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Ham radio club seeks new members

PIKE COUNTY -- The Pike County Ham Radio Club is looking for anyone interested in obtaining technician or general license classes this summer.

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a ham radio operator, or advancing to the next license level, please message this page, send the group an email at pikecountyĥamradioclub@gmail.com.

Group to hold financial workshop for veterans

DEWAYNE HOLLOWAY Glenwood Herald Editor

ARKADELPHIA - Veterans Upward Bound invite area veterans to attend a financial workshop Thursday, April 10, from 12:30-1:30 p.m. at Henderson State University.

The event will be held at the HSU Garrison Center Lecture Hall on the Henderson State University campus in Arkadelphia.

It will feature workshops covering four topics which include budgeting, credit, veteran benefits, and investing.

The budgeting workshop will include discussions on income, expenses, surplus, debt, and savings.

The credit workshop will include discussions on credit score, interest, mortgage, credit cards, and APR.

The veteran benefits workshop will include discussions on FTA, GI Bill, NGTW, and VA Home Loans.

The Investing workshop will include discussions on interest, stocks, bonds, CDs, and IRAs.

The workshop is a joint effort between Veterans Upward Bound and Henderson State University.

The Veterans Upward Bound Program is a program under the U.S. Department of Education and is designed to motivate and assist veterans in the development of academic and other requisite skills necessary for acceptance and success in a program of postsecondary education. The program provides assessment and enhancement of basic skills through counseling, mentoring, tutoring and academic instruction in the core subject areas. The primary goal of the program is to increase the rate at which participants enroll in and complete postsecondary education programs.

For more information about the workshop call (870) 230-5704, or email bursont@hsu.edu.



Veterans Upward Bound

Westerman announces art contest for students

HOT SPRINGS -- Congressman Bruce Westerman (AR-04) announces the annual Congressional Art Competition for 2025 is now open to receive entries from high school students across the Fourth District of Arkansas.

Each spring, a nation-wide high school arts competition is sponsored by the Members of the U.S. House of Representatives.

The Congressional Art Competition is open to all high school students in the Fourth District. The winning artwork of our district's competition will be displayed for one year in the U.S. Capitol. The exhibit in Washington will include the winning artwork from all participating districts from around the country. The

winning artwork is also featured on the Congressional Art Competition page online. Entries are to be submitted, in person, by April 16. An appointment is recommended to drop off artwork at Westerman's Hot Springs District Office, located at 101 Reserve Street,

Winners will be announced the week of April

Ste. 200.

The following is a summary of the Congressional Art Competition rules:

Artwork entered in the contest may be up to 26 inches by 26 inches, may be up to 4 inches in depth, and not weigh more than 15 pounds. If your artwork is selected as the winning piece, it must be framed and must still measure no larger than the above maximum dimensions.

Paintings - including oil, acrylics, and water-

Drawings - including pastels, colored pencil,

CONTEST Continued on Page 4





DEDICATING HIS LIFE ... Ricky Lee Franklin of Greenwood, Arkansas waived to passerbys on the Pike County Courthouse Square on Saturday in Murfreesboro. Stating that he was a servant of God, he was garbed as Jesus. Franklin, who was once sentenced to 360 years in jail, served 14 until his parole, a fact for which he credits the Lord, thus leading him to try to spread the word in various towns. Franklin also states that America is God's country, a fact evidenced by His reference in the United States Constitution and the various state constitutions, including Arkansas.

School board hires new Lady Rattler coach

BY IOHN BALCH

Nashville News-Leader staff

MURFREESBORO -- The South Pike County School Board filled one of two vacancies in the district's basketball program during a special meeting held Monday night.

The board voted 5-2 to hire Blevin Boyd as

the new Lady Rattler head coach.

Boyd will come to Murfreesboro from the Spring Hill School District where he was head boys' basketball coach and assistant to the girls' teams, as well as girls' track head coach and physical education teacher.

