

# THE NASHVILLE NEWS-LEADER

Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2025 ♦ Vol. 23, Issue 33 ♦ 16 pages, 2 sections ♦ \$1

#### Leader **Board**

www.swarkansasnews.com

#### **OPINION** 4A

Love your neighbor and get your vaccination.

#### Barbecue Bowl set Saturday at fairgrounds

The annual Howard County 4-H Barbecue Bowl will be held Saturday, Feb. 8, at the Howard County Fairgrounds.

More selections will be available for the 2025 edition.

The line-up includes the following:

Family meals \$35 - 1 pound pulled pork or a 7-pound smoked hen, 1 pint potato salad, 1 pint beans, bread and dessert

A la carte - 7 pound smoked hen \$15, 1 pound pulled pork \$15, 1 pint potato salad \$10, 1 pint baked beans \$10

One dozen wings \$15 Orders may be placed by calling the Howard County Extension Office in Nashville at 870-845-7517 or clicking the QR code



#### Benefit for assistant principal's family at NHS

The Nashville High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes chapter will sponsor a chicken lunch Thursday, Feb. 6, to benefit the family of Assistant Principal Eric Perez following the loss of his nephew.

The event will be held from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the old gym at NHS. Pickup and deliveries are available.

The menu includes chicken, baked beans, chips and dessert.

For more information or to place an order, call the school at 870-845-

3261. Perez was an assistant football coach and head soccer coach at NHS before becoming assistant principal

#### **Inside** today's

**News-Leader** 

Obituaries, 2A Early Files, 3A Opinion, 4A Sports, 7A-8A Trends, B Classifieds, 7B



#### Scrappers honored at Rotary banquet

By Dede Robinson and John R. Schirmer News-Leader staff

Scrapper football players were recognized for their accomplishments during the season at the Rotary Club Football Banquet Saturday night, Feb. 2, in the Nashville High School cafeteria.

Coaches reviewed season highlights and presented a number of awards during the event.

Senior Kasen Morgan was named the Rotary Most Valuable Player. Superintendent Doug Graham presented the award.

tains were Logan Pennington and Joe Branch. Other awards include

Permanent Team Cap-

the following: Outside linebackers -Skyler Gibson and Bryce

Defensive line - Jaydon

Williamson, Makhi Johnson and Brayden Erby

Wide receivers Ja'Marion Conway, Kasen Morgan and Alexis Brizo

Defensive backs Roochie Wiley and Khaleel

Offensive backs - Tucker Dixon and Karson Cham-

Offensive line - Jamison McIntosh and Luke Lacie Practice players - Landon Arbuthnott and Brady

Brian Bearden Award for Manager of the Year -

Jacee Martin Jim Worley Unseen Senior Award - Joe Branch

Members of the Homecoming court were introduced at the banquet.

The Scrapper cheerleaders were recognized. They recently finished seventh nationally during competition in Dallas.



MVP. Senior Kasen Morgan (right) accepts the Most Valuable Player Award from Superintendent Doug Graham at the Rotary Football Banquet Saturday night, Feb. 2. (More pictures, page 7A)



JOINT EFFORT. Five NHS Scrap Media students and teacher Carolanne Pinegar recently worked with SWEPCO to tell the community about an energy assistance program. They include Heiland Tatum-Gaines, Hailey Cano, Ben Gregory, Landyn Tompkins and Connor Crabtree.

#### Scrap Media works with SWEPCO on community information project

From SWEPCO **Communications** 

Media students at Nashville High School flipped the script and became community teachers in a recent collaboration

with SWEPCO. Students from the audio/visual Scrap Media team embraced the challenge of spreading the word about the Federal Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), equipping their neighbors with essential info on winter heating assistance.

The students and their teacher Carolanne Pinegar, known affectionately as

"Ms. P," emphasized that the region, and this latest real-world projects like this provide invaluable experience and help them explore potential careers.

Their assignment? Help their neighbors, parents and other residents of Howard County understand the benefits of LIHEAP and teach them how to apply for this es-

sential winter support. In Arkansas, the LI-HEAP winter heating application window opened Jan. 6, arriving at a critical moment for income-qualified residents in need of assistance with heating costs.

Recently winter storm Cora left snow and ice in

Arctic blast plunged temperatures below freezing.

Arkansas customers may apply through April 30 for the federal LÎHEAP winter heating help. SWEPCO customers can also find specific help based on every budget by answering a few simple questions at swepco.com/ billhelp.

"If someone in Arkansas is in need of winter heating assistance, we encourage them to start applying," said Tiffany Smith, planning and development program man-

See Video • Page 5A

#### Students attend recent career fair

More than 400 Nashville who participated. High School students attended Career Fair 2025 Wednesday, Jan. 29, in the old Scrapper Gym.

Students had the opportunity to visit more than 30 vendors to find out about different types of careers.

Many of the vendors provided brochures, candy and bags for students to carry the items they received.

Students attended by grade, including sophomores 9-10 a.m., juniors 10-11 a.m. and seniors 11 a.m. until 12 noon.

Career Coach Natalie Sherman began planning the event last fall.

She said the fair was a

Career Fair 2025 attend-

ees include the following: Army Corps of Engi-

City of Nashville

Cornerstone Counseling De Queen & Eastern Railroad

Diamond Bank Farmers Bank

Heavy Equipment Operators Ácademy

Howard County Children's Center

Howard County Economic Development Howard County Farm

Bureau Howard Memorial Hos-

pital Ledwell

See Career • Page 5A



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

AT THE FAIR. NHS seniors Taylor Watts and Jamie Wallace visit Career Coach Natalie Sherman at Career Fair 2025 Jan. 29.



Hattiesburg, Miss. The facility was originally a USO Club for Black soldiers in World War II.

MILITARY HISTORY. Jaree Hall of Nashville tours the African American Military History Museum in

# Unique story brought to life

By Don Hall

News-Leader staff

There is a time machine at 305 E. 6th Street in downtown Hattiesburg, Miss.

As soon as you step through the door of the old red brick building, you're transported to the 1940s, with the heavy, leather-covered furniture, the crackling fireplace, the dark paneled walls, and the soothing sounds of a big band backing up the Andrews sisters.

See Museum • Page 5A

# Obituaries



**Charles Randall Short** 

Charles Randall Short, age 65, went home to be with the Lord peacefully and surrounded by his loved ones on Sunday, Jan. 26, 2025. Randall was born on March 31, 1959, in De Queen, Ark., to the late Emerson and Vada

Randall was raised in Eagletown, Okla., with his seven siblings of which he was always showing his playful spirit with. Back in the day you could find him at the races or hog hunting in the bottoms. He was a professional on the chainsaw and could cut down any tree. He spent much of his life boys have proudly followed in his footsteps.

Randall so enjoyed his trips to the Hornet Hut, Red-E-Mart, and being a part of the town of Blevins. He loved his community deeply, and they loved him. He was always there to lend a helping hand to anyone who needed anything. He had a fighting spirit that was strong and fearless. Randall was known for his infectious humor and was always bringing laughter to everyone around him. He was the light of every room and left an impact on everyone who knew him. We take comfort in looking forward to a reunion day in heaven where we will see him again.

Randall is survived by the love of his life and best Amy. Children - Rod Short, Todd Short, Sissy Liggin, Jason Short, Braydon Rich, Misty Hanney, and Brandon Hanney. Sixteen grandchildren - Kayden and Knox Short, Titus and Tatum died Saturday, Feb. 1, 2025, your plan: Short, Lynli and Landri Liggin, Alissa Short, Hagen Billings, Sydney and Clay- son Wesson. ton Hanney, Justice and Short, Rodney Short, Ramona Compton, Ranell Short, Amber (Short) Provence, Eric Short, and several special nieces, nephews, and Funeral Home.

other loved family members.

He is preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Jeremy and Ricky Short, uncles Charles Frank, Thomas Short, Cleo Sharrock, JC Short, and Wendy Hall.

Visitation will be 6-8 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 30 at Latimer Funeral Home in Nashville.

Graveside services will be 2 p.m., Friday, Jan. 31 at Friendship Cemetery, under the direction of Latimer Funeral Home in Nashville.

Pallbearers will be Ricky Short, Eric Short, Ryan Short, Hunter Burke, Justice Hall, Clayton Hanney, Dalton Billings, Dillon Billings, and Daniel Burke.

You may send an online sympathy message at www. latimerfuneralhome.com



Shelba Ware Thurman

Shelba Thurman, 72, of Nashville died Jan. 26, 2025.

She was born Dec. 9, in the log woods which his 1952, in Quitaque, Texas, the daughter of Joe Jean Ware and the late Curtis Ware.

> She was an RN and had worked at Howard Memorial Hospital for more than 20 years before joining the Arkansas Department of Health.

> She was preceded in death by a son, Joie Thur-

> Survivors include: her husband, Cross Thurman; children, Joey Thurman, Jada Thurman Green, Jenia Thurman, Jason Thurman; her mother, Joe Jean Ware; brothers Edward Wallace Ware and Ronnie Ware; sisters, Glorious Burns, Diann Ferguson, Melody Ware and April Ware.

Her funeral service was Sunday, Feb. 2, 2025, at Maranatha Baptist Church friend of over 30 years, in Nashville, followed by burial at Sunset Gardens Cemetery, Nashville.

> Arrangements by Hicks Funeral Home, Inc., of Hope. Zenobia Kay Hughes

Zenobia Kay Hughe, 72, in North Little Rock.

Burke, Dalton and Dillon Calvin and Delores Adam-

Services will be Saturday, Savannah Hall; and five Feb. 8, 2025, at 11 a.m. at great-grandchildren. Sib- Dodson Street Church of lings - Robert Short, Ray Christ in Nashville. Burial will follow in Center Point Cemetery. A visitation will be Friday evening, Feb. 7, from 4-6 p.m. at Nashville

#### President's Day closings for Hempstead County

The Hempstead County Courthouse, Road Department and Waste Department will be closed Monday, Feb. 17, for President's Day.

All activities will resume regular hours on Tuesday. Trash routes for Hempstead County residents for Monday and Tuesday, Feb. will be collected Tuesday. Residents are asked to have trash out by 7 a.m.

#### Tri-County libraries will have board meeting 18th

The Tri-County Regional Library System Board will meet for its quarterly meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 18, at the Sevier County Library-De Queen.

The meeting will begin at 5 p.m.

The director of the system is Marilyn Archer Addington. The system serves 10 public libraries in Howard, Little River and Sevier counties in Southwest Arkansas.



FLAGS UP AND DOWN. U.S. flags went up and down flagpoles at City Hall and the Howard County courthouse during January. The banners were lowered for 30 days to mark the death of former President Jimmy Carter, but during that period had to be raised for the Presidential inauguration.

#### **FINANCIAL FOCUS**

## Put more in your 401(K) this year

By Josh Tice, Edward Jones Investments

Once you retire, you'll likely need to draw on a variety of financial sources — and one of the most important ones may be your 401(k). And for 2025, you can put even more money into your plan than ever.

You can invest in your 401(k) in one of two ways, depending on your employer's plan. With a traditional 401(k), you contribute pre-tax dollars, which can lower your taxable income, and your money can grow tax deferred. If you have a Roth 401(k) option, you can contribute after-tax dollars, which aren't deductible, but your eventual withdrawals will be tax-free if you've had your account at least five years and you're at least 591/2.

For either a traditional or Roth 401(k), as well as similar plans such as a 457(b) (for government employees) or a 403(b) (for educators and employees of some nonprofit groups), the contribution limit has increased by \$500 for 2025, to \$23,500. If you're 50 or older, you can contribute an additional \$7,500, for a total of \$31,000. And under the SECURE 2.0 legislation, if you are between 60 and 63, you have a higher catch-up contribution — \$11,250, instead of \$7,500, for a total of \$34,750.

If you can afford to contribute the full amount to your 401(k) or similar plan, consider doing so. Of course, not everyone is in that position. If you're a younger worker, you may well have other financial obligations, such as paying off student loans. And even if you've been in the workforce for a while, you may be putting away money for other things — such as your children's education — as well as your own retirement. But even if you can't "max out" on your 401(k), try to contribute at least enough to earn your employer's matching contribution, if one is offered.

Regardless of how much you contribute to your 401(k), consider these suggestions on managing the money within

• Create a portfolio that fits your risk tolerance. Most She was born Nov. 25, 401(k) plans offer up to a dozen investment options, while and Denim Rich, Morgan 1952, in Bingen to the late some plans offer many more. You obviously want to increase your 401(k) balance as much as possible, but that doesn't necessarily mean putting all your 401(k) dollars into the most aggressive funds available. Instead, consider spreading your 401(k) contributions among a range of investments, which can help you lower your risk level while still giving you opportunities for long-term growth. Everyone's risk tolerance is different, though, so you'll want to evaluate yours when constructing your 401(k) portfolio.

