The Murfreesboro Diamond No. 1075

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Amity resident charged on possession of kiddie porn

AMITY -- Arkansas State Police Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force arrested James Virgil Parks, 38, a registered Level-3 sex offender from Amity, on Tuesday, February 11, 2025.

The arrest followed a residential search warrant executed at Parks' Mountain Home Road residence, prompted by multiple cyber tips sent to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC).

Special Agents took Parks into custody and booked him into the Clark County Detention Center on 50 counts of Possession of Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM). His bond was set

At the time of his arrest, Parks was on probation in Clark County for a 2022 conviction related to failing to report his address in a timely manner, as required for registered sex offend-



GLENWOOD -- A beginner fly fishing class will be held by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission on Saturday, March 1 at the John Benjamin pond in Glenwood as part of their Family and Community Fishing Program.

The pond is located at 25-53 Industrial Park

Two classes are scheduled, from 10-11:30

a.m. and 12:30-2 p.m.

The event is designed as a basic course or class with skill awareness and knowledge im-

The event page describes the pond as "stocked full of trout this time of year, let's go out and hook some ... come out and enjoy one of our family and community parks. We will be learning how to tie knots, bait a hook and cast. This class is intended for ages 8-15.

The public may register for the event at www.register-ed.com/events/view/223374 or www.register-ed.com/events/view/223375.

No local stands, but residents can order Girl **Scout Cookies online**

LITTLE ROCK — Girl Scout Cookies are here, and Girl Scouts - Diamonds of Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas girls are gearing up for inperson booth sales beginning Friday, February 21. With the much-anticipated cookie season back in full swing, cookie lovers can rejoice as they indulge in the classic cookie line-up.

Cookie connoisseurs can expect to see the classic cookie lineup, including favorites like Thin Mints®, Caramel deLites®, Peanut Butter Patties® and more. At the close of the 2025 Cookie Season, the beloved cookie flavor, Toast-yay!®, will be retired. Toast-yay!® enthusiasts can get their hands on the last of these favorite sweet treats by visiting a cookie booth or ordering from a local Girl Scout or troop.

Every box of cookies sold provides invaluable experiences for Girl Scouts such as service projects, troop travel and summer camp. One hundred percent of cookie sales stay local and fuel adventures for local Girl Scouts through-

With no local stands planned at the moment, residents can visit GirlScoutsDiamonds.org/ FindCookies and order cookies using a Girl Scout's or troop's online cookie store link for in-person delivery, or you can choose direct shipping to have cookies shipped directly to your home. Don't know a Girl Scout? Complete the interest form on the Find Cookies page on the website for help finding a Girl Scout in your

Girls in grades K–12 can start their journey to fun, friendship, and new experiences at any point in the year. To join us, volunteer, reconnect, or donate visit www.girlscoutsdiamonds.

DO YOU KNOW **SOMETHING WORTH TELLING?**

Submit Your Local News to the Diamond!

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Call (870) 285-2723 for More Information



SMILE UNDER PRESSURE ... Murfreesboro Rattler head coach Buster Bonner smiles during a late time out in the boys semifinal conference tournament game against Spring Hill last Saturday. The Rattlers would lose the game 54-53, but still progress to the regional tournament this week against Fordyce.

Rattlers lose semifinal game, refocus on regional tournament this week

MURFREESBORO - The Murfreesboro Rattlers saw an anticlimactic finish to their conference 7-2A tournament semifinal matchup against Spring Hill on Saturday at home.

Leading throughout much of the second half, the Rattlers found themselves tied at 53 with 1.1 seconds remaining. The team was set to run an out-of-bounds play from their baseline when a timeout was called after Spring Hill didn't come out as expected on defense, switching to a man on man look.

The problem was that Murfreesboro had no timeouts remaining, and the ensuing technical foul gave Spring Hill two free throws and possession of the ball. After one free throw went through in the two attempts, the Bears were able to inbound the ball and end the game.

Spring Hill held leads of 13-12 after the first quarter and 22-19 at half. The Rattlers were able to regain momentum after the break, with a 41-36 lead after three quarters.

While dominant on the boards, Murfreesboro shot unusually poorly in the contest, with only three players entering the scoring column. Caden Dixon had 21 points, while James Silva had 19 and Kooper Caldwell 11.

Kale Burns led the team in rebounding with 15 (five offensive) while seven of Dixon's nine boards came on the offensive end. Silva also had five offensive rebounds as part of his seven

Despite the extra attempts, the team only shot 13/32 from two-point range (41%) and 6/26 (23%) on three pointers. As a team the group was also 9/17 from the free throw line

Point guard Laytan Wilcher led the team with nine assists in the contest, while Dixon claimed four steals on the defensive end while dealing with a cut on his hand in the second

'Spring Hill shot the ball better than we did," said Rattler head coach Buster Bonner. "We hustled and got after it and everything ... the shots just weren't falling like we would prefer. If you allow a team to stay that close to you, especially a team you've beaten twice during the regular season, anything can happen when it goes down the stretch."

The Rattlers beat the Bears 82-52 at home on December 6 and 48-30 as visitors on January 17.

"We just came out on the short end of the stick, and didn't play that well."

While Bonner refused to use it as an excuse, the Rattlers hadn't played in eight days due to their byes to the semifinals after winning the regular season conference title - a delay that was only exacerbated by weather delays for the tournament last week.

"We can make excuses all night – but it didn't

help. Both the one and two seeds (Caddo Hills) lost in the semifinals in our conference [after being off for more than a week]."

He said the team had no choice but to regroup at the 2A-4 regional tournament this week in Poyen, where one win moves them on to the state tournament at Cedar Ridge the following week.

The team will face Fordyce at 8:30 on Thursday to conclude the action that day in Poyen. Fordyce lost to Poyen 72-61 in the finals of their conference tournament on Monday night. Murfreesboro will be the number three seed from

Should the Rattlers defeat Fordyce, they would then get a potential instant rematch against Spring Hill, presuming the Bears beat Hampton in their first round game.