Boyd's work experience includes coaching girls' basketball and softball at Mountain Pine and heading up the basketball program at Palestine-Wheatley. He was also a volunteer assistant basketball coach from 2012-2016 at Kirby.

Boyd's resume lists his top accomplishments as leading the Spring Hill Bears to a postseason district tournament championship in 2024-2025 and being named 7-2A coach of the year that same year.

The split vote to hire Boyd came after a 22-minute closed executive session. Board members voting to hire Boyd included Cory Ballard, Robert Silva, Scott Maroon, Alyssa Duggan and Wes Campbell with Andrea McRae and Barbie Baxter voting against the

Boyd will replace Nicole Martin, who was reassigned to the elementary PE program after

several seasons as Lady Rattler head coach. Boyd was chosen from a list of 12 other ap-

plicants, including:

- Kayla Sharp-Estep, Magnolia softball coach • Rachelle Erwin, Murfreesboro elementary
- counselor and former head coach at Ashdown • Darren Horn, assistant football coach and
- head track coach at Murfreesboro • Reagan McCormick, first-year assistant

- Levi Lock, first-year coach at Hampton • Nate Davis, girls head coach at Star City, former junior college head coach and assistant at Ouachita Baptist University
- Jason Barker, former head coach at De
- Randall Henderson, retired head coach in
- Clayton Ray, boys' coach at Ouachita.
- Jordan Shanks, first-year assistant at
- Prescott • Cody Byrd, volunteer assistant at Ham-
- Kendall Kirchoff, assistant coach at Cabot

The board will now resume its search for a new Rattler head coach following the departure of Buster Bonner, who came out of retirement to lead the Rattlers this past season and fulfilled his one-year contract with the district.





BAKING UP FUNDS FOR NATIONALS ... The Rattler Band Winter Guard held a bake sale at Diamond Bank last Friday, March 21. The group sold homemade goodies to help fund their trip to Arlington (University of Texas) to attend the National competition set for March 28-29. Pictured are (above right) Kayley Dowdle, Peyton Keys and helper Cayden Staten. Pictured outside (above left) are more members of the Winter Guard making trips around town for sales to individual businesses, Faith Henderson, Chloe Cornwell and Addison Countryman.

Archery teams compete in state tournament

MURFREESBORO – The South Pike County archery teams completed their seasons recently by participating in the state tournament in Hot Springs.

At the state tournament, the elementary team finished in ninth place out of 30 teams with 51 collective 10's and 2,758 total points. The middle school team was in tenth place out of 30 teams with 99 total 10's and 3096 total points. The high school squad was 13th out of 30 teams with 96 total 10's and 3121 total points.

Top scorers for the elementary team were: Lilli Harwell, 251 points, six 10's, 20th place female Tristen Watts, 248 points, eight 10's, 31st place male Tobias Doyle, 243 points, four 10's Jaciee Wilkinson, 242 points, five 10's Aly Cross, 240 points, six 10's Top scorers for the middle school team were: Jackson Nance, 282 points, 17 10's, ninth place male Kristen Rodgers, 270 points, eight 10's, 23rd place female

Avery Baker, 264 points, eight 10's Matt Lewis, 263 points, six 10's Ava Henderson, 262 points, nine 10's

Top scorers for the high school team were: E'Lye Whisenhunt, 275 points, 14 10's, 24th place male Vivian White, 271 points, 13 10's, 33rd place female Justen Carey, 264 points, four 10's Savannah Wilson, 263 points, nine 10's James Chaney, 261 points, seven 10's

Cole McKnight, 261 points, seven 10's

For full team results at the state tournament, please visit nasptournaments.org/school.aspx?oid=9261.

The teams competed in a number of tournaments leading up to the state tournament, with a good amount of success.