• Adjust your portfolio as needed. It's a good idea to

#### Chili fund-raiser Saturday to benefit Center Point VFD

A chili supper fund-raiser Saturday, Feb. 8, will help the local volunteer fire department with maintenance and upkeep of equipment.

The event will raise funds for the Center Point VFD and will be held in the Center Point Community Building with

serving to begin at 5:30 p.m. Homemade chili with all the fixins' is sold by donation.

#### Soccer team conducting benefit fund-raiser

The Scrapperette soccer team is conducting a Valentine's Day fund-raiser Tuesday, Feb. 11, from 12 noon until 3 p.m. at Diamond Bank in Nashville. The team will sell a meal including three al-pastor tacos

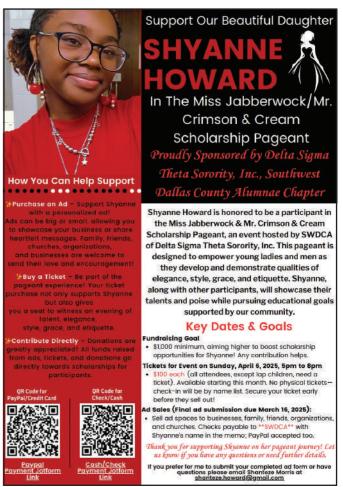
with rice and beans for \$12.

There is no need to pre-order, according to Coach Clarissa Brizo.

Desserts and drinks will also be sold during the event. For more information, send email to clarissa.brizo@ nashvillesd.com or call 870-200-0974.

review your 401(k)'s investment mix at least once a year to see if it's performing as you'd hoped. But be patient one "down" year doesn't necessarily mean you must make changes. However, as you approach retirement, you may want to lower the risk level of your 401(k) by moving some of your dollars into more conservative vehicles. Still, even when you're retired and have started drawing money from your 401(k), you might want to keep some growth potential in it to help you stay ahead of inflation.

By contributing what you can afford to your 401(k), and by carefully managing the investments within your plan, you can help maximize the value of this powerful retirement savings vehicle — and give yourself a key asset to help you enjoy your retirement years.



The granddaughter of a Nashville resident is participating in a scholarship pageant. Shyanne Howard is the granddaughter of Ann Carr. Her mother is the former Shanteze Carr of Nashville.

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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



Star Motor Co., located on Missouri Street in Dierks, was operated by Otis Griffin during the 1940s-1950s

122 years ago: February

A man, whose name we failed to learn, was arrested and taken from the Iron Mountain train in Hope with his children. The man being charged with kidnapping the little ones.

A man who resided near Mineral Springs committed suicide by shooting himself with a shotgun last week. He was unmarried and was 65 years of age. The deceased had been mentally unbalanced for several months and sometime since had attempted to commit

Wanted: Twenty good hands, five of them teamsters to work at sawmill, six miles south of Nashville. once a week. Call on Marion Barefield at the mill.

79 years ago: February 1946

The training-on-the-job phase of the GI Bill of Rights has been put into effect in

the purpose of training re- is at a rehabilitation center in farm work or any trade in which approved local training may be had. Under the amended bill any service man may receive training on the job with payment of \$65 per month for single men and \$90 for married men during the whole time they are eligible.

Sgt. Norman L. Tollett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dee Tollett of Nashville, arrived home Sunday having received his discharge from the Army after 36 months' service, 22 months which were spent in overseas duty in the south Pacific. He wears the Asiatic Pacific Ribbon with one-star, Good Conduct Medal, Philippine \$1.25 cents a day and paid Liberation Ribbon, American Defense Ribbon and Victory Medal.

#### 62 years ago: February

Gary Davis of Murfreesboro, whose legs were amputated following a logging Nashville High School with accident at Mineral Springs,

turned farm boys and others in North Carolina. Gary has adjusted himself well.

Marine Staff Sargent Robert B. Bowles, husband of the former Evalon Mc-Donald of Nashville, is serving aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Princeton, which recently completed training in the San Diego, California area.

#### 42 Years ago: January

The Christian Motorcycle Association, a group organized at Hatfield, is sponsoring a revival at Bruce Memorial Methodist Church at Blevins Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and on Tuesday and Thursday at the Friendship United Methodist Church at McCaskill.

A bill authorized by Senator Luther Hardin of Russellville which would make it a class D felony to beat up on a youngster 12 years or younger has now passed both the Senate and the House and is waiting for the Governor's signature.

# **Public Record of Howard County**

were filed, issued or recorded at the Howard County, Ark., courthouse during the period Jan. 23-29, 2025, except as noted:

**Marriage Licenses** 

(Marriage licenses cost \$60 *at the County Clerk's office)* Jan. 28. Juan Carlos Aley Castillo, 26, Nashville, and Alicia Lynn Loaeza Kennon, 26, Nashville.

Civil Court

Afeld Holdings, LLC vs. McFadden Timber. Contract.

CV25-08, Jan. 27. Global Lending Services vs. Latasha Pleasant and Chad Reed. Contract.

CV25-09, Jan. 29. Crown Asset Management vs. Lonnie Davis. Debt.

CV25-10, Jan. 29. Amur Equipment Finance vs. Robert Adams. Contract.

#### **Domestic Relations Court**

DR25-03, Jan. 24. Jared James vs. Roseann Christopher. Paternity.

DR25-04, Jan. 28. Andrea Britt vs. Joseph Murphy. Divorce.

DR25-05, Jan. 28. Mary Conway vs. Jeffery Conway. Divorce.

#### **Criminal Court**

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

CR25-10, Jan. 20. State of Arkansas vs. Jason Edward Smith, 23, white male, 321 W. Bishop, Nashville; breaking or entering, class D felony; theft of property, class D; commercial burglary, class

CR25-11, Jan. 20. State of Arkansas vs. Hunter Leach, 19, white male, 1711 Hempstead 342, Hope; breaking or

Items or documents that of property, class D; com-

mercial burglary, class C. CR25-12, Jan. 20. State of Arkansas vs. William James Tucker, 39, white male, 19 Meadowlands Dr., Nashville; failure to comply as sex offender, class C; unauthorized use of a vehicle, misdemeanor.

Arkansas vs. Jessica Jackson, 40, white female, 320 CV25-07, Jan. 22. K2 & fraudulent use of a credit S27 T9S R27W. card, class D.

Land/Property **Transactions Quitclaim Deed** 

Jan. 24. (Correcting legal description) Anthony Woodruff and wife, Anita Woodruff; to Anthony Rene Woodruff and Anita Marie Woodruff, Co-trustees of the Woodruff Family Living Trust; 45 ac. in S25 T9S

Jan. 27. Carla Reid and husband Donnie Reid; to Carla Reid and husband Donnie Reid; 6 tracts in S22/ S23/S26/S27 T5S R28W.

**Redemption Deeds** 

Jan. 23. State of Arkansas; to Maria de los Angeles and Argelio E. Salazar, Mineral Springs; 0.27 ac. in S19 T10S R27W, aka 211 Cowling St.; payment of delinquent taxes and penalties of \$479.39.

Distributee's Deed

Jan. 23. Marguerite Robinson, Distributee of the Small Estate of Esther L. Amonette, deceased; to Marguerite Robinson, Mark E. Amonette, Sr., Stephen Carlton Amonette and J. Fulton Amonette; aggregate 15 ac., S18 T9S R27W.

#### Trustee's Deed

Jan. 24. Anthony Rene Woodruff and Anita Marie Woodruff, Co-trustees of The Woodruff Family Living entering, class D felony; theft Trust; to Austin Lovelis and Springs.

ac., S25 T9S R28W. \$202,500.

Fiduciary's Deeds Jan. 29. Donna C. Futrell and Gary Dan Futrell, Cotrustees of the Donna C. Futrell Revocable Trust; to Four74, LLC; 5.39 ac. in S27 T9S R27W.

Jan. 29. Gary Dan Futrell CR25-13, Jan. 20. State of and Donna C. Futrell, Cotrustees of the Gary Dan Futrell Revocable Trust; 3 W. Shepherd, Nashville; tracts, aggregate 1.856 ac.,

Beneficiary's Deed

Jan. 28. Terry L. Young; to Dana Brooks, Danny Young and Dale Young; part of Lot 6, Block 7, Greenwood Addition, Town of Nashville.

Executor's Deed

Jan. 28. Leslie Allen Bradley, Executor of the Estate of Phillip K. Bradley, deceased; to Leslie Allen Bradley; Lot 8 and part of Lot 7, Block 1, Sunset Addition Town of Nashville.

**Warranty Deeds** 

Jan. 23. Amber Nicolosi; to John Eric Glidewell; Lot 10 Timberlane Addition Unit No. 1, Howard County. Jan. 23. William H. Har-

din, Jr.; to Justin Hostetler and Juanita Hostetler, husband and wife; 2 tracts, aggregate 46.431 ac. in S18/S19 T9S R28W. \$1,700,000. Jan. 28. (Special) Harla

Dave Beavert; to Pro-Fab of Northwest Arkansas; aggregate 441.34 ac. in S7 T9S R28W. Jan. 28. Krista L. Trimble

and husband Armon Trimble; to Matt Staggs; property in S26 T9S R27W. \$220,000.

Jan. 29. William Wiseman Tabler and wife Julia "Judy" Tabler; to Ashley Alexandra Weems, Trustee of the William and Judy Tabler Living Trust; 0.543 ac. Block 65, Original Town of Mineral

#### **HCCC** board to meet Feb. 11

The Howard County Building 2 conference area Children's Center board of directors will meet in regular

session on Tuesday, Feb. 11. The meeting is open to

at noon.

The center's officers and board of directors includes: the public and will be in the Jamison, vice president; Lisa and Melissa Hamilton.

Chandler, secretary; Donny Woods, treasurer; members Carol Murray, Bill Craig, Dena Tollett, Sarah Myers, Josh Tice, president; Riley Andy Troutt, Zack Pinegar,

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#### Judge issues failure to appear warrants

more "failure to appear" sion. warrants ordered than there were guilty or not guilty pleas.

On the bench, Judge Tom Cooper ordered four "FTAs" for persons who missed assigned dates in court.

One defendant pleaded guilty to multiple charges in two separate criminal cases, and another defendant pleaded not guilty and had dates set for motions

and a jury trial. The guilty plea was by Malcolm J. Smith, 62, black male, Nashville, who was sentenced to a combined total of six years in the Arkansas Department of Correction (ADC). His charges in the two cases ranged from possessing weapons during a controlled substance violation, felon in possession of firearm, theft by receiving, maintaining a drug premises, plus others. Some of the charges were dropped in return for the guilty plea.

The not guilty plea was by Robert Johnson, 54, black male, Nashville, who was charged in November of 2018 with theft of property. Pretrial motions will be heard April 9.

Failure to appear warrants were ordered for:

William Chambers, 61, white male, Nashville, charged in March of 2024 with delivery of controlled substance, penalty enhanced by proximity.

Jarvis Garfield, 35, black

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At last Wednesday's reg-male, Wake Village, Texas, ular day for criminal court in charged in May of 2024 with Howard County, there were class B felony drug posses-

Amanda Denario, 24, white female, Washington, charged in September of 2024 with drug possession and with third degree bat-

Steven Gilliam, 37, black male, Nashville, charged in April of 2024 with class Y felony delivery of a controlled substance.

#### Court from Jan. 22

Several court appearances were not reported in last week's criminal court story because of the newspaper's inability to access records through Arkansas Courts.

These defendants all appeared before Judge Tom

Cooper, gave not guilty pleas, and had dates set for pretrial motions and jury

• Hunter Leach, 19, white male, Hope, charged with breaking or entering, class D; theft of property, class C; and commercial burglary, class C. Motions will be heard March 5.

• Jason Smith, 23, white male, Nashville, charged with breaking or entering, class D; theft of property, class C; and commercial burglary, class C. Motions

will be heard March 5. • Jessica Jackson, 40, white female, Nashville, charged with a class D felony, unauthorized use of a credit card. Motions will be heard April 30.

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:



• 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

• 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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## Point of view

# Bluebird spy team Watched me going to

# H\*\*\* in a Handbasket

Mine Creek

Revelations

Louie Graves

(DEAR READER: I lied. Two weeks ago I said I wouldn't repeat any more of my old columns. I was having trouble coming up with new ones. But if our President can lie, then so can I. I won't even need a pardon. This one is another from February of 2018. The whole column beyond this point.)

ANIMAL CRACKERS. Sorry to be so paranoid, but until recently I thought I was being followed by a sneaky pack of

At first my observation was that there sure were a lot of bluebirds flitting around my neighborhood.

Then, I wondered if it was the same three or four bluebirds, 'shadowing' me during my daily walk. Maybe they were hoping that my swift passage would stir up some insects.

But, nooooooo. Our John Balch, who is the 'News-Leader' in-shop bird expert, says that I was seeing scouts. At least it means they're coming back. One thing that caught my attention was that all of the bluebirds I noticed were males. There were probably some female scouts, but they were doing a far better job of staying out of sight.