On Monday, Bonner said he would attend the Poyen-Fordyce game at Parkers Chapel for some advance scouting.

"I told the guys it starts all over this week ... we won the regular season, but not the tournament, we have to put all that behind us and look forward to the regional tournament. Anything can happen there - we just have to be in the right frame of mind and right attitude. The season starts all over, but we can't afford a loss

BASKETBALL Continued on Page 2

Chamber banquet readies for March 6

MURFREESBORO -- The Murfreesboro Chamber of Commerce is preparing for their 2025 banquet that is set for March 6, 6 p.m., at the Murfreesboro Senior Center.

Tickets are available by contacting a chamber board member -- Lisa Harvill, Jane Fugitt, Jimi Scarlett, Kailee Parker, Diane Carroll, Ricky Branch, Angie Branch, and Jean Floyd -or by calling (870) 557-1860. Remaining tickets will be available at the door on the night of the

Tickets are priced at \$25 each or a table of six

The event will again hold a silent auction, door prizes and the "Taste of Murfreesboro" meal that will feature selections from local favorite eateries Feed Bin, Terri's Place, Telinga's Mexican Restaurant and Branch Oil.

The theme will be "Mardi Gras" and festive t-shirts are being prepared for attendees.

Awards will be given for Person of the Year (see the form on page 4 of this week's edition to nominate your choice) and teachers of the year from South Pike County Schools.

Mayor Jim O'Neal will make a "State of the City" presentation, while Crater of Diamonds State Park Superintendent Caleb Howell will be the keynote speaker.

In other chamber news, the group has decided not to again hold a donation stop for the Cruisin for St. Judes Children's Hospital Bike

After contributing -- along with several local businesses -- for two years previous, the chamber hoped to convince the group to eat in Murfreesboro instead of just passing through to eat at Glenwood's Fish Nest. The rally declined the idea, so the chamber agreed after discussion that there was little value in for chamber to invest in just a stop on the way.

Kinetic, formerly known as Windstream, will



TICKETS AVAILABLE ... 2025 Chamber banquet tickets are now available by contacting a chamber board member -- Lisa Harvill, Jane Fugitt, Jimi Scarlett, Kailee Parker, Diane Carroll, Ricky Branch, Angie Branch, and Jean Floyd -- or by calling (870) 557-1860. Remaining tickets will be available at the door on the night of the event. Tickets are priced at \$25 each or a table of six for \$125.

hold a ribbon cutting event in conjunction with the chamber to celebrate Murfreesboro becoming a "Gig Ready Community." The even is set for March 13 at 11 a.m. in Murfreesboro City Hall. City Hall is located at 805 North Washington Avenue. Light refreshments will be served.

The chamber, partnering with the City of Murfreesboro, will again help host the Juneteenth celebration at the park. Majornell Burton and Anthony May will serve as committee heads, while the chamber will help provide hot dogs and watermelon along with aiding in

some of the events. More will be discussed at

future meetings of the chamber, which is held on the second Tuesday of the month, 5 p.m. at

The group is also reviewing Christmas Decorations for the purpose of ordering for use this year. While they will continue refurbishing what decorations they already possess, it was noted that more was needed.

Additionally, it was noted at the meeting that if a box was placed at each desired light pole in town, SWEPCO would run electricity to it, allowing for more lighted decorations.

BASKETBALL Continued from Page 1

in the first game."

Bonner said the team was playing less than its full potential over the past few games ... we can make excuses, but we just have to play up to our game. No matter what, we are going to facing only good teams from now on."

As for the timeout, Bonner takes full credit for the gaffe, noting he felt it was due to miscommunication after he thought the referee told him he had one timeout remaining.

"I called the previous timeout with less than two seconds and asked 'how many do I have left?' and I only heard 'one' and someone after the game said he indicated 'that was your last one.' I have not talked to any of the officials, I do not know exactly what happened – I thought the other official indicated there was one on each end ... I take the blame, I called the timeout. I can't blame anyone else, and I told the kids in the locker room it wasn't their fault. It's just one of those things, but it was a tough way to lose the game. Otherwise, worse case scenario we just went to overtime."

MHS LADY RATTLERS

The Murfreesboro Lady Rattlers gave all their effort in a bid to earn a regional tournament berth, but fell just short in the conference tournament last week.

To open, the ladies hosted Caddo Hills in the first round, where they jumped out to a 14-2 lead after the first quarter en route to a 50-23 win.

Jenna May would score 22 points on the strength of four three-pointers to lead the Lady Rattlers in scoring. Chloe Scoggin would add nine points, while the well-balanced MHS roster saw eight players in the scoring column.

Sydney Braden would grab seven rebounds, while Scoggin had five assists and five steals.

In the quarterfinals the Lady Rattlers faced Mountain Pine, who had defeated them by a combined 65 points in their two regular season meetings this year.

Undaunted by that fact, Murfreesboro would go toe-to-toe with the Lady Red Devils last Friday before ultimately falling by a 61-48 score to end their season.

The final score didn't indicate how close much of the game was, with Murfreesboro trailing by a 17-12 score after the first quarter and 31-29 at half.

The Lady Rattlers were able to grab a lead in the third quarter, with them facing a single point lead by the end of the quarter

Natalie Perrin led the team with 11 points, while Scoggin had 10. May and Braden each chipped in nine points, and Jocee Holt had 8.

Braden again led the squad with nine rebounds, with five of them coming on the offensive end.

After the game on social media, Lady Rattler head coach Ni-

cole Martin said she was proud of the girls' efforts.

"Seasons ending are always so tough. But I am proud of how the girls left it all on the court yesterday. They didn't back down and they played with everything they had every possession."

She also thanked the team's five seniors – Scoggin, May, Perrin, Holt and Jamie Howell – as well as the team's trainers, Reid Spradlin and Alyssa Ruiz.

"You girls mean so much to me and I'm proud I've gotten to see your successes on and off the court. You girls work so hard in sports and in life. I cannot wait to see what the future holds for you girls ... the 2024-2025 season will always be one that brings great memories of this group and this senior class and the relationships that have grown since seventh grade. It's a great day to be a Rattler and it was always a great day to be your coach."