BOW BASH ARCHERY TOURNAMENT – BRYANT

Elementary, sixth out of 15 teams, 32 10's, 2561 total points Middle School, fourth out of nine teams, 71 10's, 2995 total High School, fifth out of eight teams, 101 10's, 3119 total points

Leading Scorers (regardless of division) James Chaney, 270 points, 14 10's, 12th high school male Aiden Lewis, 269 points, 12 10's, 15th high school male

Kent Eatman, 269 points, 11 10's, 16th high school male Sebastian Brewer, 268 points, 10 10's, 9th middle school male

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BID NOTICE

The town of Delight is accepting bids on upkeep and maintenance of the City Park (including ball fields), Delight School Campus, and the Campus Ball Fields.

Bids should include pricing for all maintenance including mowing, weed eating, and spraying of all aforementioned properties for the 2025 season.

Please send all bids to the City Council of Delight at P.O. Box 29, Delight, AR. 71940.

Bids must be postmarked no later than April 13, 2025 in order to be considered.

Thank you in advance for your time and interest.

This publication is paid for by the City of Delight in the amount of

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• Christy Coccarelli, Office Manager/Photographer

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P.O. Box 550 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.

Cole McKnight. 267 points, seven 10's, 17th high school male Kristen Rodgers, 266 points, eight 10's, 7th middle school fe-

GRIT 2025 – GLEN ROSE

Elementary, 2688 points, third out of 10 teams, 48 10's Middle School, 3064 points, second out of 8 teams, 85 10's High School, 3166 points, third out of seven teams, 100 10's Leading Scorers (regardless of division)

Cole McKnight, 282 points, 17 10's, fifth place high school

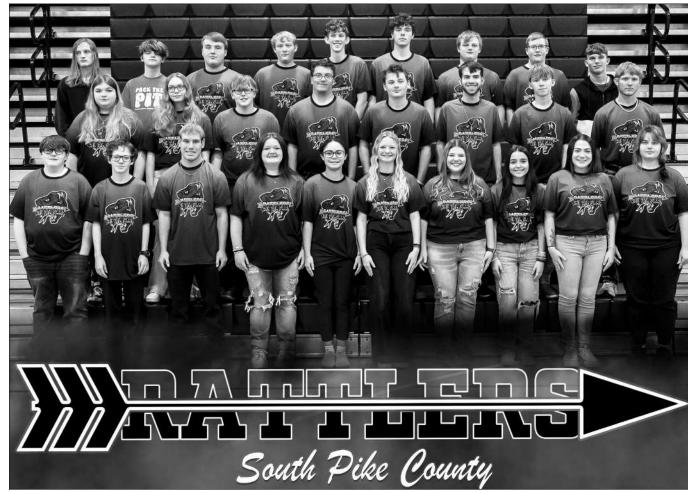
Kent Eatman. 275 points, 11 10's, eighth place high school

Austin Wright, 272 points, 12 10's, fifth middle school male Lillian Wilson, 271 points, 10 10's, fourth high school female Joshua Myrkle, 268 points, nine 10's, 14th high school male

DIAMOND SHOOTOUT - DELIGHT

Elementary, 2639 points, third out of eight teams, 32 10's Middle School, 3069 points, third out of eight teams, 85 10's High School, 3196 points, fourth out of five teams, 110 10's Leading Scorers (regardless of division)

ARCHERY Continued on Page 3



HIGH SCHOOL ARCHERY TEAM ... Front row (L to R): Sebastion Green, Lyzander Doyle, Garrett Molnaird, Morgan Bierden, Jaycee Gonzalez, Lillian Cross, Chloe Cross, Bella White, Trisha Howard and Allie Wicker; middle row: Payten Teel, Shiann Carey, Kadence Green, Justen Cary, Hunter Cooley, James Chaney, Aiden Lewis and Kent Eatmon; back row: Dalton Nelson, E'Lye Whisenhunt, Cole McKnight, Braden Wright, Ross Spradlin, Taiden Fannin, Daelyn Henderson, Hadley Cox and Colton Tidwell