TO HELL IN A handbasket. I have no idea what that old saying means or where the saying came from, but I'm pretty sure it describes where our nation is going right now.

Some examples:

- 1. Last week, the director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention resigned. As well she should, even though she's only been on the job for a few months. Her responsibilities include regulating Big Tobacco. But it was revealed that she bought stock in Big Tobacco since her appointment. That's immoral and illegal, at least in my book. This is a perfect example of 'conflict of interest.'
- 2. A company has announced that it is coming out with a personal flamethrower. In fact, they've already sold out the first batch of 2,000. They're giving away a free fire extinguisher with each purchase. I AM NOT JOKING. How long before some nut deepfries a kindergarten
- 3. I'm pretty sure I believe the FBI and the CIA and the Department of Justice even though none of them have personal flamethrowers.
- 4. The Philadelphia Eagles won the Super Bowl with a substitute



THINGS CHANGE. Not always for the better.

The late, great Mike McCann used to say that he and his wife, Jean, were at first puzzled -- and later were delighted -- at the way people here waved at each other from passing vehicles.

"I have no idea who this person is, but he is waving at me like we are long lost cousins," is how he once explained this new pleasure. After only a few years Mike and Jean finally learned to wave back.

Let me back up because some unfortunate people will not remember

Mike was the Big Dog of industry here. He ran what is now Husqvarna, and he made it into a big footprint, not just one small plant. He was a Big Dog in the town, too. His 'can do' attitude carried over into many areas.

He liked to cuss and he was rumored to occasionally take a drink. Despite those shortcomings he was alright in my book.

Jean was also delighted when people waved. She served on the City Park Commission where she was an active and valued member. She did not cuss or imbibe. They were solid people who had a positive influence in our community.

But they were both from Kentucky, and they had folks back there,

After he retired and they moved back to Kentucky, he told me on the phone that people there didn't wave to strangers.

Neither do we, anymore.

If it is your habit to cheerfully wave at EVERYONE in oncoming

vehicles, nowadays you probably won't get a wave back.

The other drivers are likely holding a cell phone to one ear, and their attention is on the phone conversation and (hopefully) the road ahead, not on returning your friendly wave.

I'll be so glad when this cell phone fad goes away. Even if means I don't get to talk to Amanda in the warranty department every morning. Coincidentally, she always calls at the same time each day.

THINGS I LEARNED from opening email: Celery has negative calories. It takes more calories to eat a piece of celery than the celery has in it to begin with.

WORD GAMES. The twins: Love and Affection. No explanation

HE SAID: "How far that little candle throws its beams! So shines a good deed in a naughty world." William Shakespeare, English playwright

SHE SAID: "Social media has given us this idea that we should all have a posse of friends when in reality, if we have one or two really good friends, we are lucky." Brene Brown, researcher and author

SWEET DREAMS, Baby

needed.

#### Nashville News-Leader

Louie Graves and Jane Graves (2007), co-publishers John Balch, associate editor Tracy Denny-Bailey, advertising manager Pam McAnelly, office manager John R. Schirmer, editor

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Phone 870-845-0600

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#### Love Thy Neighbor, and GET THE COVID VACCINE!

Call the Howard County Health Unit -- 845-2208 -- to get your FREE shot.



GET VACCINATED.

Here's a great New Years resolution: Get vaccinated for the virus now. Don't put it off.

Presented in the public interest by the Nashville News-Leader

**LETTER** 

#### Reader agrees with 'A friendly rant'

Dear Editor:

After reading an article in your Wednesday, Jan. 29, paper ("A friendly rant - A house divided cannot stand"), I agree wholeheartedly with those statements (the entire article) as he talked about

TVs yet saw different things at the their brains! same time being shown!

Well, he and his friend aren't the only ones with different views at the same times; there are millions of viewers who either refused to see it as it was or there's something how he and his friend had identical in their water that's messing with

To add fuel to the fire, people put him (Trump) back in the Capital after all he's said and done.

I too am finished with my friendly "rant"!

John Sproles Ozan, Ark.

#### Senate bills would ban affirmative action, lock up students' cell phones at school

By State Sen. Jimmy Hickey Jr. would repeal a prohibition now in

The Senate passed legislation to prohibit discrimination and preferential treatment in state government, public schools and state-supported institutions of higher education.

The written intent of Senate Bill 3 is "to prohibit discrimination by public entities on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national

The bill allows people to sue for injunctive relief, court costs and attorneys' fees if they believe their rights have been impacted. Anyone who knowingly violates the act would be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

In 2023 the Senate approved a similar bill, SB 71. The House defeated it, but this year's version passed by a greater margin. The Senate approved SB 3 by a vote of 24-to-7 and two years ago SB 71 was approved by a vote of 18-to-12.

In other business the Senate Committee on Public Health endorsed legislation meant to expand consumer access to pharmacies when they're in the hospital. SB 58 state law that prevents non-profit hospitals from having a pharmacy licensed to sell retail drugs.

Arkansas is the only state in the country with such a prohibition, according to the bill's supporters. They say it should be easier for patients to purchase necessary medications when they are discharged from the hospital.

The House approved a bill being referred to as "tort reform light." It is HB 1204 to limit damages that some injured plaintiffs can recover in civil lawsuits.

The bill would allow plaintiffs to recover only what insurance companies have paid for medical treatment, not the amount charged by hospitals and physicians.

Sometimes insurers have a contract with medical providers that allow for payments lower than the original charges for services rendered. Sometimes a plaintiff receives an amount equal to what was charged, rather than what the insurance company actually paid. That difference is known as "phantom damages."

Students' access to cell phones during the school day would be restricted under SB 142, which was filed and referred to the Senate Education Committee. It's called the "Bell to Bell, No Cell Act" and it has 15 Senate sponsors.

One purpose is to improve academic performance by removing distractions from the classroom. Another goal is to improve the emotional and mental health of teenagers who spend too much time on social media.

Arkansas schools and the legislature have already begun work on the issue. Last year lawmakers approved using \$7 million to help schools pay for pouches and storage lockers to keep students' cell phones during the day.

Some parents have said they want their children to have cell phones handy in case of an incident like a school shooting. However, some school safety experts say that cell phones distract students even during shootings, because they focus on texting loved ones instead of following directions and moving to safe locations.

## State reps wrap up week three

By State Rep. Dolly Henley

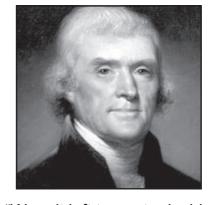
The Arkansas House of Representatives has completed the third week of the 2025 Regular Session, making significant progress on legislation that impacts residents across the state. This week, the House considered and passed several bills addressing a range of issues, from digital identification services to financial planning, tax relief, and public safety.

Among the bills passed was HB1135, which removes the mandatory \$10 fee for issuing a digitized driver's license or identification card. The House also approved HB1085, which modifies the Arkansas Brighter Future Fund Plan Act. This legislation allows funds from the state's tax-

to be rolled over into a Roth IRA, giving families and students more flexibility in financial planning for education and retirement. Ensuring that property tax relief funds remain protected was the focus of HB1074. Under current law, funds from the Property Tax Relief Trust Fund can be redirected for other purposes with a simple majority vote in both chambers. HB1074 increases this threshold to a threefourths majority, making it more difficult for these funds to be used for anything other than property

Public safety and communication for individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) were also addressed with the passage

deferred tuition savings program of HB1046. This bill establishes the Blue Envelope Program, which aims to improve interactions between individuals with ASD and law enforcement during traffic stops and other vehicle-related encounters. In the area of legal and healthcare regulations, the House passed HB1204 and HB1214. HB1204 outlines the recovery of damages for past medical expenses incurred by an injured party. It specifies that only costs actually paid by or on behalf of the plaintiff, or those that remain unpaid and for which the plaintiff or a third party is legally responsible, can be included in the recovery. HB1214 amends the definition of a primary instructor within the Long-Term Care Aide Training Act.



"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

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/DON HALL

AUTHENTIC. The African American Military History Museum includes an area furnished as it was in the 1940s.

## Museum

Continued from page 1A

Welcome to the African American Military History

In World War II, the military was still segregated. The United Services Organization, a private, charitable group, was established to provide a place for servicemen to relax and socialize near military

Xavier Lucas Cooper is a Museum Information Specialist at the African American Military History Museum. "This building began as a USO Club for Black soldiers stationed at Camp Shelby, 20 minutes south of Hat-tiesburg," he said. "They felt that here, they could be themselves.

Buses would bring the troops from the Army base to the USO where they could enjoy games, dances, concerts, classes in letter-writing, photography and typing. There were also many weddings held there for soldiers who would soon be shipping out

The club also gave the young men the chance to mix with the local community. In other words, to meet young women at the dances and

The club served a vital function for the morale of the Black G.I.s that it served.

But, with the end of the war, Camp Shelby closed and the USO was no longer needed. In 1946 it was decommissioned, and the building would be used over the decades in segregated Hattiesburg as a library for the Black residents, a community center, a place for early childhood education, and finally as a storage facility for the city.

By the early 2000s it was dilapidated.

Local community leaders, spurred on by Black veterans in Hattiesburg, had the dream of turning the old USO building into a museum. In 2009, the first visitors were welcomed into the African American Military History

"In every American War, African Americans played a part," Cooper said. Here, in the interactive displays covering almost 350 years of history, their contribution is recognized.

Vanessa Molden is the Operations and Engagement Manager for the museum. She's worked there for almost eight years and supervises the staff of four full-time and four part-time employees. "We're open from Wednesday to Friday, from 10-4, and Saturday from noon-4. We have 7,000-8,000 visitors a year," she said.

People from all over the world visit, but the museum is especially popular with school and church groups, and with people passing through Hattiesburg. "We also host family



News-Leader photo/DON HALL READY FOR VISITORS. Vanessa Molden is the operations and engagement manager for the museum.

reunions," she said, and not just from Mississippi, but from throughout the South.

In 2027, a military vehicle museum will open next door, and within the next few months a museum will open across the street to tell the story of Oseola McCarty, a Black woman who had to drop out of school in the 6th grade to care for her aunt.

Born in 1908, she worked throughout her life as a washer woman, washing clothes for five cents per item on a washboard. She lived a simple life, and upon her death in

1999, she left over \$150,000 to endow scholarships for underprivileged minority students at the University of Southern Mississippi.

So many of us pass through Hattiesburg heading to the beaches of Alabama or Florida. The next time you travel to the southeast, plan an extra hour of travel time so you can visit the African American Military History Museum and learn more about the sacrifices the Black citizens of the United States have made for this country and for our freedom. It's worth your time.

## Video

Continued from page 1A

ager at Central Arkansas Development Council, a community action agency.

Arkansas residents can find more information about where to apply by visiting the Arkansas Department of Energy & Environment to find the community-based organization or CBO that administers the program in each Arkansas county.

Scrap Media is part of Nashville High School's business department and is led by Pinegar.

The class focuses on using technology to create video projects and graphics to promote school activities and athletics.

Under the guidance of Pinegar, the students interviewed SWEPCO representatives, gained insights into corporate communications, and conducted live interviews with an Arkansas LIHEAP expert from Little

"This class gives them the opportunity to work under pressure and interact with the public," Pinegar said. "Through this collaboration with SWEPCO, the students not only served their community but also gained knowledge about business, learning that collaboration and constructive feedback are essential skills."

"I was able to use my first language for something that really matters and for that I am forever thankful. Muchas Gracias for la experiencia, SWEPCO," said Scrap Media team member and Nashville High School student Hailey Cano.

Through the experience,

students created a helpful video in English and Spanish to share simple facts about the program and help county residents know how

"I gained insight into how the professional world communicates using outlets such as Microsoft Teams and email. I am thankful for the opportunity to be a part of something special," said Scrap Media student Connor

SWEPCO packaged the students' informative video and shared it directly with customers through an email marketing campaign focused on Howard County customers, ensuring that essential information about LIHEAP reaches them and spotlights the positive work from the students in the community.

"Working with the Scrap Media team to create a video specific for Howard County was a fun part of our outreach efforts and we were energized by visiting with these student leaders," said Amanda Keeney, director, SWEPCO Corporate Communications.

Last April, SWEPCO worked with the DQTV in De Queen, Arkansas, to share important information about the solar eclipse and looks forward to other school collaborations. Educators interested in similar communication outreach projects should contact SWEPCO's corporate communications team.

"We're committed to helping all our customers understand the many ways they can save time, money, and energy, and appreciate the Scrap Media Team for making a difference in their community." Keeney said.