LETTER TO EDITOR POLICY

All letters to the editor must be signed, along with a phone number (that will not be published) provided for confirmation purposes. The Murfreesboro Diamond reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity. Letters must not be libelous or contain any profanities.

Send Letters to P.O. Box 550 • Murfreesboro, AR 71958 or e-mail to mdiamond.editor@windstream.net

Murfreesboro Diamond

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Located in the County Seat of Pike County • Murfreesboro, Arkansas Home of the Crater of Diamonds State Park Little Missouri River • Lake Greeson

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• Christy Coccarelli, Office Manager/Photographer

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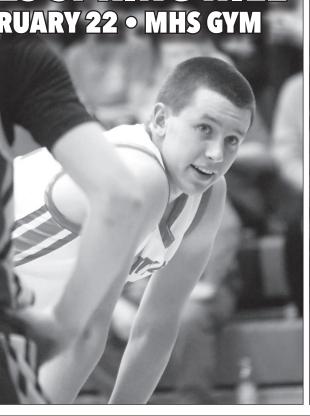
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Murfreesboro, AR 71958

Any erroneous statement published in the newspaper will be gladly and promptly corrected if called to the attention of the management.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE FRIDAYS AT 3:00 P.M.











PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PIKE COUNTY, **ARKANSAS CIVIL DIVISION**

DEBRA COX and TOMMY TILLEY **PETITIONERS**

VS.

CASE NO. 55CV-25-10

IN REGARD TO: PARCEL OF LAND SITUATED IN PIKE COUNTY ARKANSAS,

Beginning at a point 762 links North of the Southwest Corner of the Northeast Quarter of Section 34, in Township 8 South, Range 24 West, thence North 1738 links; thence East 2000 links; thence South 1738 links; thence West 2000 links to the Point of Beginning, containing 34.75 acres, more or

NOTICE OF QUIET TITLE ACTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that there has been filed in the Circuit Court of Pike County, Arkansas, a Petition to Quiet Title to lands in Pike County, Arkansas, described as follows,

Beginning at a point 762 links North of the Southwest Corner of the Northeast Quarter of Section 34, in Township 8 South, Range 24 West, thence North 1738 links; thence East 2000 links; thence South 1738 links; thence West 2000 links to the Point of Beginning, containing 34.75 acres, more or

Any and all person/s claiming said lands or any interest thereon are hereby warned to appear in this Court within thirty (30) days from the date of first publication of this Notice and answer said Petition and show cause why the title to said lands should not be quieted and confirmed in said Plaintiff or be forever barred from answering or asserting his interest.

WITNESS my hand and seal as Clerk of the Circuit Court of Pike County, Arkansas, this 12th day of February, 2025.

(v.m. 269w., 33,34,35,36)

Sabrina Williams

Pike County Circuit Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PIKE COUNTY, **ARKANSAS** PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF: JAYDEN ALEXANDER ROWTON, a minor child

55PR-21-68

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO: OUALYN LUSTER

On Monday, March 17, 2025, commencing at 9 a.m. or as soon thereafter as may be heard, a hearing will be held on the Petition for Adoption in the above-styled matter.

This Petition is filed by DALTON WAYNE ROWTON and BRANDI DAWN MARTÍN, and is a formal request for legal action to seek the adoption of the above-listed child and thus termination of your rights. This hearing will take place at the Pike County Judicial Center, Courtroom, located at 305 Industrial Park Dr., Murfreesboro, AR. 71958.

If you object to the Petition, you should file a written response with the Clerk of Pike County, Arkansas.

If you fail to appear at the hearing, a Judge may enter orders or decrees which terminate your rights to the children referenced above.

TISHA MARTIN, ABN 2018105 Post Office Box 1066 Nashville, AR 71852 (870) 686-0074 - Telephone (870) 455-0045 -Facsimile

(t.m. 181w., 32,33,34,35)

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PIKE COUNTY DISTRICT COURT DOCKET

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February 4, 2025 BF=Bond Forfeited

PIKE COUNTY

Akagha, Ikedinachi C., 40, St. Louis, Mo., \$135 BF, speeding Ballew, Richard Edward, 49, Red Oak, Okla., \$160 BF, registration of gross weight/license

Bell, Raven, 32, Murfreesboro, guilty of failure to pay, fined \$205, \$2,936 owed

Benham, Elizabeth Louise, 41, Baxter Springs, Kan., \$125 BF,

Bourque, Larry Everette, 54, Norman, guilty of drinking in public or on highway, fined \$220

Brown, Isaac Wayne, 17, Broken Bow, Okla., \$185 BF, speeding Bugna, Anthony Matthew, 38, Gilroy, Calif., \$205 BF, failure

Bush, James C., 32, Glenwood, \$205 BF, failure to pay Bustos, Jorge Luis, 28, Lovington, N.M., \$145 BF, use of phone

while driving Butler, Bret David, 19, Keota, Okla., \$135 BF, speeding Byrd, Collier, 26, Little Rock, \$135 BF, speeding Carr, Hannah Frye, 22, Fayetteville, \$125 BF, speeding

Cates, Michael T., 36, Amity, guilty of theft of property, fined \$385; guilty of theft of property, fined \$385 Childers, Brittany E., 34, Antoine, \$125 BF, speeding

Clemmons, Tanya Janette, 48, Norman, \$125 BF, speeding Coleman, William Virth, 36, Glenwood, guilty of failure to pay, fined, \$205, \$459 owed; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$205 Crawford, Karra N., 33, Murfreesboro, \$125 BF, no child re-

straint; \$125 BF, no child restraint Culpepper, Kason Paul, 18, Kirby, \$45 BF, no seat belt Davis, Daphne, 30, Kirby, \$344 BF, violation of Arkansas Hot

Drye, Braxton Glen, 18, Amity, \$215 BF, speeding

Eoff, Holly A., 44, Delight, \$315 BF, no proof of liability insur-Escamilla, Ezequiel, 28, De Queen, \$125 BF, failure to maintain

