEL DEFEATED IN BATTLE KING MESHA, OBVIOUSLY, DECIDED THAT THIS WAS THE BEST TIME TO REFUSE TO PAY THE TRIBUTE! WHEN JEHOAM, THE SON OF AHAB, BEGAN HIS REIGN, HE INQUIRED OF THE KING OF JUDAH, JEHOASHAPHAT, IF HE WOULD AID HIM IN CONQUERING MOAB, AND WHEN HE GOT AN AFFIRMATIVE ANSWER HE SET OUT WITH A THIRD KING, THE KING OF EDM, TO INVADE MOAB! THE CAMPAIGN MAKES INTERESTING READING (II KINGS 3:5-27) AND EVEN INVOLVES THE PROPHET ELISHA AND BOTH THE GULLIBILITY AND THE GREED FOR LOOT OF THE MOABITES! ALTHOUGH MOAB WAS DECISIVELY DEFEATED IN BATTLE, THE ISRAELITES DID NOT DEMAND ANY FURTHER TRIBUTE BUT WENT BACK TO ISRAEL—KING MESHA ERECTED THE STONE AND CALLED HIS REVOLT A SUCCESS—WHICH IT WAS, FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES!!



296 GIVE THE WORD FOR YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

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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.

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OFFICIAL OPENING FOR EATERY. The Nashville Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon-cutting ceremony Dec. 19 for Kickin' Wingz & Thingz restaurant, located at 519 South Main, next to Smith's Cleaners. Those who showed up to support owner Jarrad Shelton (with the bow and scissors) included Wndy Rojas-Sitzes, Tim Pinkerton, Tara Green, Tina Carver, Christy Adams, Shelton, Carlos Martinez, Susie Barrquin, Aaron Tollett, Kristin Stveley, Vanessa Weeks and daughter and Howard County Fair Royalty, Sophie Weeks.

Umarex Big Squirrel Challenge back Jan. 10-11

Arkansas air-gun maker pumping up prizes

The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's state-wide squirrel-hunting celebration is back, and this time Arkansas-based airgun company Umarex U.S.A. is pumping up the prize!

Now in its fourth year, the Umarex Big Squirrel Challenge is an easy-to-join hunting event where teams of two spend an afternoon and morning gathering the three biggest bushytails they can find and bring them to an official weigh station to compare to the other participants' top three treetop nutcrackers.

AGFC Assistant Chief of Education Eric Maynard said the contest has drawn so much fun and participation that Umarex joined in this year to sponsor the statewide event.

"It's great to have Umarex partner with us on what's one of my favorite events we put on in the AGFC's Education Division," Maynard said. "They've offered to provide prizes for the event as well as equipment we can use to get more people involved in the outdoors and on the road to being hunters."

The official rules are available at www.agfc.com/education/2025-big-squirrel-challenge, but here are the main details. There's no registration, just get a buddy and go hunt. Teams of two hunt from noon-to-noon Jan. 10-11 during legal shooting hours. You can harvest up to your two-man limit of squirrels (that's 12 squirrels per hunter per day) but only the three largest squirrels will be weighed for each category of the contest. Hunters are welcome to use squirrel dogs for their bushytails.

"We have different categories for limits of fox squirrels only and gray squirrel/mixed bags, which must include at least one gray squirrel," Maynard said. "A team can enter multiple categories but each squirrel can only be weighed once, so you need to choose which ones are going in which contest before you weigh them in."

Age groups are divided into adult-only teams and youth teams, which can be two hunters under 16 or a hunter under 16 with an adult mentor.

"You can hunt by yourself if you want to, but we encourage people to pair up with a youth they know and introduce them to squirrel hunting if they can," Maynard said. "It's a competition, but it's all about having a good time and getting to know the outdoors."

Twelve weigh-in stations are positioned around the state, and hunters must be in line with their squirrels by noon to be included in the contest.

Squirrels must be field dressed with the skin on to be weighed and they will be returned to the hunters after the weigh-in so they may enjoy a fresh squirrel dinner at home.

Awards will be given at each weigh-in station at roughly 1 p.m. Jan. 11 with the top two teams in each category receiving medals.

In addition to being the title sponsor of the event, Umarex furnished the grand prizes for the contest. The top team in the state in each age group and division will receive two top-of-the-line Umarex airguns. A Umarex airgun also will be awarded to one lucky hunter at each of the 12 weigh-in locations as a door prize.

"Anyone who weighs a squirrel will be eligible for the door prize," Maynard said. "We also have a case of special-edition Squirrel Dust seasoning from Townsend Spice and Supply and cookbooks from this year's World Champion Squirrel Cooking Contest that will be given out as door prizes at the various weigh-in stations."

The Big Squirrel Challenge doesn't have to be only a two-day affair; take a look at the AGFC's Outdoor Skills Calendar at www.agfc.com/events to register for one of many "squirrely" activities to get in the spirit for a good old-fashioned squirrel hunt. Classes on squirrel hunting and cooking are available as well as many other outdoors activities to keep the family entertained through the holiday season.