#### Jareer Continued

from page 1A

Nashville Fire and Rescue Nashville Police Depart-

SWEPCO/Turk Power

Pafford **Pilgrims** SouthArk Electric Plant

Tyson **UA** Cossatot

UA Cossatot High School Programs

U.S. Air Force U.S. Army

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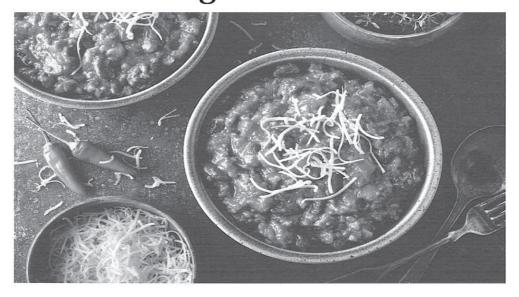
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## **Center Point Volunteer Fire Department** Chili Supper Fundraiser

Saturday, February 8, 2025 at 5:30 p.m. at Center Point Community Building

Cost: Your generous donation



Chili and all the fixins'

Proceeds will go to general maintenance and upkeep of the fire department.

CPVFD - Making a difference in our community!



ON THE LOW SIDE. The Narrows Dam Day Use and the swim beach area will be closed on Feb. 16 and will remain closed until the repair work at the dam is completed.

#### Work at Narrows Dam to start soon

#### Swim beach area to be closed starting Feb. 16

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Vicksburg District plans to begin work on the trash rack repairs at Narrows Dam at Lake Greeson in mid-February.

Approximately one year ago, USACE identified a need for repairs to the metal structure supporting the trash racks at Narrows Dam at Lake Greeson.

Trash racks are metal grates preventing large debris from entering and damaging turbans used for creating hydropower, and do not affect the integrity or effectiveness of Narrows

As a precautionary measure, Narrows Dam halted hydropower generation until repairs are completed. These repairs are essential to ensuring safe production of hydropower in the future

Starting this month, work will begin with mobilization of equipment and materials.

Prep work onsite will include assembly of floating work platforms, diving operations to remove the old structure, and partial fabrication of the new support structure.

The removal of the exist-

ing support structure will take an estimated four to six weeks. Materials and equipment will continue to be delivered throughout this period. Once the existing structure is removed, construction of the new support structure will begin and is estimated to be complete in

approximately four to six

The Narrows Dam Day Use area will be used as a staging area for equipment and materials. Heavy traffic with large equipment can be expected in this area, especially during periods of mobilization and demobilization.

Beginning Feb. 16, the Narrows Dam Day Use Area pavilion and swim beaches will be closed to the public. Access to this area will be restricted until repairs are completed.

The 'No Boats' area in front of Narrows Dam will be extended to include the entire work area for both worker and visitor safety. Visiting public will not be allowed to boat inside this area at any time during the

repair period.

Also, a 'No Ski' area will be established to help reduce wave action within the area for worker safety.

These repairs will not impact the ability to carry out flood risk management or other missions of the Narrows Dam/Lake Greeson Project. Water releases are regularly executed through the flood control structure to maintain adequate flood risk management.

A significant drawdown of Lake Greeson is not anticipated to perform the

All efforts will be made to minimize the disruption of the use of Lake Greeson and the Little Missouri River downstream for visitors, partners, and stakeholders.

#### Former deputy accused of hawking county weapons charged with theft

A former Pike County deputy accused of hawking two county-issued weapons is now facing felony charges following an Arkansas State Police investigation.

Brandon M. Vines, 40, of Glenwood, was charged Jan. 31 in Pike County Circuit Court with two counts of theft

Vines was employed with the county from May 2024 to December 2024. He was terminated by Sheriff Travis Hill after Vines failed to show up for two scheduled dates to attend the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy.

On Jan. 2, Vines returned some his assigned equipment to the county but did not return a Mossberg 12-gauge shotgun and a Colt M-16.223 rifle. He advised he was soaking the weapons to clean them and would bring them in the next day.

But on Jan. 2, Glenwood Police Chief Greg Harmon was at McGrew Pawn Shop when he recognized the shotgun that was up for sale. A serial number check determined the weapon belonged to the county and the weapon was recovered the next day.

The shop owner told the ASP that several attempts to contact Vines were ignored but because of lack of payment the shotgun was placed for sale.

The M-16 was recovered from an individual, Donald Parker of Glenwood, on Jan. 3. Parker told investigators that he was unaware the rifle was county property and that it was in his possession as collateral on a \$500 loan to Vines that he had not paid. The weapon was recovered that day.

Vines plead innocent to the charges Monday and he was ordered to return to court March 3 with an attorney. He was released from county custody Monday on \$10,000 bond.

#### Alabama man charged after fast flight from cops

An Alabama man is facing a felony charge of fleeing and several driving offenses after he allegedly took Murfreesboro officers on a high-speed motorcycle chase.

Michale Andrew Kinder, 36, of Lineville, Ala., was arrested the night of Jan. 23 by officers Brandon Copeland and Todd Lautterbach. He was charged Jan. 29 in Pike County with felony fleeing and misdemeanor driving while intoxicated, speeding, careless prohibited driving, driving on a suspended license, defective tail lamps and no motorcycle endorsement.

Copeland had attempted to stop Kinder on North Washington when he allegedly sped off down South Washington and reached speeds up to 75 mph. Officer Lauterbach joined the pursuit that reached top speeds of 90 and 104 mph, according to case information.

After 3.5 miles, Kinder gave up the chase and was taken

Kinder has made bond and was ordered Monday to return on April 7 with an attorney for pretrial.

On Jan. 29, Michael T. Cates, 36, of Kirby, was charged with theft of property after he allegedly borrowed a wood splitter from a Delight man and then sold it to his cousin

Cates remains in county custody this week and was ordered Monday to return to court on April 7 for pretrial.

#### MCC banquet March 6

The Murfreesboro Chamber designated Thursday, March 6 as the date for their annual banquet.

The event will be held at the Murfreesboro Senior Adult Center with a Mardi Gras theme. Crater of Diamonds Su-

perintendent Caleb Howell will be the featured speaker. Tickets will be priced at \$25 each.

**General Practice** 

of Law

#### Governer introduces 'Bell to Bell, No Cell Act' "Arkansas kids deserve tions. Districts are required schools pilot program last

Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders has announced the Bell to Bell, No Cell Act, legislation that would ban smartphones and other personal electronic devices like smart watches from every single public school in Arkansas, beginning in the 2025-2026 school year. Senator Tyler Dees (District 35) and Representative Jon Eubanks (District 46) are sponsoring the bill in the school is common sense and legislature.

gering rise in mental illness among young people social media," said Governor Sanders. "After the every school in our state."

every advantage we as parents can give them, and helping them keep their heads in the game at school isn't just good for their mental health. It will improve the quality of their education overall, making them more prepared for the challenges of life. Disconnecting students from doomscrolling on big tech social media platforms during will help with their social "We have seen a stag- and emotional health." said Senator Tyler Dees.

over the past decade. The Act prohibits personal culprit is clear: unrestricted electronic devices, includaccess to smartphones and ing cell phones and smart watches, bell-to-bell. Each public school district will be overwhelming success of required to publish its cell our phone-free schools pilot phone policy on its webprogram, it's clear that it's site, including policies and time for Arkansas to ban exemptions concerning cell smartphones, bell to bell, in phones on school property and at school-related func-

to provide exemptions for health reasons, Individualized Education Programs (IEPs), after-school extracurricular activities, and emergencies.

In her 2025 State of the State address, Governor Sanders identified mental health as one of her top priorities for the year. In addition to the phone-free schools program, the Governor plans to update Arkansas' Social Media Safety Act so it is no longer held up in The Bell to Bell, No Cell court and to give Arkansas law so they can hold bad actors accountable.

summer. Participating districts received funding to purchase containers for students to store their devices and experience a phone-free education. She was inspired to launch this program after reading The Anxious Generation by author Jonathan Haidt, and also sent a copy of the book to every legislator in Arkansas and every governor in America.

Sanders and Haidt toured schools across the state in December to promote the phone-free schools program parents the right to sue Big and see its implementation. Tech companies under state The Governor and Haidt also spoke on a panel at the World Economic Forum Governor Sanders in Davos, Switzerland, to launched the phone-free promote phone-free schools.

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**Total Sports Outfitters** 

**PERMANENT TEAM CAPTAINS.** Coach Tyler Clift (center) presented the award to Joe Branch and Logan Pennington.

MANAGER OF THE YEAR. Coach John Martin presents the Brian Bearden Award to Jacee Martin.



OFFENSIVE LINE. Coach Kirby Adcock (center) presented the award to Jamison McIntosh and Luke Lacie.





Scrappers

honored

at Rotary

Banquet

News-Leader photos/DEDE ROBINSON

Saturday,

Feb. 1, Nashville

High School cafeteria

OFFENSIVE BACKS. Coach Zach Stewart (center) presented the award to Tucker Dix-



**OUTSIDE LINEBACKERS.** Coach Paul Morrow (center) presented the award to Bryce Perrin and Skyler Gibson.



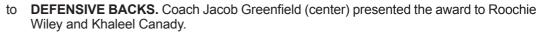
WIDE RECEIVERS. Coach Ahren Turner (third from left) presented the award to Kasen Morgan, Ja'Marion Conway and Alexis Brizo.



**SCRAPPER CHEERLEADERS** 



**DEFENSIVE LINE.** Coach Adam Greenfield (third from left) presented the award to Makhi Johnson, Brayden Erby and Jaydon Williamson.





PRACTICE PLAYERS. Coach Tyler Clift (center), presented the award to Landon Arbuthnott and Brady Dixon.



SENIOR HONOR. Athletic Director James "Bunch" Nichols presents the Jim Worley Award to Joe Branch.





Angel Watson (4) controls the ball in Nashville's 59-30 District 7-4A win over Camden Fairview. She scored 5 points against Fairview and 21 in the 60-48 victory over Vilonia.



Bo Bell (12) looks for an opening to pass the ball to Johnte Mercy Hagler (25) scores in



Coach Aaron Worthen confers with the Scrappers Jan. 28 at Scrapper Arena. Fairview defeated Nashville 80-72 in the District 7-4A contest.



Ava Basiliere (44) scores against Camden Fairview Jan. Demetrus Shelley (2) goes after the ball in the conference



game against Camden Fairview.



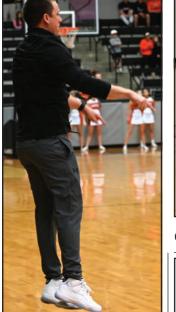
Sofia McCauley (15) and Caroline Dean (33) try to keep the Fairview Lady Cardinal from inbounding the ball.



Kennedi Scrivner (left) scores in the Scrapperettes' 60-48 win over Vilonia Jan. 31. Nash-



Karstyn Scrivner (left) controls the ball against the Vilonia Lady Eagles at Scrapper Arena.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER Nashville Coach Paul Dean

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# ville is ninth overall, second in Class 4A in the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette's rankings.

Caroline Dean (left) keeps the ball away from Vilonia.

#### SPORTS LEADERS Players of the Week as selected by

The Leader sports department

Angel Watson, Nashville

Angel, a **Scrapperette** junior, scored 21 points in Nashville's 60-48 win over Class 5A Vilonia Friday night, Jan. 31. She was good on 5 three-point shots against the Lady Eagles.





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Nashville News-Leader

## Deal of the Year Impact Award

#### State honored for Weyerhaeuser's \$500M project in Southwest Arkansas

lected for a 2024 Deal of the Year Impact Award by Business Facilities, an industry publication for corporate site selectors and economic development professionals. This award will highlight one of the state's recent eco-

Business Facilities announced that Arkansas received a Deal of the Year Impact Award in the Timber and Forestry category for the state's Weyerhaeuser

project announcement. The

Impact Awards are intend-

relocation and expansion investments that are having, or are expected to have, a significant impact on the communities in which they are located," according to Busi-

"Congratulations to Wey-

Arkansas has been se- nomic development projects. ed to "showcase corporate" erhaeuser and the incredible Sanders. team at the Department of Commerce for landing the 2024 Deal of the Year Impact Award. Weyerhaeuser's investment helps bring more jobs and expand the critical forestry industry in South Arkansas," said Governor

In November 2024, Weyerhaeuser announced plans to build a new, state-of-theart TimberStrand® facility near Monticello and Warren, Arkansas. An estimated \$500 million investment, this facility is expected to create 200 new jobs in the south Arkansas region. This will be Weyerhaeuser's third manufacturing facility in Arkansas, in addition to a lumber mill in Dierks and a plywood and veneer plant in Emerson, as well as a seedling nursery and multiple

and Warren as one of their 2024 Deal of the Year Impact

Award winners," said Clint O'Neal, executive director of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission. "The timber industry is a critical part of our state's economy, and south Arkansas has all the elements workforce, abundant natural resources, and infrastructure - that companies like Weyerhaeuser need to succeed. This project will have a major positive impact on the lives of many Arkansans, and we are excited to see this significant economic development project recognized by a leading industry publication."