Green, Paul Stanton, 31, Glenwood, \$325 BF, driving with sus-

pended license Henthorn, Gregory A., 61, Amity, \$45 BF, no seat belt

Hibner, Kassie, 31, Delight, guilty of failure to pay, fined \$205, \$5,655 owed

Homan, Natasha Lynn, 38, Amity, guilty of possession of controlled substance, fined \$1,075 and license suspended for six months; guilty of possession of drug paraphernalia, fined \$600; guilty of carrying prohibited weapon, fined \$230; guilty of defective/improper head lamps, fined \$125

Humphrey, Clinton Chase, 34, Shawnee Mission, Kan., \$135

James, Bobby Lynn, 55, Texarkana, Texas, \$125 BF, failure to register tags/expired

Legrande, Robert Dylan, 30, Greenbrier, \$125 BF, unsafe ve-Lockeby, Nicklos, 29, Delight, \$315 BF, no proof of liability

insurance; \$205 BF, failure to appear; \$325 BF, driving with suspended license; \$315 BF, no proof of liability insurance; \$125 BF, defective lights; \$205 Bf, failure to appear; \$205 BF, failure to appear; \$325 BF, driving with suspended license

Love, Roger Joe, 49, Oden, guilty of failure to pay, fined \$205,

Maxey, Samuel, 25, Umpire, guilty of failure to pay, \$fined \$205, committed to jail, \$3,720 owed; guilty of failure to appear,

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Lead Call today and receive a

McClun, Eric Todd, 32, Glenwood, guilty of failure to pay, fined \$205, \$2,660 owed; guilty of driving with suspended li-

McGahey, Jamie Michelle, 50, Ft. Smith, \$135 BF, speeding Navarre, Braden Rains, 33, Hot Springs, \$185 BF, speeding ister tags/expired, fined \$125; guilty of failure to register tags/ expired, fined \$125

Nelson, Spencer James, 21, Antlers, Okla., \$135 BF, speeding Otts, Kelly M., 38, Mena, \$165 BF, speeding

Pedron, Jeb Russell, 19, Amity, guilty of speeding, fined \$185 Reese, Cameron Keith, 21, Hot Springs, \$185 BF, speeding; \$205 BF, failure to appear

Smith, Sheri L., 44, Kirby, \$125 BF, speeding; \$205 BF, failure

Thomas, Austin Delane, 29, Kirby, \$135 BF, speeding Vasquez, Dilia Teresa, 35, Nashville, \$135 BF, speeding

CITY OF MURFREESBORO

Chandler, Roger, 58, Langley, \$45 BF, no seat belt Compton, Lathan Blaine, 17, Delight, \$145 BF, speeding of liability insurance

Hazelwood, Cory Martin, 30, Sapulpa, Okla., guilty of failure to pay, fined \$205, \$1,485 owed

Hibner, Kassie, 31, Delight, guilty of speeding, fined \$155; guilty of violation of Ignition Interlock Device Act, fined \$190 Hornung, Leon Niklas, 30, no address listed, fined \$155 BF,

Jackson, Brittany, 37, Delight, guilty of failure to pay, fined

Lindsey, Kelly Scott, 39, Wesley, \$145 Bf, speeding

Rymer, Joey Wyman, 40, Murfreesboro, guilty of driving with suspended license, fined \$345

controlled substance, fined \$1,095 and license suspended for six months; guilty of possession of drug paraphernalia, fined \$600; guilty of no seat belt, fined \$45

ARKANSAS GAME & FISH COMMISSION

Headings, Braden Lee, 19, Ozan, \$125 BF, speeding Lamb, Taylor K., 32, Delight, \$1,070 BF, DWI, license suspend-

CITY OF GLENWOOD

Estes, James Xavier, 23, Glenwood, \$145 BF, careless prohibited driving

Hendrix, Lisa Michelle, 55, Benton, \$145 BF, speeding Landreth, Jackson Dale, 21, Glenwood, \$355 BF, no proof of

Milam, Colton Joe Don, 27, Sims, \$145 BF, failure to stop or

ister tags/expired

pended license

canine/feline ordinance, fined \$135

Williamson, Cannon Laray, 25, Glenwood, \$145 BF, failure to register tags/expired

cense, fined \$325; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$205

Neighbors, Whitney Lea, 23, Amity, guilty of failure to reg-

Whatley, William Stone, 21, Hot Springs, \$225 BF, failure to Young, Rebecca Lynne, 66, Murfreesboro, \$135 Bf, speeding

Countryman, Rebecca L., 42, Murfreesboro, \$335 BF, no proof

\$205, \$440 owed

Newkirk, Alen Wade, 57, Texarkana, \$140 BF, speeding Pickett, Jon Havden, 20, Murfreesboro, \$45 BF, no seat belt

Walker, Ashli Brooke, 43, Nashville, guilty of possession of

Wooten, Curley Junior, 18, Amity, \$145 BF, no driver's license

ed and must complete DWI educational course; \$125 BF, driving left of center

Cochran, Robert G., 62, Kirby, guilty of leaving scene of accident-property damage, fined \$215

liability insurance; \$145 BF, speeding

Sauceda, Hector Aaron, 23, Bismarck, \$145 BF, failure to reg-

Stephens, Danielle R., 41, Pearcy, \$345 BF, driving with sus-

Stewart, Destiny Faith, 25, Glenwood, guilty of violation of Taylor, Edward L., 63, Norman, \$155 BF, speeding

Wright, Sammie Lou, 79, Glenwood, \$155 BF, speeding

Obituaries

Lee Walter Thomas, 74, McCaskill

Lee Walter Thomas, age 74 of McCaskill, Arkansas, passed away on Sunday, February 23, 2025 in Hot Springs. He was born on April, 4, 1950, the son of D. W. and Chloie Thomas.

Lee was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, John Thomas.

Lee was an army veteran. He retired from Firestone **Building Products.**

He is survived by his wife, Sharon Thomas; 2 sons, Wally Thomas (Ginger) and Clay Thomas (Tanya); a daughter, Tiffany Delaney; 2 stepsons, John Coleman (Bobbie), Jimmy Coleman (Nichole); eight grandchildren, three stepgrandchildren; five greatgrandchildren and four bonus great-grandchildren.