JBLIC NOTI

MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND INTENTION TO SELL YOU MAY LOSE YOUR PROPERTY IF YOU DO

NOT TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION IF THIS PROPERTY IS SOLD YOU WILL REMAIN LIABLE FOR ANY DEFICIENCY WHICH THEN EXISTS AND AN ACTION TO COLLECT IT MAY BE BROUGHT AGAINST YOU THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR **SUCH PURPOSE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on April 14, 2025 at or about 11:00AM, the subject real property described herein below will be sold at the Main Entrance of the Pike County Courthouse, One Courthouse Square, Murfreesboro, AR 71958 to the highest bidder for cash. The sale will extinguish all interests, including those of existing lien holders or previous owners in the property. THE TERMS OF SALE ARE CASH THE TIME OF SALE AND ALL TRANSFER TAXES WILL BE THE RE-

SPONSIBILITY OF THE PURCHASER. WHEREAS, the property secured under the Mortgage is located in Pike County, Arkansas more particularly described as

THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY LOCATED IN PIKE COUNTY, STATE OF ARKANSAS:

A TRACT OF LAND BEING PART OF THE NE-4 NE-4 IN SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 6 SOUTH, RANGE 25 WEST AND ALSO BEING PART OF THE SAME TRACT AS RECORDED IN BOOK 207, PAGE 748 IN PIKE COUNTY, ARKANSAS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A 1/2" PIN W/CAP FOR THE NE CORNER OF SAID NE-4 NE-4, THENCE S01 DEGREES 29' 36"W, 866.68 FEET ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID NE-4 NE-4 (ALSO BEING ALONG AND WITH MUTT TURNER ROAD) TO 1/2" PIN IN THE NORTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY OF U.S. HIGHWAY NO. 70; THENCE S76 DEGREES 38' 17" W, 137.8 FEET ALONG WITH SAID RIGHT OF WAY LINE; THENCE S13 DEGREES 52' 43" E, 20.0 FEET ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY LINE; THENCE S75 DEGREES 36' 17" W, 35.24 FEET ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY LINE TO A 1/2" PIN; THENCE N35 DEGREES 29' 03" W, 561.02 FEET TO A 1/2" PIN (ALSO BEING THE SE COR-NER OF GARRETT'S TRACT & NE CORNER OF O'NEAL'S 5 ACRE TRACT); THENCE N01 DEGREES 24' 23" E, 488.27 FEET ALONG THE WEST LINE OF EAST 500 FOOT OF SAID NE-4 NE-4 TO $1/2^{\prime\prime}$ PIN IN THE NORTH LINE OF SAID NE-4 NE-4 THENCE S87 DEGREES 52' 31" E, 500.00 FEET ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID NE-4 NE-4 TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 8.82 ACRES OF LAND, MORE

LESS AND EXCEPT: A TRACT OF LAND BEING A PART OF THE NE-4 NE-4 IN SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 6 SOUTH, RANGE 25 WEST AND ALSO BEING PART OF THE SAME TRACT AS RECORDED IN BOOK 207, PAGE 748 IN PIKE COUNTY ARKANSAS, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A 1/2" PIN WITH CAP FOR THE NE CORNER OF SAID NE-4 NE-4, THENCE S01 DE-GREES 29' 36" W-300 FEET ALONG AND WITH MUTT TURN-ER ROAD TO RR SPIKE; THENCE S70 DEGREES 00' W-396.24 FEET ALONG FLAGGED LINE TO 1/2" PIN; THENCE S01 DEGREES 24' 23" W - 211.39 FEET TO A 1/2" PIN IN THE NORTHEASTERLY LINE OF JAMES SCALLION'S 2.10 ACRE TRACT THENCE N35 DEGREES 29' 03" W - 217.56 FEET ALONG SAID NORTHEASTERLY LINE TO A 1/2" PIN AT THE NE CORNER OF JAMES SCALLION'S 5 ACRE TRACT (ALSO BEING THE NORTH CORNER OF SAID 2.10 ACRE TRACT); THENCE N01 DEGREES 24' 23" E - 488.27 FEET ALONG HACKED, PAINED & STAKED LINE TO 1/2" PIN (NORTH LINE OF SAID NE-4 NE-4); THENCE S87 DEGREES 52' 31" E - 500.00 FEET ALONG AND WITH DOWN FENCE (PARTLY HACKED/PAINTED LINE TO THE POINT OF BE-GINNING, CONTAINING 4.90 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS. (SUBJECT TO ALL EXISTING COUNTY ROAD RIGHT