The Deal of the Year Impact Award will be highlighted in the January/February 2025 edition of Business Facilities magazine.

"We thank Business Facilities magazine for recognizing the Weyerhaeuser investment near Monticello

#### Pike County 4-H to present 'Not So Newlywed Game' Saturday in Murfreesboro

The Pike County 4-H will be hosting a Not So Newlywed Game on Feb. 8, starting at 6 p.m. at the Murfreesboro Senior Center, located at 120 Court St.

The evening's dinner will consist of a pasta bar and

The second annual game participants will include Tim and Melanie Trout, John and Sandra Garrett, Keith and Sherry Craig, Richard and Becky Stivers. The evening's entertainment will be provided by

singers Carlee Garrett and Jaycee Heaston. Tickets for the event will be \$10, or a table of 6 for \$60. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Pike County Extension office, located at 100 Court St. Murfreesboro. Tickets will also be available at the door on the night

of the event as long as they are available. The event will also hold a silent auction and door prizes will be given away.

4-H will also offer the remaining brittle for sale from the group's fundraiser.

For more information, call (870) 285-2161.



SUMMER BALL REGISTRATION DEADLINE EXTENDED. Nashville Parks & Recreation has extended the signup period for baseball and T-Ball to Monday, Feb. 10. The divisions include (birthdays as of May 1, 2025) 5U T-Ball, 6U Coach Pitch, 8U Coach Pitch, 10U Player Pitch, 12U Player Pitch and 14U Player Pitch. The registration fee is \$75 and can be paid at the Nashville City Park. For more information, contact the park at (870) 845-7405.



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



#### Pike County District Court

Jan. 7, 2025 BF=Bond Forfeited **Pike County** 

Archer, Charles R., 64, Nashville, guilty of DWI, fined \$1,070, credited for time served, license suspended and must complete DWI educational course; guilty of speeding, fined

Battiest, Bryan E., 37, Wright City, Okla., \$367 BF, overweight

38, Jonesboro, \$125 BF, speeding

Bolanos, Jennifer, 26, Bismarck, guilty of no driver's license, fined \$125; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$205; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$205

Bruce, Zayne Franklin, 40, Glenwood, guilty of failure failure to appear, fined \$205 Byrd, Susan W., 70, Red-

field, \$135 BF, speeding Campos, Emely Damaris, 25, Glenwood, \$125 BF, no driver's license

Castillo, Julissa, 22, Paradise, Texas, \$135 BF, speed-

Contreras, Emmanuel BF, speed too fast for condi-

tions-accident Cook, Chad Lee, 51, Oklahoma City, Okla., \$125 BF,

speeding Cruz, Carlos Hernandez, 30, Fort Smith, \$125 BF, speeding; \$125 BF, no child fined \$325

restraint device Cruz, Daniel, 19, Glenwood, guilty of failure to pay, \$2,505 owed

Doughty, Chelsea Reigh, 35, Hot Springs, \$165 BF,

speeding Dukes, Hayden Allen, 24,

Pearcy, \$125 BF, failure to stop or yield; \$220 BF, drinking in public

English, Dakota Caleb, 32, Glenwood, \$225 BF, failure to yield-accident

Fletcher, Michael Todd, 54, Pierce City, Mo., \$125 BF, spilling load on highway

Flud, Jessica Mae, 28, Murfreesboro, guilty of failure to pay, \$3,558 owed

Gentry, Magon Dawn, 49, West Columbia, Texas, \$185

BF, speeding Gilbert, Larry Edward,

56, Amity, \$70 BF, failure to present insurance

Gregg, Rance Aaron, 49,

Rogers, \$125 BF, speeding Halcomb, Kayci Chance, 35, Dierks, \$125 BFm speed-

Hamilton, Matthew A., 37, Glenwood, \$135 BF, speeding

Hart, Judd Jean, 57, Benton, \$125 BF, careless prohibited driving

Henegar, Justin Cody, 28, Umpire, \$45 BF, no seat belt

Hernandez, Ernesto, 30, Blake, Maurice Demond, Hot Springs, \$135 BF, speed-

> Hernandez, Lucia, 50, Nashville, \$125 BF, no child restraint device; \$135 BF, speeding

Hill, Amanda M., 48, Amity, guilty of driving with suspended license, fined

Hup, Cung Lian, 33, Midto pay, \$480 owed; guilty of land, Texas, \$185 BF, speed-

> Jester, Hannah Marie, 25, Malvern, \$155 BF, speeding Jester, Shayla Diane, 28, Glenwood, \$125 BF, speed-

Johnson, Chance T., 40, Kirby, guilty of failure to pay, 51,090 owed

Kersey, Caleb Trey, 19, Kevin, 17, Glenwood, \$225 Caddo Gap, guilty of failure to pay, \$435 owed Kight, Daniel Lawrence,

45, Amity, \$125 BF, careless prohibited driving Lambert, Drake Wayne,

21, Amity, guilty of driving with suspended license,

Lewis, Arron Wayne, 31, Glenwood, guilty of fictitious tags, fined \$125; guilty of driving with suspended license, fined \$325; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$315; guilty of drinking in public or in highway, fined \$220

Lewis, Mona Lynn, 57, Nashville, \$125 BF, speeding Lopez, Alexander, 27, Hot Springs, \$125 BF, no driver's

license Loredo, Alvaroa Evan, 34, Henderson, Texas, \$135 BF, speeding; \$205 BF, failure

to appear Maynard, Bradley Earl, 61, Glenwood, guilty of fail-

ure to pay, \$960 owed McKinnon, Savanna Clayton, 24, Prescott, guilty

of failure to pay, \$725 owed Minton, Thomas R., 53, Hot Springs, \$45 BF, no seat

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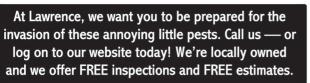
1010 S. Pope Street, Nashville, Arkansas (off of Hope Hwy).

Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily, Monday -Friday, closed on Wednesday afternoons.

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uel, 28, Trenton, Tenn., \$185 BF, speeding

Moody, Lacy Brooke, 38, Pearcy, \$135 BF, speeding

Moore, Kara Baylea, 25, Norman, \$215 BF, speeding

Mosich, Zachary Michael, 30, Denison, Texas, \$135 BF, speeding

Myrick, Jordan Pual, 20, McCaskill, \$325 BF, driving with suspended license

Nagaraj, Surendran, 38,

Allen, Texas, \$135 BF, speed-O'Neal, Lillian Marie, 22,

Newhope, \$135 Bf, speeding

Pennington, Ricky, 46, Amity, \$315 BF, no proof of liability insurance Petrey, Travis Aaron, 35,

Caddo Gap, \$325 BF, driving with suspended license

Pratt, Shirley Jane, 79, Mineral Springs, \$125 BF, speeding

Ransom, Leah, 24, Glenwood, guilty of failure to pay, \$2,080 owed; guilty of driving with suspended license, fined \$325; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$205

Seaton, Matthew James, 33, Hot Springs Village, guilty of failure to pay, \$575

See, Daisy E., 80, Amity, \$125 BF, careless prohibited Skinner, Wade Allen, 21,

Murfreesboro, \$125 BF, no child restraint device Snowden, Michael S., 31,

Nashville, guilty of driving with suspended license, fined \$325

Staples, Tiffany Michelle, Monreal, Francisco Man- 34, Murfreesboro, \$125 BF, speeding

Strasner, Vincent G., 44, Dierks, \$45 BF, no seat belt

Taylor, J. Mark, 51, Jes-

sieville, \$135 BF, speeding Tu, Khoa Chau, 49, Houston, Texas, \$135 BF, speed-

ing; \$125 BF, no child restraint device Uzzle, Nicholas Walter,

19, Prescott, guilty of failure to pay, \$860 owed Vines, Brooklyn Haylee,

29, Caddo Gap, \$215 BF, speeding Vissering, Anna Edwyna,

50, Naples, Texas, \$125 BF, no child restraint device Wahrmund, Matthew J., 23, Springfield, \$135 BF,

speeding Ward, Mignon Jean, 51, Dierks, \$45 BF, no seat belt

Ward, Terri Lynnn, no age listed, Spring, Texas, \$135 BF, speeding Weeks, Jeremy, 45, Nash-

ville, guilty of driving with suspended license, fined \$325; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$315 Wesley, Annaliese Alexis,

27, Glenwood, \$125 BF, no child restraint device Wilhite, Sierra Michelle,

21, Lockesburg, \$135 BF, speeding Wilkerson, Heath, 50,

Ozan, \$205 BF, failure to pay Wooten, Curtis W., 50, Amity, \$135 BF, speeding Wright, Tiffany Marie,

speeding York, Eric Wayne, 45, Hatfield, \$767 BF, overweight

37, Fayetteville, \$125 BF,

**City of Murfreesboro** 

Cornish, Mandy Diane, 37, Nashville, \$145 Bf, failure to register tags/expired

Floyd, Timothy S., 34, Nashville, \$45 BF, no seat

Furr, Brenda Ann, 54, Kirby, \$45 BF, no seat belt

Gonzalez, Jannice Yisel, 18, Murfreesboro, guilty of careless prohibited driving Holliday, Edward C., 58,

seat belt Holmes, Morgan Ansley, 29, Murfreesboro, \$335 BF, no proof of liability insur-

Murfreesboro, \$45 BF, no

Howard, Stephanie Nicole, 32, Murfreesboro, \$45 BF, no seat belt

Martin, Brandon L., 33, Murfreesboro, guilty of possession of drug paraphernalia, fined \$575; guilty of driving with suspended license, fined \$345; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$265; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$265;

failure to appear, fined \$265 Miller, Michael Ormand, 35, Richardson, Texas, \$335 BF, no proof of liability insurance; \$145 BF, wrong way/

one way street Najar, Hassan Samuel, 19, Brooklyn, N.Y., \$155 BF, speeding

Welch, Thomas Francis, 30, Austin, Texas, \$205 BF, speeding; \$145 BF, careless prohibited driving; \$145 BF, improper passing

Arkansas Game & Fish Commission

Canaday, Quinten W., 38, MacClenny, Fla., \$620 BF, night hunting; \$370 BF, hunting/fishing/trapping on property without permission; \$220 BF, transport of illegally taken wildlife prohibited; \$370 BF, failure to tag game; \$370 BF, big game checking requirements; \$220 BF, antler requirements

Canaday, Quentin Whalen, 18, \$620 BF, night hunting; \$370 BF, hunting/fishing/trapping on property without permission; \$220 BF, transport of illegally taken wildlife prohibited; \$370 BF, failure to tag game; \$370 Bf, big game checking require-Crossland, Ashley, 44,

Glen Saint Mary, Fla., \$370 BF, hunting/fishing/trapping on property without permission; \$620 BF, night hunting

Freeman, Ronall E., 35, guilty of failure to appear, Andrews, S.C., \$620 BF, fined \$265; guilty of failure to hunting from road appear, fined \$265; guilty of Henderson, Gary, 60,

Wauchula, Fla., \$370 BF, permit requirement on certain WMAs Henderson, Jacob, 22,

Wauchula, Loa., \$370 BF, remit requirements on certain WMAs; \$370 BF, big game checking requirements Martin, Dalton J., 27, Bis-

marck, \$220 BF, hurting/ fishing/trapping on property without permission CONTINUED

Next Page



Who are our

two most recent



were born in February and have holidays on the calendar? Can you recognize them by their profiles, which you've seen many times on coins? What are you doing this year to learn more about our Presidents?

Read the clues below and fill in the puzzle with the last name of the correct President: 1. First African-American President; encourages students to

get a good education; likes basketball: Barack 2. One story tells that our first president never "told a lie" and confessed to cutting down a cherry tree: George

3. Family was poor, but he learned to read and write; loved books tallest president; fought to keep the nation united: Abraham 4. First president to travel outside the U.S.; first American to win the

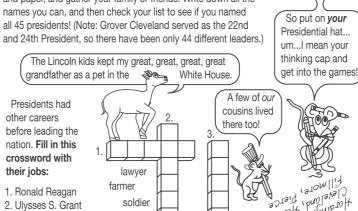
Nobel Peace Prize; Teddy Bear named for him: Theodore 5. Became president 12 years after his father: George W. 6. Wrote most of the Declaration of Independence; designed his own home: Thomas

7. Only president to serve 2 terms not back-to-back; married in the White House: Grover 8. First president to have his photo taken; had an alligator; kept a diary: John Quincy 9. On the \$50 bill; fought in Civil War where he was the first 4-star general: Ulysses S.

10. Was governor of Arkansas; can play the saxophone: "Bill" 11. Never married: his niece went to the White House to be his hostess: James 12. Five-star Army General; first president to ride in a nuclear-powered submarine: Dwight D.