His sister, Connie (Jim)

Woodson, a brother James (Su-

sie) Thomas, a sister-in-law, Lynn Thomas, numerous nieces, nephews and friends. Graveside services will be at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 26, 2025 in Antoine

of Latimer Funeral Home of Murfreesboro. You may send an online sympathy message at www.

latimerfuneralhome.com

Cemetery, under the direction



Planets on parade

This month ends with a continuation of the so-called parade of planets. All of the Earth's planetary neighbors are in our night sky for a rare showing.

At 9 p.m. Mars is overhead and in formation with the two brightest stars of the constellation Gemini making a nice little triangle. Jupiter is just a bit to the west, and near the orange giant star Aldebaran in the constellation Taurus the bull. Aldebaran is the bull's eye. Uranus and Neptune are in the line, but not visible to the naked eye. Venus is unmistakable in its brightness low in the west. It peaked in brightness on 16 February and remains near peak now. Near the horizon Saturn and Mercury are a pair, but will soon be very difficult to see. Mercury is also not a good naked eve object.

Another thing to look for in late February and March, is a phenomenon called zodiacal light. It is a familiar sight to stargazers this time of year after sunset, and again in late August and September as a pre-dawn phenomenon. The event generally peaks around the time of the equinoxes of spring and fall.

Zodiacal light is caused by a scattering of sunlight by dust particles that are in orbit around the Sun. All that is required to see it is a clear, dark sky and an open view of the horizon at the point of sunset (this time of year), and at the point of sunrise as we approach fall. Look for a bright white cone of light rising above the horizon. The light has been described over the centuries as being eerie, ethereal, and by some ancient cultures, holy.

The theory about the origin of the dust cloud has long been that it is made up of tiny particles left over from the creation of the Solar System, as well as dust from passing comets and asteroids. Recent data from one of NASA's outer space telescopes has led to a theory suggesting, in addition to the above, that much of the dust is from the red planet Mars, having been pushed into space by its many huge dust storms. Our friend Mars seems to be a bit like the Charlie Brown character always leaving a trail of dust.

Pike County Fair Bass Tournament set for March 22

LAKE GREESON - The 21st Annual Pike County Fair Bass Tournament is just around the corner. The event will be held Saturday, March 22, at SWAHA Lodge and Marina on Lake

The annual fundraiser will begin at safe light with weigh-in at 3 p.m. There will be a 5 bass limit with no slot limit. Entry is \$100 per boat. Takeoff numbers are determined by paid registration

order so register quickly. There will be guaranteed money paid out through the Top 5 places with a Big Bass prize also awarded. First Place is guaranteed a \$1,000 pay out. Second Place is guaranteed \$750. Third Place is guaranteed \$500. Fourth Place is guaranteed \$250. Fifth Place is guaranteed \$100. Big Bass is guaranteed \$500.

You can register online by visiting the Pike County Fair & Rodeo Facebook page and clicking the link provided. You can also drop your entry off at Charlie's Body Shop in Glenwood, or call Jimmy Clark at (501) 617-3894, or Eric Diggs at (870) 223-3614.

You must preregister by March 17 to receive a tournament hat. Walk-in registrations will be accepted the day of the tournament. For more information visit the Pike County Fair & Rodeo Facebook page.



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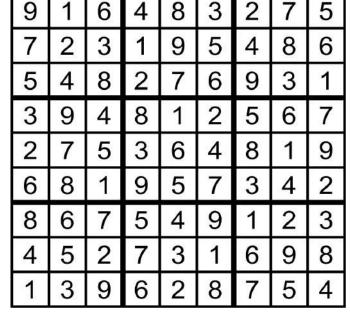
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Q: What causes vertigo? problem in the brain, such as A: Vertigo is a false feeling or

Dr. Daniel Knight is a professor in the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine in the College of Medicine at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

UAMS.

sensation of movement. An affected person may feel that they or their environment is spinning or whirling. Vertigo can develop quickly and last for a few seconds, but in severe cases, it may persist for an extended period. The National Institutes of Health estimates that between 20% and 50% of people will experience vertigo at some point in their lives.

Vertigo can be a symptom of other conditions, such as brain diseases, diabetes, migraines or stroke or can be caused by certain medications. The most common form of vertigo

peripheral vertigo — is caused by

a problem in the inner ear, which controls balance, and can result

from irritation and swelling in

the inner ear or a head injury

Central vertigo is due to a

blood vessel disease or tumors Symptoms include loss of balance, dizziness, hearing loss in one or both ears, motion sickness, and nausea and vomiting. Complications from vertigo include broken bones from falls or the inability to perform daily functions. Older adults are more likely to experience vertigo. Identifying the cause of vertigo is

the first step in determining a treatment plan. Contact your health care provider if you have questions.

Email your health questions to housecall@uams.edu.



MURFREESBORO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2025 PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD

(The Person of the Year Award is given to an individual or organization who has given selflessly and worked tirelessly to better the lives of others and the community at large.)

NOMINATION FORM

Name of Nominee:
Narrative of Support for this Nomination:
You may mail nominations to: Murfreesboro Chamber of Commerce

P O Box 166

Murfreesboro AR 71958

or drop them off at the Mayor's Office.

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SOUTH PIKE COUNTY SCHOOL MENU

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Breakfast: Honey bun or cereal, juice, fruit, milk

Lunch: Popcorn chicken, mashed potatoes, California blend vegetables, 7-12 whole grain roll, mixed fruit, milk

7-12 Line 2 option- Beef fingers FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Breakfast: Pancake on stick or cereal, juice,

fruit, milk

Lunch: Cheese pizza, salad, fresh cauliflower w/ranch, applesauce, milk

7-12 Line 2 option- Deep dish pepperoni

pizza

* Due to food item shortages menus are subject to

change without notice. Any changes to the menu will be posted on the website at www.rattlers.org

Dear Preacher' By Buddy Ray, Murfreesboro Church of Christ

BIBLE CLASS

BIBLE CLASS
As a child of God, I view
Bible class as an essential element in my spiritual service
and my growth as a Christian. Bible class allows me
to openly study God's word
and to share with others as
we learn together. We have
classes for all ages and teachers who study and prepare to
deliver their lessons. All who
attend these classes grow in
grace and knowledge and are
blessed by looking deeply into
the word.