OF WAYS AND 10 FOOT EASEMENT ALONG WEST LINE LESS AND EXCEPT: A TRACT OF LAND BEING PART OF

THE NE-4 NE-4 IN SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 6 SOUTH, RANGE 25 WEST, AND ALSO BEING PART OF THE SOME TRACT AS RECORDED IN BOOK D207 AT PAGE 748, IN PIKE COUNTY, ARKANSAS, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOL-LOWS: COMMENCE AT A 1/2" PIN W/CAP FOR THE NE CORNER OF SAID NE-4 NE-4, THENCE S01 DEGREES 29' 36" W, 861.26 FEET ALONG THE EAST LINE OF SAID NE-4 NE-4 TO RR SPIKE (EAST LANE OF MUTT TURNER ROAD) FOR THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE S01 DEGREES 29' 36" W, 5.42 FEET TO A 1/2" PIN IN THE NORTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY OF US HIGHWAY 70; THENCE S76 DE-GREES 38' 17" W, 137.79 FEET ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY TO A POINT THENCE S13 DEGREES 52' 43" E, 20.00 FEET ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY TO A POINT; THENCE S75 DEGREES 36' 17" W, 35.24 FEET ALONG SAID RIGHT OF WAY TO 1/2" PIN; THENCE N35 DEGREES 29' 03" W, 131.82 FEET ALONG NORTHEASTERLY LINE OF SCALLION'S 2.10 ACRE TRACT TO 1/2" PIN; THENCE N81 DEGREES 04' 35" E 170.87 FEET TO A RR SPIKE IN EXISTING DRIVE; THENCE S38 DEGREES 13' 49" E, 21.49 FEET ALONG WITH EXISTING DRIVE (JOINT DRIVE FOR SCALLION/O'NEAL-HOCKADAY); THENCE \$48 DEGREES 21'45"E, 77.54 FEET ALONG WITH SAID JOINT DRIVE TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING,

CONTAINING 0.40 ACRES OF LAND, MORE OR LESS.

Street Address: 3243 Highway 70 W Kirby AR 71950 WHEREAS on March 24, 2023 Amanda Higgs, a single woman, Kenneth Higgs, a single man, and Tammy Tanner, a single woman with joint tenancy with right of survivorship, executed a Mortgage in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for FirstTrust Home Loans Inc. Said Mortgage was recorded on April 17, 2023 in Book M377, Page 593, in the real property records of Pike County, Arkansas. Said Mortgage was subsequently assigned to Planet Home Lending, LLC by virtue of an assignment dated December 19, 2024 and recorded on December 19, 2024 as Instrument No. 2024R-001911 in the real property records of Pike County, Arkansas. The party initiating foreclosure can be contacted at or in care of its servicer initiating foreclosure at: Planet Home Lending, LLC 321 Research Parkway, Suite 303 Meriden CT 06450-8301

at Telephone No. 855-884-2250; 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 4th day of February, 2025. Planet Home Lending, LLC, 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. 25-001139

(p.n.a., 1351w., 37,38,39,40)