13. Youngest elected president; set up the Peace Corps to help poor countries: John F. 14. At 13, took part in a Revolutionary War battle; was taken prisoner and slashed with a sword for refusing to clean a British officer's boots: Andrew

15. His wife, Dolly, saved a favorite portrait of George Washington before the British attacked the city of Washington and burned down the White House: James Wow.



Cleveland Kennedy Clinton  $\square$ Washington  $\Box$ Grant  $\Sigma$ Eisenhower Buchanan Lincoln Jefferson Madison

1. President O \_ a \_ a

2. President T \_ u

What Did They Do? Challenge

for You! How many Presidents can you name? Get a pencil and paper, and gather your family or friends. Write down all the names you can, and then check your list to see if you named all 45 presidents! (Note: Grover Cleveland served as the 22nd

actor

Where Did They Live?

Read the four names of Presidential homes on the right, then:

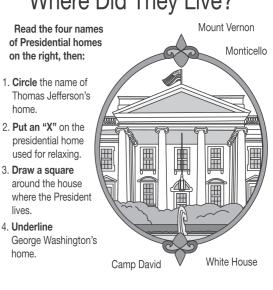
That's

tough..

1. Circle the name of Thomas Jefferson's

presidential home used for relaxing. 3. Draw a square around the house where the President

4. Underline George Washington's

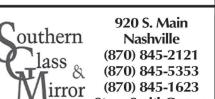


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UNDER WRAPS. Painting and cleaning on the City of Nashville's water tank near the center of town continues this week with a huge containmment curtain.

#### One man dead after argument leads to shooting in Pike Co. An apparent argument to a call from a woman who Donald pronounced Corson

deadly Friday, Jan. 31 at a neighbor were arguing. Murfreesboro home.

resulted in the fatal shoot- from a gunshot wound. Pike manner and cause of death. ing of Mark Corson Sr., 64, County Coroner Jason Mc- The investigation is ongoing. according to the Arkansas State Police, the agency investigating the incident.

The ASP did not release any details of the incident or the name of the suspected shooter. A county official said Monday, that to their knowledge, there was no suspect arrested or processed at the county jail the day of the shooting.

The Pike County Sheriff's Department requested ASP's Criminal Investigation Division to investigate the shooting, which occurred outside a home on Highway 27 North in Murfreesboro, after responding

among neighbors turned said her husband and a dead at the scene.

The argument reportedly they found Corson suffering Crime Lab to determine the

The deceased was trans-When officers arrived, ported to the Arkansas State



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#### **Continued** Pike County District Court

Thurlow, Brandon, 19, Device Act, fined 190 Huger, S.C., \$620 BF, hunting from road

Thurlow, Daryl K., 54, Huger, S.C., \$620 BF, hunting

from road West, Zachary S., 26, Andres, S.C., \$620 BF, night

City of Glenwood

Anderson, Joshua C., 43, Kirby, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$335

Brown, Colby Lee, 41, Texarkana, guilty of fictitious tags, fined \$145; guilty of driving with suspended license, fined \$345

Campbell, Zachary Allen, 31, Amity, guilty of failure to pay, \$209 owed

Clarke, Kelesha Ranae, 32, Amity, guilty of failure to register tags/expired, fined \$145; guilty of driving with suspended license, fined \$345; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$335; guilty of defective/ improper headlights, fined

Cruz, Daniel, 19, Glenwood, guilty of failure to pay, \$585 owed

Fagan, John Joseph, 21, Mena, \$150 BF, speeding; \$205 BF, failure to appear,

Forney, Stephanie Leann, 38, Caddo Gap, guilty of no driver's license, fined \$150; guilty of criminal trespassoccupied, fined \$365; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$205; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$205

Garza, Delia E., 33, Hot Spring, guilty of driving with suspended license, fined \$350; guilty of vehicle lights-defective/improper head lamps, fined \$150; guilty of speeding, fined \$150

Hammock, Cole L., 47, Umpire, \$145 BF, careless prohibited driving; \$145 BF, failure to stop or yield

Jones, Natasha Eve, 42, Amity, \$150 BF, expired vehicle tags/license; \$350 BF, driving with suspended license; \$340 BF, failure to show proof of insurance; \$205 BF, failure to appear

Lewis, Mary Lynn, 17, Murfreesboro, possessing stopped school bus, under advisement for six months to dismiss, fined \$655

Maynard, Bradley Earl, 61, Glenwood, guilty of driving with suspended license, fined \$345; guilty of violation of Ignition Interlock

Newland, Ryan Tyler, 29, Glenwood, guilty of open container in motor vehicle, fined \$240

Sheffield, Timothy Brian, 34, Hot Springs, \$150 BF, expired vehicle tags/license; \$150 BF, fictitious license sticker; \$340 BF, failure to

show proof of insurance; \$205 BF, failure to appear

Smith, Cody Austin, 30, Royal, \$150 BF, speeding

Whisenhunt, Nancy Jean, 33, Amity, guilty of expired vehicle tags/license, fined \$150; guilty of failure to show proof of insurance, fined \$340

#### HCMG's spring seminar Feb. 25

The Hempstead County Master Gardeners will host their annual spring seminar on Tuesday, Feb. 25 at Hempstead Hall on the UAHT Hope campus.

Guests may arrive at 5:30 p.m. to shop with vendors and bid on silent auction

A light supper will be available, and speakers will begin their presentations at 6 p.m.

Randy Forst, state Master Gardener program coordinator and consumer horticulture specialist for the University of Arkansas

System Division of Agriculture, will speak on incorporating edible plants into the landscape.

Amanda Malcom, owner of Love Creek Nursery in Okolona will talk on native plants for pollinators and how she is incorporating more beneficial plants into her retail business.

The cost to attend is \$20 for early registrations received through February 21st and \$25 after and at the door.

To pre-register, call the Hempstead County Extension office at 870-777-5771.



Murfreesboro \* (870) 285-3133 Mon. - Sat. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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a \$25 Gift Certificate

HOWARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	GENERAL FUNDS	ROAD FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS IN THE AGGREAGATE
BEGINNING CASH BALANCE - JANUARY 1, 2024	2,717,688.45	1,877,375.05	6,496,796.55
ENDING CASH BALANCE - DECEMBER 31, 2024	4,620,381.37	1,981,887.04	4,439,788.75
	1,020,002107	2,502,007.01	4,433,766.73
REVENUES			
STATE AID-7000	552,552.89	1,616,561.45	1,297,423.20
FEDERAL AID - 7100	95,938.30	25,607.97	203,522.30
PROPERTY TAXES - 7200	817,602.22	333,801.01	208,347.28
SALES TAXES - 7300	311,791.46	947,262.20	1,131,569.04
FINE, FORFEITURES, AND COSTS - 7400	252,514.21	-	317,514.04
INVESTMENT INCOME - 7500	66,847.60	59,721.07	129,698.93
OFFICER'S FEES - 7600	23,654.55		110,161.26
911 FEES - 7700			258,122.64
JAIL FEES - 7800			121,601.45
SANITATION FEES - 7900			43,148.91
INSURANCE PREMIUMS COLLECTED - 8300			
COLLECTOR COMMISSION - 8500	352,862.41		
ASSESSOR'S COMMISSION - 8600	352,293.41		
TREASURER'S COMMISSION - 8400			
MISCELLANEOUS -	246,008.40	12,477.84	258,305.28
TOTAL REVENUES	3,072,065.45	2,995,431.54	4,079,414.33
LESS TREASURER'S COMMISSION	33,801.58	54,902.58	39,832.84
NET REVENUES	3,038,263.87	2,940,528.96	4,039,581.49
EXPENDITURES			,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
CURRENT			
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	1,661,298.84		116 205 27
HIGHWAYS AND STREETS	1,001,290.04	2 054 201 70	116,305.37
HEALTH	48,631.03	2,854,291.70	-
LAW ENFORCEMENT	1,066,415.14		1 457 204 44
PUBLIC SAFETY	30,870.06		1,457,291.44
RECREATION AND CULTURE	30,870.06		112,373.40
SANITATION			188,110.30
SOCIAL SERVICES	94,810.19		632,118.21
AIRPORT			
OTHER CHECKS	4,806.86		686.17
VOIDED CHECKS / RECEIPTS	52,628.56	/2 447 001	2,026,873.77
TOTAL CURRENT	(7,580.99)	(2,447.90)	257,890.97
TOTAL CORRENT	2,967,041.67	2,856,739.60	4,275,867.69
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER)			
EXPENDISTURES	2,967,041.67	2,856,739.60	4,275,867.69
	2,507,041.07	2,030,733.00	4,273,807.03
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
TRANSFERS IN	2,438,848.67	20,722.63	552,669.67
TRANSFERS OUT	607,377.95	20,722.03	
	007,377.33		2,373,391.27
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	1,831,470.72	20,722.63	(1,820,721.60)
	, 1000 30 50 7	,	(1,525), 21.00)
HOSPITAL BONDS			1,860,000.00
SOLAR PANEL BONDS			1,564,146.11
EXCESS OF REVENUES AND OTHER	4,620,381.37	1,981,887.04	4,439,788.75
SOURCES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	.,===,===:	_,552,557.04	7,733,766.73
AND OTHER USES			
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Court Budget line item Advertising & Publications			
	er d of l	1.6	

We, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct statement of claims allowed by the county for the months of January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2024. Witness our hands and seal of Howard County, Arkansas.

Brent Pinkerton, County Judge

Keri Teague, County Clerk Sherri Mixon, County Treasurer

(HCC: 33)

(This publication is paid for by the Quorum Court Budget. The amount paid for this publication is \$168.75)





News-Leader photos/NIKKLEIFLDS IMAGES & DESIGNS

JUNIOR HIGH LADY OUTLAWS REMAIN UNDEFEATED. The Dierks Junior High Lady Outlaws are currently on an undefeated roll and the team is showing no signs of slowing down. The Dierks girls recently picked up a 52-28 win on the road against the Horatio Lady Lions. Here, Lady Outlaw Scarlett Nuttall (at left) opens the game at Horatio with "an and one" and teammate Savannah Tedford set up the offense as she moves the ball down the court. The team roster includes: Coach Will Stewart, Delannie Hawthorne, Dallie Graham, Taigen McCauley, Izzy Semmler, Kaylan Coulter, Presley Pugh, Savannah Tedford, Scarlett Nuttall, Brielle Kirby, Ally Shelton, Kaytlyn Moore and Coach Jacob Chisum.

## Murfreesboro Rattler Basketball Report

The Murfreesboro Rattlers senior high basketball team suffered their first losing week of the season in dropping a pair of conference games for the first time this season last week.

The team opened the week with a 55-50 loss to Caddo Hills in overtime on Monday, Jan. 27.

MHS would hold leads of 13-6 after one quarter, 24-19 at halftime and 35-29 after three quarters before Caddo

Hills staged their comeback. Caden Dixon scored 22 points to lead the Rattlers, while James Silva added 12 and Laytan Wilcher eight.

Silva led the team with eight rebounds, and Dixon had seven steals.

As a team, the Rattlers were 15/31 (48%) from twopoint range, 3/15 (20%) from three-point range and 11/19 (58%) from the freethrow line.

The team would bounce back the next night at Mountain Pine with a 68-38 win.

After opening with a slim 19-15 lead after the first period, the Rattlers took over the game in the second quarter to hold a 44-23 lead at halftime.

Dixon scored 23 and had 10 rebounds with four steals to lead MHS, with Kooper Caldwell adding 16 points and Silva 15 points.

Last Friday, the Rattlers again fell in overtime at Cutter Morning Star by a 64-62 total.

The game was tight throughout, with Cutter holding a 20-19 lead after one and a 36-36 tie at half-

Dixon again led the team with 26 points.

Silva would add 14 points and 10 rebounds, with Caldwell scoring 12 points. Wilcher had a team leading eight assists and four points.

The team's performance from three-point range (32%) and the free-throw line (46%) again hurt the team's chances for victory.

The Rattlers currently sit in first place for conference with a record of 9-2. Caddo

Hills (8-2) and Cutter Morning Star (8-3) sit right behind them going into this week. The Rattlers will face

their final two conference games this week, traveling to Caddo Hills on Tuesday and hosting Dierks on Friday. The junior high Rattlers

played twice last week, collecting losses to Mountain Pine and Ashdown in addition to several team members battling illnesses and missing games.

Against the Red Devils,

the team would fall behind decisively in the first half, with a 8-3 score after one and 29-7 by half in a 44-13 loss.Hunter Sweat scored seven points for MJHS to lead the team. Against Ashdown, the team scored 7 points in the first half en route to a 34-17 loss.

The team is set to play Caddo Hills and Dierks this week before competing in next week's junior district tournament at Horatio, with the tournament set for Jan. 10-15.