Weigh-in Locations:

- Springdale
- J.B. and Johnelle Hunt Family Ozark Highlands Nature Center
- 3400 N. 40th St., Springdale
- Pine Bluff
- Governor Mike Huckabee Delta Rivers Nature Center
- 1400 Black Dog Drive, Pine Bluff
- Mayflower
- Camp Robinson Special Use Area Headquarters
- 331 Clinton Road, Conway
- Jonesboro
- Ft. Smith
- Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center
- 8300 Wells Lake Road, Fort Smith
- Yellville
- Fred Berry Crooked Creek Nature Center
- 851 Conservation Lane, P.O. Box 489, Yellville
- Columbus**
- Rick Evans Grandview Prairie Nature Center**
- 1685 CR35N, Columbus**
- Hazen
- Mike Freeze
- Wattensaw WMA Shop
- 1693 Hwy 11 North, Hazen
- Batesville
- Independence County Shooting Sports Complex
- 3600 N. St. Louis, Batesville
- Magnolia
- SAU Laney Farm
- 833 Old McNeil Road, Magnolia
- Russellville
- Russellville Regional Office
- 1266 Lock and Dam Road, Russellville
- Monticello
- Monticello Regional Office
- 771 Jordan Drive, Monticello



MINERAL SPRINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT AWARDS. Mineral Springs Volunteer Fire Department Chief Chris Hostetler (at left) honored Charles Deloney (above) with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his more than 50 years of dedicated service to the department and Eric Marks (below) as 2024 Fireman of the Year during the department's annual Christmas party.



FIREMAN OF THE YEAR. Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department member Dylan Branch (at left) accepted the Fireman of the Year Award on Dec. 16 from his father, Ricky Branch, a longtime member of the department and current assistant fire chief.



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Dierks Senior Hoopsters Sweep Horatio



Lady Outlaw Addison Hill



Outlaw Landen Young



Outlaw Maxton Greene



Outlaw Jordan Hill



Lady Outlaw Lilly Hogg



Lady Outlaw Milee Harrison

Dierks Outlaws 65 • Horatio Lions 31

- Jordan Hill - 18 points (six three-pointers)
- Dylan Moore - 15 points (five three-pointers)
- Kolton Gadbury - 7 points (one three-pointer)
- Landen Young - 7 points
- Hunter Glasgow - 6 points (two three-pointers)
- Peyton Boeckman - 4 points
- Bryar Janes - 4 points
- Johnny Kirby - 3 points (three-pointer)
- Horatio Lion Top Scorers: Colton Shelton & Daniel Gideon with 7 points each

Dierks Lady Outlaws 54 • Horatio Lady Lions 39

- Addison Hill - 18 points
- Milee Harrison - 15 points (three three-pointers)
- Lilly Hogg - 13 points (three-pointer)
- Aspen Pugh - 5 points
- Raylie Walston - 3 points (three-pointer)
- Horatio Lady Lion Top Scorer: Aliyah Ayers with 18 points
- (All Photos by Nikki Fields Images & Designs)

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STEPHANIE LOCKHART

Certified Public Accountant

410 N. Main St., Suite 1

Nashville

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stephanie@lockhartcpa.com

Edward Jones

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Merry Christmas

A headshot of Josh Tice, a man with short hair, wearing a suit and tie.

Josh Tice, AAMS™
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A photo of Hayden Linville, a man wearing a camouflage jacket and a hat, kneeling in a field.

Hayden Linville
Feral Swine Technician
for Mine Creek
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Nashville
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cell: 870-200-0309
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Rattlers 71/Bulldogs 50 **Murfreesboro vs. Hampton** Lady Rattlers 59/Lady Bulldogs 50



Murfreesboro Rattler Kale Burns



Murfreesboro Rattler Caden Dixon



Murfreesboro Rattler Kooper Caldwell



Murfreesboro Lady Rattler Chloe Scoggins



Murfreesboro Lady Rattler Natalie Perrin

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Week of December 23, 2024

5



Karstyn Scrivner (24) and Mercy Hagler (25) watch for the rebound in a loss to North Little Rock Dec. 17. The Scrapperettes defeated Bryant 52-44 Dec. 20.

Hoops teams wrap up pre-holiday portion of season before return to court next week