If you are not currently attending Bible classes, I would encourage you to begin doing that. It is essential that each one of you help not only yourself grow, but to edify and encourage others and to help us all become more spiritual. As we study together, we will become closer to each other, as well as closer to our God.



THREE EXCELLENT REASONS TO ATTEND BIBLE CLASSES:

1. I Like to be With My Brothers and Sisters.

Romans 12:10 – Be kindly affectionate one to another with brotherly love, in honor preferring one another.

1 John 3:14 – We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.

2. I Love the Truth.

Matthew 5:6 – Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.

John 8:32 – You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.

3. Í Want to be a Good Example

Hebrews 10:24 – And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good

1 Timothy 4:12 – Let no man despise thy youth, but be an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity in spirit in faith in purity.

ity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

These are just 3 of many good reasons to attend Bible class. Can you think of one good reason one should not

SEE YOU IN BIBLE CLASS!!!!

Paid Advertisemen

Woman charged with selling illegal drugs after being caught in undercover operation

MURFREESBORO -- A Murfreesboro woman has been charged in Pike County Circuit Court for allegedly selling drugs.

Rex Ann Charles, 60, was charged Feb. 17 with delivery of methamphetamine.

According to case information, Charles was reportedly caught in a July 2024 undercover

operation conducted by the 9th West Drug Task Force where she delivered 3.5 grams of the drug.

Charles plead innocent to the charge on Feb. 2 and is currently being held in the Pike County jail awaiting a March 3 pretrial date.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What does voluntary tax go for?

MURFREESBORO -- What is the Conservation Voluntary Tax on your tax statement?

This tax is just what it says -- voluntary. What does it go towards?

- Helps pay the cost of a trapper that eradicates skuple recoons at in the city limits.
- cates skunks, raccoons, etc. in the city limits.

 Also, traps and helps control the beaver in ponds and streams in the county.
- The trapper works through Pike County Conservation and the money goes directly to this office and is paid to them for the above ser-
- The office also helps farmers, landowners, poultry farmers by working with NRCS to apply for various programs they have to offer if they qualify.
- The office also starts promoting land and water education to kindergarten and first grad-

ers in Pike County by having coloring contest with land and water-themed coloring worksheets.

• An annual Earth Day is held for all the fifth graders from surrounding areas in Pike County with seven to nine booths from each with different topics.

• The office sells blue bird boxes, chemicals for farming, plat books and plat maps, TOPO maps, composters, fire ant killer and sells pecans for the holiday season.

So, when you see the voluntary tax on your statement, we hope you will consider helping us continue to be of service to Pike County.

Pike County Conservation District (870) 285-2424 pikecountyconservation@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

This instrument prepared by: Marinosci Law Group, P.C. 415 North McKinley, Suite 360 Little Rock, AR 72205 (401) 234-9200

MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND INTENTION TO SELL

YOU MAY LOSE YOUR PROPERTY IF YOU DO NOT TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION. IF YOUR PROPERTY IS SOLD, YOU WILL REMAIN LIABLE FOR ANY DEFICIENCY AND AN ACTION FOR COLLECTION MAY BE BROUGHT AGAINST YOU.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on March 3, 2025, at or about 01:45 PM, the following real property will be sold at the Main Entrance of the Pike County Courthouse, One Courthouse Square, Murfreesboro, AR 71958, to the highest bidder for cash:

Lots Eight (8), Nine (9), Ten (10), Eleven (11) and Twelve (12) in Block Four (4), Parker and Johnson Addition to the City of Murfreesboro, as per plat thereof recorded in Deed Book 62, Page 400A, same being a part of and located in the Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter (NW -4 SE -4) of Section 17, Township 8 South, Range 25 West.

More commonly known as: 315 JOHNSON ST, MURFREESBORO, AR 71958

On January 25, 2006, KELLY BLAIR JR and MARGARET BLAIR executed a Mortgage in favor of First National Bank, as Beneficiary, which was recorded January 30, 2006, in Book M266, at Page 446 in the real estate records of Pike County, Arkansas. Default has occurred in the payment of said indebtedness, and is now wholly due. The loan is now in default.

Tenants of the property may claim an interest in the real property herein.

The terms of the call are certified funds paid at the conclusion of the sale or wiring of funds within twenty-four hours of the sale. All transfer taxes will be the responsibility of the purchaser. The party initiating this action is Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc., 3217 S. Decker Lake Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84119, 800-258-8602. Date: December 23, 2024. Scot P. Goldsholl Managing Attorney, Arkansas, Marinosci Law Group, P.C. as Attorney in Fact for Towd Point Mortgage Trust 2019-4, U.S. Bank National Association, as indenture Trustee

LEGAL PRECEDENT IS NOT CLEAR AS TO WHETHER THE SENDING OF THIS LETTER MAKES US A DEBT COLLECTOR. TO THE EXTENT IT DOES, PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. HOWEVER, IF YOU ARE IN BANKRUPTCY OR HAVE BEEN DISCHARGED IN BANKRUPTCY, THIS LETTER IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND IS NOT INTENDED AS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT OR AS AN ACT TO COLLECT, ASSESS, OR RECOVER ALL OR ANY PORTION OF THE DEBT FROM YOU PERSONALLY.