#### Murfreesboro Lady Rattler Basketball Report

games in last week's action. tosh with 19. The girls opened with a win at home over Caddo Hills 49-46 on Monday, Jan.

three-pointers.

scored nine in the effort. through the first three quarters, with Caddo Hills holding leads of 17-16 after the first quarter, 28-23 at halftime and 39-38 after three

quarters. The Lady Rattlers outscored the Lady Indians 11-7 in the final period to claim

the victory. Emma Pittman and Maecyee Sliger each scored 12 to

lead the team. The next night at Mountain Pine, the Lady Rattlers

fell 58-25. Mountain Pine was in charge of the game early, setting Murfreesboro to a 21-4

deficit after the first period. Braden would score 10 points to lead the Lady Rat-

tler offensive effort, while on Friday. Jenna May had nine. Neither team made a

three-pointer in the game. ShyAnne Cardenas week. scored 20 to lead the Lady

Rattlers won one of three teammate Makayllyn McIn-

Jenna May had a hot tough in the first quarter ond quarter to go into half hand in the game, scoring with a 12-6 score, but found with a 17-13 lead. 24 points and hitting seven the deficit increased to 28-13 by halftime.

Sydney Braden added 10 Braden again led MHS points in the third quarter fall short on the road by a sints and Natalie Perrin in scoring with nine points, to give the team a 26-19 lead. 43-27 score. while Perrin added seven The game was tight and the duo of Faith Teel 27 in the game for the Lady and Jamie Howell had five Rattlers.

> points, and a trio of three- down at home last Thursday, pointers, to lead the Lady

The Lady Rattlers currently sit in sixth place for conference with a record of 4-8. Caddo Hills (2-8) and Foreman (0-12) are the seventh and eighth place teams, while Spring Hill (4-7) and Horatio (6-5) sit atop MHS in fifth and fourth place, respectively, in conference

The Lady Rattlers will face their final two conference games this week, traveling to Caddo Hills on Tuesday and hosting Dierks

MJHS

The junior Lady Rattlers faced action three times last

They opened the week

The Murfreesboro Lady Red Devils, followed by against Caddo Hills, notching a 36-24 win.

MJHS seemed destined Last Friday, the Lady to cruise in the game after a Rattlers traveled to Cutter 14-2 lead after one quarter, Morning Star and lost 54-32. but the team would only The Lady Rattlers held score three points in the sec-

Kendall Henderson

Henderson would score

The team had a much Katelynn Geurin had 17 easier game against Ashsuffocating the Lady Panthers with their defense in a

> The first quarter started slowly, with MJHS holding a 7-3 lead at the end of the opening stanza. Before

39-11 win.

would create some distance by shutting out Ashdown in the quarter and holding a 26-3 lead.

Henderson would again do the heavy lifting with 21 points in the contest, while teammate Macy Gills tal-

Last Friday against Cutter would score all nine MJHS Morning Star, MJHS would

The Lady Rattlers held a 6-4 lead after one quarter and trailed 17-14 at half. A three point offensive output in the third quarter greatly diminished the Lady Rattlers' chances in the game.

Henderson led the team

with 14 points. The junior Lady Rattlers will compete in next week's junior district tournament at Horatio, with the tournahalftime, however, the team ment set for January 10-15.

#### AGFC to take second shot at Umarex Big Squirrel Challenge

The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission is ready for a second shot at hosting the 2025 Umarex Big Squirrel Challenge Feb. 7-8.

The contest, Arkansas's only statewide hunting event focused on squirrels, was originally planned for Jan. 10-11, but a heavy snowfall blanketed most of the state and caused a postponement.

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 noonto-noon Feb. 7-8 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 contest category. Hunters are welcome to use squirrel dogs for their bushytails.

The area Big Squirrel Challenge Weigh-in Loca-

Rick Evans Grandview Prairie Nature Center 1685 CR35N, Columbus

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DIERKS WRAPS UP JANUARY SCHEDULE. The Dierks basketball teams wrapped up the first month of the new year with games against Foreman, Horatio and Spring Hill. On Jan. 27 at Foreman, the Dierks Junior Outlaws were dropped 71-51 while the Dierks Senior Lady Outlaws dominated the Lady Gators 69-9 and the senior boys picked up at 52-41 win. On Jan. 28 at Horatio, the undefeated Junior Lady Outlaws got a 52-28 win while the senior girls scored a 55-34 win. The senior Outlaws also won big over Horatio 66-28. On Jan. 31, the teams swept Spring Hill at home with the junior boys winning 54-23, the senior girls 73-45 and the senior boys 59-52. Pictured above are (from left) Senior Outlaw Dylan Moore against Horatio and Senior Lady Outlaws Addison Hill and Ryleigh Simmons against Spring Hill.

## Attend Church This Sunday!

AN OFFICER NAMED ASAIAH

AN OFFICER NAMED ASAIAH

ASAIAH WAS AN OFFICER IN THE COURT OF KING JOSIAH, WHO CAME TO THE THRONE OF
JUDAH WHEN HE WAS BUT 8 YEARS OF AGE. ASAIAH COMES TO NOTICE BECAUSE HE WAS SENT AS
PART OF A SPECIAL ENVOY BY KING JOSIAH, WHEN JOSIAH WAS IS YEARS OLD, TO FIND OUT IF
THE LORD GOD WOULD DESTROY THE KINGDOM BECAUSE THEIR FATHERS HAD GOTTEN AWAY
FROM WORSHIPING GOD! THE KING HAD REPENTED FOR THE 'SIN OF HIS FATHER'S' EVER
SINCE THE DAY HE HAD READ IN THE BOOK OF THE LAW THE AWFUL PROPHECY IN DEUTERONOMY (DEUT. 29:25-28). THAT KING JOSIAH WAS "DEAD SERIOUS" WAS SHOWN BY THE FACT
OF HIS CHOOSING ALL HIGH OFFICERS IN HIS COURT FOR THE ENVOY AND HEADING IT WITH
THE HIGH PRIEST HILKIAH (II KINGS 22:14).
THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THIS ENVOY WERE
SHAPHAM THE SCRIBE, ACHBOR, A MOST
TRUSTED OFFICER OF THE KING, AND
AHIKAM. THE SON OF THE ROYAL SCRIBE

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## Federal officials working to keep U.S. free of nightmarish screwworms

The New World screw- protect U.S. livestock, pets,

Named for its habit of of warm-blooded animals with its razor-sharp mouth hooks, they are maggots — the larvae of *Cochliomyia hominivorax*, a fly with large orange eyes, a dark blue or green metallic body bearing three dark stripes.

the United States since the 1960s, the New World screwworm has prompted fresh concerns from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the livestock industry after a case was reported in southern Mexico last fall.

Adult New World screwworm fly, characterized by its large orange eyes and bluish or greenish metallic body and three back stripes. (Image by Judy Gallagher (ICreative Commons Attribution 2.0 Generic license)

This prompted the US-DA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, or APHIS, to put in effect a temporary ban on importation of live cattle, bison, horses and other livestock from Mexico.

"The United States Dehealth and wellbeing spe- Panamanian barrier. cialist for the University of of Agriculture. "The last case that we had in the U.S. was in October 2016 in Florida, to eliminate the presence by March 2017.

"Because of this new case in the southern part of Mexico, APHIS announced on Dec. 13 that there will

worm is the stuff of night- and wildlife," Midkiff said. Setting up a barrier

New World screwworms screwing into the living flesh are endemic to Cuba, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and countries in South America. Panama was considered the border for screwworm prevalence, but recently the screwworm has trended north into Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guate-All but disappeared from mala, and the southernmost areas of Mexico.

> In 1972, USDA and Mexico started a screwworm eradication program to create a biological barrier distributing sterile flies which disrupt reproduction. The sterile flies were raised in a facility in Mexico and dispersed using specially equipped planes. In 2006, a new sterile fly production facility was built in Panama, with flies distributed along the border between Panama and Columbia, pushing the barrier further south. According to the U.S. Embassy in Costa Rica, an average of 60 million sterile flies were dispersed weekly.

Midkiff said the emergency funds are being used to support surveillance efforts, animal health checkpoints, partment of Agriculture had and collaborate with Mexico successfully eradicated New and Central American coun-World screwworm from the tries to establish a new bar-U.S. in 1966," said Kirsten rier on the Isthmus of Tehu-Midkiff, extension animal antepec and re-establish the son, which spans from Me- according to APHIS. Other

1944 bulletin from Florida Arkansas System Division Extension Service features discussion on managing screwworm before the pest was eradicated in the U.S. in and swift action was taken 1966 (U of A System Division of Agriculture image by Jon Zawislak)

Precaution, prevention

Maggie Justice, extension beef cattle specialist for the Division of Agriculture, said be a release of \$165 million she's been getting questions in emergency funding to from ranchers. However,

she wants to emphasize that imposed restrictions on live could be substantial, decattle imports from Mexico out of caution.

"This could cause disruption of the overall cattle supply, especially in regions such as Texas and an overall reduced supply of cattle in the market. This also can cause uncertainty in the market," Justice said. However, 'prevention of the screwworm entering the U.S. is imperative, as there could be major economic losses associated with the pest with devastating consequences for animal health and wel-

**Economic concerns** 

The United States imported 1.23 million head of feeder cattle from Mexico in 2024. Mexico is second only to Canada in terms of supplying beef to the U.S.

However, during "the last five weeks of the year, we imported zero," said James Mitchell, extension livestock economist for the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture. "This is important because we typically observe a seasonal high in Mexican cattle imports during December. These cattle are fed in U.S. feedlots before being processed into beef in preparation for grilling seamorial Day to Labor Day."

ban increased cattle prices, particularly in Texas and other border states.

"However, it also had negative effects on feedlots already struggling to maintain capacity due to tighter domestic cattle supplies,"

Chambers

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The potential cost of a "currently, there is no out- New World screwworm break in the U.S., we have outbreak in domestic herds pending on its severity. Implementing an import ban is a logical step to reduce the risk of such an outbreak. Prior to its eradication in 1966, New World screwworms cost the U.S. livestock industry more than \$100 million annually, according to a 1991 presentation by James E. Novy, assistant chief of program evaluations and planning of veterinary services for USDA.

What to look for

New World screwworm flies lay eggs on an open wound or around an orifice, and after a few hours the eggs will hatch and larvae burrow into the wound to feed. The maggots are unique in that they have sharp mouth hooks that cause extensive damage, tearing into the host tissue. Unlike other species, these maggots will only feed on living tissue.

"Being vigilant about New World screwworm is the key to keeping it out of the United States," Midkiff

Early signs for the screwworm are enlarged or draining wounds, discomfort, and the presence of eggs or larvae near superficial injuries, signs in animals — Mitchell said the import mammals and birds — may be irritated behavior, head shaking, the smell of decay, evidence of fly strike, or the presence of maggots in a

> If you suspect a screwworm infestation, contact your veterinarian or state veterinarian.

#### Murfreesboro High School **Honor Roll**

All A - Lainey Beene, Paisley Caldwell, Jacob Chaney, June Goodin, Dawson McKinnon, Ashly McRae, Jackson

A&B -Asher Campbell, Calvert Campbell, Bejamin Cox, Ava Harr, Braxton Horn, Ava Humphry

Eighth Grade

All A- Bejamin Brewer, Abigail Campbell, Madilynn Draper, Adalyn Silva

A&B-Avery Baker, Carsyn Ballard, Hope Colman, Gage Harper, Kason Watson, Austin Wright

Ninth Grade All A - None listed

A&B -Kinley Fisher, Alexander Gill, Kyndall Henderson, Elizabeth Mata, Joshua Myrkle, Isaac Śmith, Kennedy Tidwell, McKinlee White, Adrian Zacarias

All A-Alex Bonner, Gianna Draper, Carter Gilmer, Curtis Markcum, Conner McBay. Jordyn Nance, Mason Phillips, Aurora Stone, Ramsey Terrell, Charleigh Wheeler

A&B -Cameron Braden, Monica Dominquez, Isabell Frazier, Kinslee Howell, Gavin Jones, Josie Jones, Garrett Lamb, Cole McKnight, Carson Oakley, Jefferson Spradlin, Mason Wilkins

11th Grade:

All A- Kale Burns, Lucas Carey, John Parker Jackson, Colton Robbins, Mabree Sweat, Faith Teel

S&B-Teegan Barnett, Sydney Braden, Faith Henderson, Hawkins Jackson, Miguel Mendez, Kinleigh Mounts, Hailey Sweney

12th Grade:

All A- Chloie Beck, Isaac Bush, Ethan Coleman, Aniyah Harris, Janiyah Harris, Jocee Holt, Jamie Howell, Weston Lamb, Jenna May, Natalie Perrin, Albert Quiroz, James Silva, Brody Smith, Reid Spradlin, Layken Stone, Kinleigh Sullivan, Anna Terrell, Allie Wicker, Laytan Wilcher

A&B- David James Barnes, James Chaney, Dallas Cox, Cruz Reyes, Caden Dixon, Daelyn Henderson, Brody Maroon, Jade Matthews, Mason Sanders, Chloe Scoggin, Allison Synco, Braden Wright

#### U.S. Postal Service to start selling newly redesigned, more secure money orders

WASHINGTON, DC-The U.S. Postal Service is introducing a new, redesigned money order.