News-Leader photos/DEDE ROBINSON

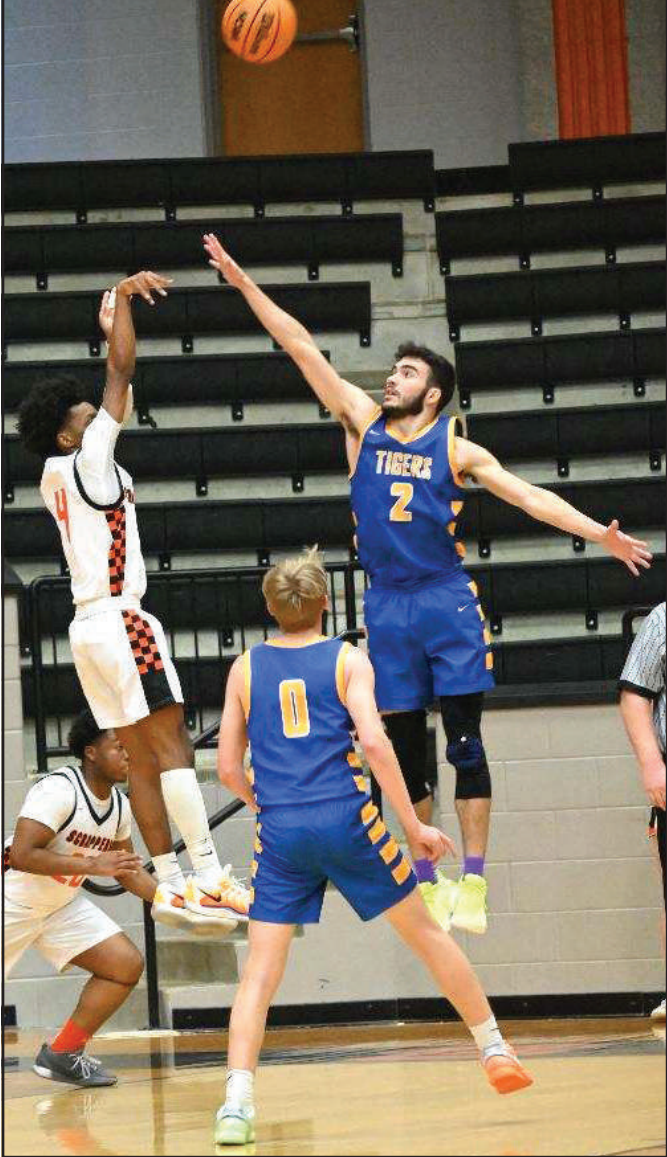


Channing Scott finds a way around the Acorn defender in Nashville's 98-30 win earlier this month.

The Scrappers and Scrapperettes will compete in tournaments after Christmas. The Scrappers will play at Mineral Springs. The Scrapperettes will compete at Little Rock Christian. Conference games for both teams will begin in January.



Angel Watson (left) drives to the basket last week against North Little Rock at Scrapper Arena.



Johnta Taylor (4) goes up for a Scrapper basket in the holiday classic win over Acorn.



Sofia McCauley (15) tries to get the ball to Karstyn Scrivner (24) against North Little Rock.



Ava Basiliere (left) puts up a Scrapperette score against NLR. She scored 25 points against Bryant Dec. 20.



Scrapper Demetrus Shelley (2) controls the ball against Acorn.

A photograph of a family (mother, father, and three children) running through a field of tall grass, holding hands, under a bright blue sky with some clouds.

The logo for the National Rural Health Association, featuring a stylized sunburst design.

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News-Leader photo/JOHN BALCH

TWO PROJECTS AT ONCE. Nashville's water tower on Third Street is currently getting serviced - inside and out - to include sandblasting and a paint job, according to Mayor Larry Dunaway, who added that a big curtain will soon go up around the tower during the exterior painting. The tank has been isolated for the work and the water supply diverted to the tower on Seventh Street. Also currently at the tower site, T-Steele Construction workers (pictured) out of Rock Island, Ill., are busy erecting a new AT&T cell phone tower. Mayor Dunaway said he expects both projects to be wrapped up by mid-January, weather permitting.

Southwest Arkansas Invitational Mineral Springs High School

Girls Bracket	Boys Bracket
12/28	12/28
Game 1 4:00	Game 2 5:15
Murfreesboro vs. Horatio	Nashville vs. Horatio
Game 2 6:30	Game 1 7:45
Mineral Springs vs. Foreman	Mineral Springs vs. Foreman
12/30	12/30
Game 3 6:30	Game 3 5:15
Kirby vs. Winner of Game 1	Murfreesboro vs. Winner of Game 1
1/2	Game 4 7:45
Consolation Game	Kirby vs. Winner of Game 2
6:30 L1 vs. L2	1/2
1/4	Consolation Games
Championship 5:15	5:15 L1 vs. L2
Winner of Game 2 vs. Winner of Game 3	7:45 L3 vs. L4
	1/4
	Championship 6:30
	Winner of Game 3 vs. Winner of Game 4

Dec. 28 – Jan. 4

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In addition to her technical expertise, Stephanie excels in establishing and managing client relationships, providing tailored financial and tax advice. She is committed to supporting individuals and small businesses in achieving their financial goals.

Stephanie holds an MBA from Texas A & M University – Commerce and a Bachelor of Science in Accounting Control Systems from the University of North Texas.

Stephanie grew up in Murfreesboro, AR, and is the daughter of Steve and Cindy Turner and Richard and the late Vicki Cook of Murfreesboro. In addition to her parents, she has a host of family and friends in the Murfreesboro and Nashville area. She and her spouse William have been married for 16 years and recently moved to Nashville to raise their three boys: Austin (12), Parker (11), and Cason (6).

Stephanie Lockhart, CPA
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