IF YOU ARE CURRENTLY IN THE MILITARY SERVICE OR HAVE BEEN IN THE MILITARY SERVICE WITHIN THE PAST YEAR, AND YOU ENTERED THE SERVICE AFTER SIGNING THE PROMISSORY NOTE AND DEED OF TRUST, PLEASE NOTIFY THIS FIRM IMMEDIATELY AS YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO RELIEF UNDER THE SERVICEMEMBERS CIVIL RELIEF ACT. WHEN CONTACTING THIS FIRM ABOUT YOUR MILITARY SERVICE, YOU MUST PROVIDE THIS FIRM WITH EVIDENCE OF YOUR MILITARY STATUS. IF YOU DO NOT PROVIDE SUCH EVIDENCE, WE WILL ASSUME THAT YOU ARE NOT ENTITLED TO PROTECTION UNDER THIS ACT. 24-01864

(p.n.a., 531w., 31,32,33,34)

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Wed. Bible study & Prayer Meeting 6 p.m.
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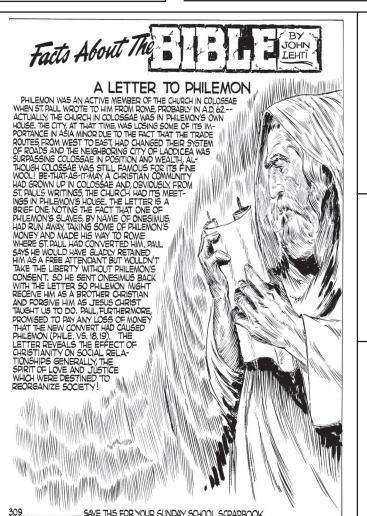
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Bro. Buddy Ray

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DANCE MOVES

* -- Theme Related Clue

ACROSS

- 1. Mrs. in Germany
- 5. *Nae Nae's partner
- 8. m in $F = ma^{T}$
- 12. Deadly sin 13. Hindu serpent deity
- 14. Blood line
- 15. State location of Miami University
- 16. Last word on radio
- 17. Best friend quality
- 18. *Sideways dance step

- 20. Buzzing pest 21. "That is" in Latin
- 22. Corvine bird's sound 23. Omicron or Delta, e.g.
- 26. Verb derived from "wreath"
- 30. Although, for short
- 31. Demijohn
- 34. Kings of ____ band
- 35. Act against
- 37. Bruin legend Bobby
- 38. Southern cuisine pods
- 39. Cold war initials
- 40. Transmitted radio signal
- 42. French vineyard
- 43. Strong suits
- 45. Overnight flight
- 47. Like a dancer in The Royal Ballet com-
- 48. Polynesian island country
- 50. Dracula's bane
- 52. *Dancer's gardening tool simulation 56. Cass Elliot and Michelle Phillips
- 57. Eon, alt. sp.
- 58. Reminiscent of certain hardwood, to sommelier
 - 59. In a tilted position
- 60. Flower holder
- 61. Cartoon lightbulb
- 62. Police informer
- 63. Before, poetically

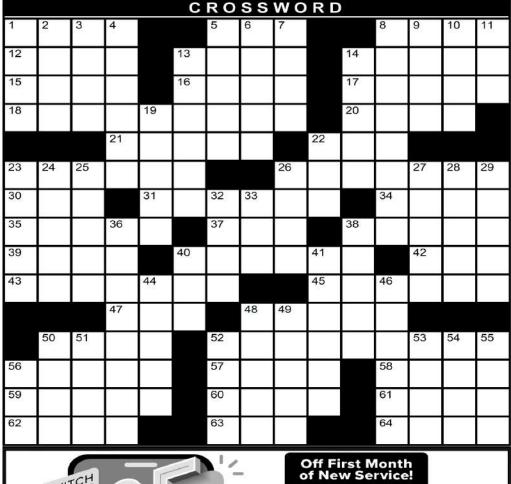
64. Koppel and Turner, e.g.

DOWN

- 1. Use cat o'nine tails
- 2. German industrial valley
- 3. "Heat of the Moment" band
- 4. Sir Thomas More's famous book
- 5. Actress Viola
- __ provocateur
- 7. Like some necessities
- 8. *Michael Jackson's backward move 9. Maisie Williams on "Game of Thrones"
- 10. Immediately, to a doctor
- 11. Salt, in Mexico
- 13. Nine-day Christian devotion 14. Aquatic scum
- 19. Authoritative proclamation
- 22. "____ Me a River"
- 23. Pull strings 24. Not those
- 25. Comedy Central's public humiliation
- 26. *a.k.a. caterpillar, with The
- 27. 9 a.m. prayer
- 28. Ancient 29. Follow as a consequence
- 32. Sturgeon output, pl.
- 33. Lingerie staple 36. *Serena Williams' Super Bowl LIX move
- 38. Theater, to Socrates
- 40. Sis' sibling
- 41. King's mantle fur
- 44. Painter Max or Director Lubitsch 46. Armed gang member in India

52. "Keep this information" button

- 48. Asparagus unit 49. What phoenix did
- 50. Numbers
- 51. Gulf V.I.P.
- 53. Place a load on 54. Augmented 55. Swedish shag rugs
- 56. *Running ____





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Home canning – an Extension tradition

^^^^^

In the early years of Extension, the County Home Demonstration Agent, now the Family and Consumer Sciences Agent, would go out into the local communities to teach important research-based living skills.

These community members would then share what they had learned with friends and neighbors. Many of the lessons were on the safe and efficient canning of meats, vegetables and fruits. Cherrie Arivette recently continued this tradition with her

Arivette, a lifelong canner, attended several Pike County food preservation classes this past year. She learned the science behind the recipes and got the resources needed to find trusted, tested recipes. This information was important to share as canning becomes popular with a new generation unfamiliar with the skill as well as for lifelong canners to make sure they are using safe equipment, safe procedures and safe recipes.



STEPHANIE LOCKHART

Certified Public Accountant 410 N. Main St., Suite 1 Nashville

stephanie@lockhartcpa.com



PIKE COUNTY EXTENSION

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Canning is a safe method of food preservation if practiced properly. The canning process involves placing foods in jars or cans and heating them to a temperature that destroys microorganisms that could be a health hazard or cause the food to spoil. Canning also inactivates enzymes that could cause the food to spoil. Air is driven from the jar or can during heating and as it cools a vacuum seal is formed. This vacuum seal prevents air from getting back into the product, preventing microorganisms

from recontaminating the food.