The new design will enhance already strong security features to further deter counterfeiting and other fraudulent activities. It will be released in February 2025.

The current, or "legacy," postal money order will be sold until stock is depleted. The newly designed money order features a new bank routing number and is red, white and blue in color. It will be phased into public circulation and will eventually be available at all Post Office locations. Both designs will continue to be accepted at postal retail units and financial institutions as trusted forms of payment.

Additional information is available on the Sending Money Orders page on usps.com.

Security features

While the Postal Service cannot disclose every new security element, watermarks, a security thread and a Quick Response (QR) code that directs to the USPS website are some of the new features of the enhanced money order.

The public can rest assured that USPS money orders are among the most secure financial instruments in the world.

Additional information on money-order verification is available at usps.com on the Sending Money Orders page under "Receiving Money Orders — How to Spot a Fake."

Suspect a fake?

If a customer suspects fraud, they should call the U.S. Postal Inspection Service at 1-877-876-2455. If a customer believes that they have been given a fake money order, they should call the Money Order Verification System at 1-866-459-7822 or Check Money Order Status via usps.com.

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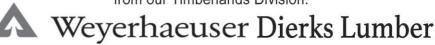
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WHEREAS, the property secured under the Mortgage is located in Howard County, Arkansas more particularly described as follows:

LOTS 15, 16, AND 17 IN BLOCK 60 OF NEW NASHVILLE ADDITION TO THE TOWN OF NASHVILLE, HOWARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS, ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL PLAT THEREOF. Street Address: 510 W Shepherd St Nashville AR 71852

WHEREAS on May 8, 2019 Kameron Quinonez, a single man, executed a Mortgage in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for State Bank of De Kalb. Said Mortgage was recorded on May 9, 2018 as Instrument No. R2019-00834 in the real property records of Howard County, Arkansas. Said Mortgage was subsequently assigned to Citizens Bank, N.A. by virtue of an assignment dated October 23, 2024 and recorded on October 25, 2024 as Instrument No. R2024-01640 in the real property records of Howard County, Arkansas. The party initiating foreclosure can be contacted at or in care of its servicer initiating foreclosure at: Citizens Bank, N.A. 1 Citizens Plaza Providence RI 02903 at Telephone No. 877-745-7364; and

WHEREAS, there may be tenants that claim an interest in the real property herein based upon said tenancy; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned is the attorney for the mortgagee and is acting on and with the consent and authority of the mortgagee who is exercising its power of sale under Ark. Code Ann. §18-50-115 which implies a power of sale in every mortgage of real property situated in this state that is duly acknowledged and recorded; and default has occurred in the payment of said indebtedness, specifically the installment due August 1, 2024, and each subsequent payment to date are now due; and the holder of the debt has requested the undersigned to sell the property to satisfy said indebtedness. This sale is subject to all matters shown on any applicable recorded plat or bill(s) of assurance; any restrictive covenants, easements, set back liens or encroachments; any unpaid and / or delinquent taxes or special assessments; any statutory redemption rights of any governmental entity; any prior liens or encumbrances as well as any priority created by a UCC or fixture filing; and, to any matter that an accurate survey of the property might disclose. This property is being sold "as is" with no representation as the condition of any structure(s) thereon or the accuracy of the above legal description. Transfer taxes and recording fees are the responsibility of the purchaser.

WITNESS my hand this 24th day of December, 2024. Citizens Bank N.A., by its attorney-in-fact, Albertelli Law

Kevin Rogers, 2012031 1 Information Way Suite 201 Little Rock, AR 72202 501-406-0855 A LAW No. 24-040023 (PNA: 33 - 36)



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#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HEMPSTEAD COUNTY, ARKANSAS CIVIL DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE NORTH FORK OF **OZAN CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT** 

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUCCESSOR COMMISSIONERS

Comes now, Eddie Stavely, and Gary Martindale as the

sole remaining Commissioners (hereinafter "commissioners" or "board members") of the Commissioners of the North Fork of Ozan Creek Watershed Improvement District, and for their Petition for Appointment of Successor Commissioners, state: That the North Fork of Ozan Creek Watershed Dis-

- trict was established in the Chancery Court of Hempstead County, Arkansas on the 18th day of September, 1962 pursuant to Act No. 329 of the General Assembly of Arkansas for the year 1949 as amended by Act. No. 171 of the General Assembly of Arkansas for 1957 and by Act. No. 131 of the General Assembly of Arkansas for the year 1959.
- That Jurisdiction and Venue are proper in Hempstead County Arkansas Circuit Court.
- That of the last five board members to serve, there are only two surviving board members: namely, the Petitioners herein, Eddie Stavely, and Gary Martindale.
- That in this particular district there has been an unusually long period pass since Commissioners have been replaced creating the need to replace the entire board due to the passing of three of the last five board members and the two surviving members requesting to resign.
- That Eddie Stavely and Gary Martindale petition the court to appoint a completely new board consisting of five new board members.
- That Petitioners request the Court appoint the following individuals as new Commissioners of the North Fork of Ozan Creek Watershed Improvement District: Kristin Stavely, Pace King, Justin Jones, Noel Davis III, Brent
- That the immediately preceding five nominees for the appointment are all land owners owning land within, and therefore having a direct interest in, the North Fork of Ozan Creek Watershed District.
- That all of the aforementioned nominees have
- agreed to accept the appointments. That upon approval of this Petition, new board members will meet and vote on the appointment of officers.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Petitioners Eddie Stavely and Gary Martindale

pray this Honorable Court grant their Petition for Appointment of Successor Commissioners and for all other just and proper relief to which they are otherwise entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

Eddie Stavely & Gary Martindale, Petitioners By: /s/Victor Martin Victor Martin, Ark Bar# 2018116

Attorney for Petitioners 420 N. Main St. Suite One Nashville, AR 71852 Phone: (870)-845-5256

ANYONE WANTING TO CONTEST THE ABOVE STATED APPOINTMENTS SHOULD CONTACT THE COURT WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THIS PUBLICATION (VM: 32, 33)

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WINDING 'EM UP. Members of the ArkLaTaxOma Fly Tyers (from left) John Tupper, Sue Spangler and Ron Foreman tie fly-fishing flies during the event held Saturday in Murfreesboro.



## Murfreesboro hosts Little Missouri River Fly Fishing Festival

The ArkLaTexOma Fly Tyers held their Homewaters 2025 Celebration of Little Missouri River Fly Fishing Festival last weekend in Murfreesboro.

The event was conducted at the Murfreesboro Municipal Building's community room, and the ArkLaTexOma (ALTO) Fly Tyers included a "weekend of tying, fishing, fellowship and fun...with expert tyers, casting instructors, vendors, and seminars."

Group spokesman Mike Hawkins said the group -- now in its second year of hosting the festival after formerly being conducted by Jeff Guerin -- didn't expect to fill the room at the Municipal Building, but was pleased to note that longest traveled attendees came from as far away as Joplin, Missouri and Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Hawkins added that with the lack of generation from the dam, it provided some great fishing and that due to the Arkansas Game and Fish's stocking program, action on the river should be prime through April.

The group went live with their new website, arklatexomaflytyers.com on Friday night, and said information can be found also on their facebook page for anyone

The group also lauded the Murfreesboro Chamber of Commerce and president Lisa Harvill for going out of their way to make the weekend great for all involved, including paying the cost of the venue and feeding the group lunch on Friday.

"I just can say enough about Lisa and the Chamber," said Hawkins, adding that the Murfreesboro Volunteer Fire Department brought over extra tables for use. "Everyone has just made us feel very welcome."

As part of the activities, members and attendees were told of the "State of the Little Missouri River" on Friday night.

The group said the trout waters of the Little Missouri were the closest in the area for a large part of the four state membership, and that it was important to them to help develop the local tourism for it and grow the sport for the normal November-April trout season.

For further information, visit the group's website or contact Mike Hawkins at (903)

## Egg prices: What goes up usually comes down "Our food supply is healthy, our egg supply is healthy"

By Mary Hightower U of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture

That omelet is costing more again thanks to highly pathogenic avian influenza, but Jada Thompson says the egg price rollercoaster has a downhill side too.

According to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, since February 2022, more than 1,400 flocks affecting 149.96 million birds. From Jan. 1-30 of this year, more than 19.63 million birds have been affected including 71 commercial flocks and 43 backyard flocks.

Department of Agriculture.

"The same similar thing happened at the end of 2022 and into 2023," said Thompson, associate professor and poultry economist with the there's the biology. University of Arkansas Sys-

Iada Thompson says egg prices have a cycle and this year is a repeat of the last the picture. (U of A System Division of Agriculture file

on Saturday, Feb. 15.

a.m.-3 p.m.

Registration for the event

The event will be held at

will begin at 8 a.m. and the conference will run from 9

the UA Cossatot campus,

tight supply," she said. "We were down about 3 percent in egg layer supply at the time and we're down about 3 percent in supply right

The number of egg crates in the grocery stores is also affected by a tiny bit of "justin-case" buying by consum-

"We see the egg prices, HPAI has been detected in and then consumers are responding," Thompson said. "There's a bit of people buying all the eggs because they're concerned about the availability"

Flu cycles

While the season for bird The Animal and Plant flu cycles with spring and Health Inspection Service, or APHIS, is part of the U.S. fall wildfowl migrations, the rhythm of the egg cycle has its own complexities. Thompson said the retail cycle moves with the holidays when consumers tend to buy more eggs. And then

"The high demand tends tem Division of Agriculture. to coincide with periods of Agricultural Economist the year where egg laying kind of drops off a little, due to it being colder and the amount of light changes. time avian influenza entered There are hormonal effects to egg laying," she said.

When bird flu is detected, market," she said. the flocks need to be depopulated because the current strain of the disease has such a high mortality rate. Whether it's turkeys, broilers or egg layers, it takes time to replace the birds — "there's also kind of a bit of a biological lag in that price recovery system and for the supply

Looking back at 2023, as spring moved on, "we didn't have as many cases of bird flu. We didn't have as many birds out of the system, and so prices kind of recovered, and those stories fall away, and we don't think about it,' Thompson said.

chain."

ing consumers of what was industry. torgotten in the summer of

"We started seeing a bit more of an uptick. We saw a little bit more shocks to the

For comparison:

In 2022, 43 million table egg layers were affected by

were affected

In 2024, 38 million layers were affected.

"Right now? We're already at 13 million in 2025," Thompson said.

However, Thompson expects the supply will recover.

"Our food supply is healthy, our egg supply is healthy," Thompson said. "I can tell you that the eggs are coming back on the market." Dairy and poultry

Another part of the avian However, 2024 is remind- influenza story is the dairy

There's a linkage between the dairy industry and the poultry industry, and it's

right now," Thompson said. erage, animals have been And it's that dairy cows are susceptible to bird flu, and it reduces production.

"You can see milk prices In 2023 12 million layers starting to go up a little bit," she said.

'When the cows are sick, they producers have to dump the milk and that's reducing some production

Affected dairy cows are isolated or segregated from the herd and owners are advised to contact their herd been reported that on av- FDA's site.

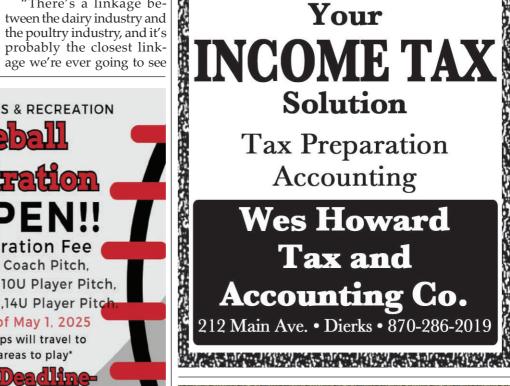
reported to recover within 30-45 days.

According to APHIS, 16 states reported dairy cow infections in January. The Food and Drug Administration says on its site that "pasteurization and diversion or destruction of abnormal milk are two important measures that are part of the federalstate milk safety system.

"Even if the virus is detected in raw milk, the current pasteurization process, veterinarian for additional HTST or high temperature, procedures, sampling, and short time, will inactivate confirmatory testing. It has the virus," according to the

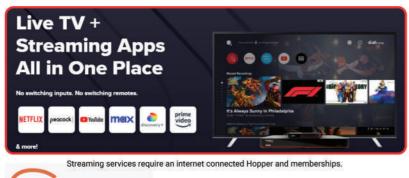


**NASHVILLE PARKS & RECREATION** ended Deadline-10 get a guaranteed meal of their choice. Youth meals February 10th may be added on for \$10 each. Interested participants Register at may register at uada.form-1301 W Johnson St. Nashville, AR stack.com/forms/south-870-845-7405



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