The next Pike County canning classes will focus on pressure canning meat. The March 19 class will be held on Wednesday at 9 a.m. The March 20 class will be an evening class and will start at 6 p.m. Both classes will be held at the Pike County Extension Office at 100 Court Street, Suite A, in Murfreesboro. The cost of each class is \$20. Please call (870) 285-2161 to register.



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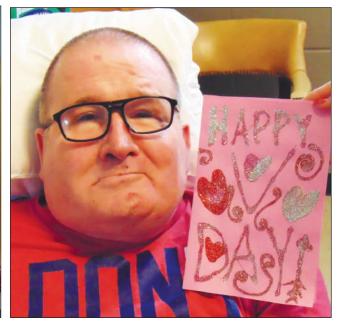
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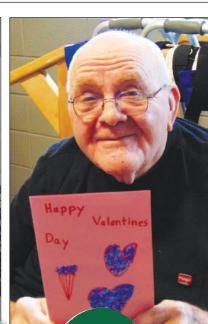
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Week of February 24, 2025

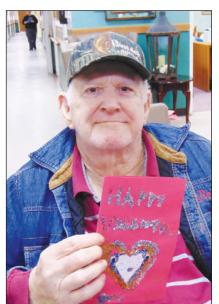


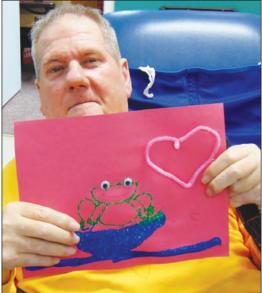






Diamond City 4-Hers recently made Valentines Day cards for the residents of Murfreesboro Rehabilitation and Nursing Home









Celebrating national FFA Week and the important lessons taught

BY BRUCE WESTERMAN *U.S. Representative, AR-04*

WASHINGTON D.C. -- For many of us in ru-

ral parts of the country, agriculture roots run deep.

Generations of families have invested their

Generations of families have invested their livelihoods tending to crops, raising livestock, and feeding millions through the bounty of their hard-earned harvest. Arkansans are certainly no stranger to this way of life. In the Natural State, we recognize how deeply important the agriculture industry is, not only to our own pocketbooks, but the success and sustainability of our country's economy. American agriculture is unparalleled in its innovation, growth, and success which is why organizations like FFA, Future Farmers of America, are so important.

It was a great honor to be a member of the Fountain Lake High School FFA local chap-

ter and later serve as the Arkansas State FFA President. During this time, I learned important lessons through wonderful instructors like Mr. Albert McCoin, who ensured his students gained as much as they possibly could through classroom teachings, technical education, and leadership opportunities. Mr. McCoin also taught us, through his own example, just how valuable it is to be a hard worker and a dedicated leader. And his personal challenge to participate in public speaking and leadership opportunities would later factor into my service as the Representative of the Fourth District of Arkansas, something for which I will always be grateful.

From learning how to tie a tie to what cutlery to use first in a formal dinner, FFA taught us important life lessons, not just in the agriculture industry, but to set us up for success in any of our career paths.

our career paths.
The timing of National FFA Week is not just

a random week that was selected on the calendar, it was intentionally chosen in 1948 to fall upon President George Washington's birthday in honor and recognition of our first President's contributions to our nation's agriculture industry. President Washington didn't see himself first as a great leader, general, or even president. He saw himself first as a farmer. His life was dedicated to learning more about farming, creating a better agriculture industry to bolster the country's output of crops and livestock, and developing more successful farming methods. This is an excellent reminder for us that our nation was built upon the backs of farmers. Washington's dedication to farming remains a great influence on how FFA members conduct their own affairs and upon which the organization sets its values.

"Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live, Living to Serve" is the motto adopted by the FFA in 1952 which has held firm today,

over 70 years later. There is no better reminder just how important it is to continue learning, developing, and serving. As the demand for the earth's bounty increases and technology advances in agriculture and forestry, there is a strong need for a technically educated workforce with hands-on experience. There's no more important time for strong vocational and technical education programs at the high school level than today.

My hope is that these programs grow stronger and that the students whose lives are enriched by the FFA organization would take part in every opportunity presented to them, develop their skills and knowledge to the best of their ability, and boldly press forward with a heart for service toward their communities. This week, may we all be grateful to FFA for their dedicated service in cultivating excellent leaders for our nation and the future of farming and agriculture.

Camp to hold overnight event for grieving children

LITTLE ROCK -- Camp Healing Harts will again hold a grief camp for Arkansas children and families that have experience loss through the death of a loved one.

The overnight camp is free to attendees, but will accept only 100 applications.

Through Kaleidoscope Grief Center, a program of Methodist Family Health, Camp Healing Hearts 2025 will hold the event from 5 p.m., Friday, May 9 through 5:30 p.m. Saturday, May 10. at Camp Aldersgate, 2000 Aldersgate Road in Little Rock. Registration deadline is Sunday,

April 26.

"Losing a loved one is difficult for everyone, and grieving a loss is essential to accepting painful feelings and creating an opportunity for growth and a new sense of normal," said the event press release.

Utilizing both therapy and recreation, the camp offers children and families an opportunity to discover their own inner strength. An adult caregiver is required to accompany the grieving child or children attending camp. Activities include heart-to-heart time, fishing,

crafts, games, campfires, s'mores and much more. It is best for children and families who have experienced a loss of 3-to-6 months or more

You can apply online at form.jotform.com/scox/CAMP_HEALING_HEARTS or download the application and mail it to:

Dao Ward, Kaleidoscope Grief Center, 1600 Aldersgate Rd., Suite 100B, Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

Kaleidoscope Grief Center serves grieving children, teens and their families throughout

Arkansas. Grief can be an isolating experience for children. The program helps those dealing with loss and bereavement through education, therapeutic and recreational services, grief support programs, counseling and Camp Healing Hearts.

To register for Camp Healing Hearts, learn more about Kaleidoscope Grief Center or find out how Methodist Family Health can assist your family, visit MethodistFamily.org.









Staff photo