Submitted photos

ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL ARCHERY TEAMS ... (Above) Font row: Tristen Watts, Cayden Staten, Aliea Goolsby, Ares Collins, Emmalyn Staten, Gabby Green, Leigha Bierden, Kaylee Cross and Gentry Stone; middle row: Luke Whitten, Hunter Heaston, Lilli Harwell, Jacey Heaston, Anita Kinnu, Peyton Wright, Bently Buss, Tobias Doyle, Sam Hoover and Henley Kate Frachiseur; back row: Bransyn Staten, Emily Cornish, Kylee Fultz, Abby Cox, Ally Cross, Gracie Collins, Isabella Dowdy, Jaicee Wilkerson and Nykkan Staten; (below) front row: Matt Lewis, Austin Wright, Jackson Nance, Rachelle Wisener, Joli Henderson, Izzy Silva, Ora Kidd and Luke Agudio; middle row: Addy Silva, Natalie Bush, Abbi Whitten, Sabastian Brewer, Benjamin Cox, Ava Henderson, Sylvie Lane and Richard Agudio; back row:: Colton Plyler, Avery Baker, Phinehas Doyle, Lane Bierden, Jacob Chaney, Amy Jones and Sophia Cox



ARCHERY Continued from Page 2

Kent Eatman, 281 points, 15 10's, fourth high school male Jackson Nance, 275 points, 15 10's, first middle school male Cole McKnight, 272 points, nine 10's, 11th high school male Lillian Wilson, 271 points, 13 10's, ninth high school female Colton Tidwell, 271 points. 12 10's, 13th high school male

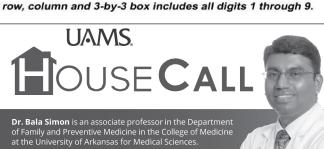
SHOOTOUT IN THE COVE - MAGNET COVE

Elementary, 2722 points, fourth out of five teams, 44 10's Middle School, 3081 points, second out of six teams, 91 10's High School, 3149 points, third out of four teams, 98 10's Leading Scorers (regardless of division)

Adalyn Silva, 282 points, 15 10's, second middle school girl

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every



Q: What are varicose veins?

Email your health questions to housecall@uams.edu.

A: Varicose veins are bulging, enlarged and twisted veins that appear just under the skin. Varicose veins can appear anywhere on the body but occur most frequently in the legs. It is a common condition that affects more than 20 million Americans according to the American

Society for Vascular Surgery. Increased blood pressure in the veins and the weakening of the vein walls result in varicose veins. As the blood pressure increases, weakened veins stretch and get larger. Blood does not move as effectively in these veins and tends to back up or pool. Age, family history, inactivity, leg injuries, and obesity are some risk factors for varicose veins. The condition

occurs more frequently in

Symptoms of varicose veins include skin color changes around the veins, aching and swelling in the legs, itching, leg cramps, or a rash or sores on the legs. Blood clots or ulcers on the skin near varicose veins are possible complications.

In many instances varicose veins are only a cosmetic concern. Treatment includes compression stockings, elevating the legs, exercise, and avoiding long periods of standing or sitting. Ablation therapy (laser or an adhesive injection) is a treatment option. Contact your health care provider if you have questions.

Kent Eatman, 277 points, 12 10's, sixth high school male Jackson Nance, 276 points, 13 10's, fourth middle school male Colton Tidwell, 273 points, eight 10's, ninth high school male

RATTLER ARCHERY SHOWDOWN - DELIGHT

Elementary, 2777 points, second out of two teams, 48 10's Middle School, 3079 points, first out of five teams, 101 10's High School, 3180 points, third out of four teams, 103 10's Leading Scorers (regardless of division)

Jackson Nance, 281 points, 16 10's, second middle school male E'Lye Whisenhunt, 277 points, 12 10's, sixth high school male Cole McKnight, 277 points, 11 10's, seventh high school male Kent Eatman, 274 points, 11 10's, ninth high school male Vivan White, 271 points, 11 10's, sixth high school female

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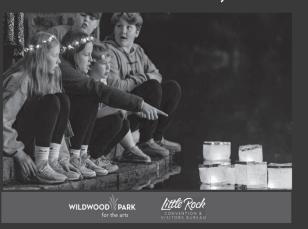
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Obituaries

Daryl Eugene Boyer, 77, Murfreesboro

Daryl Eugene Boyer, age 77 of Murfreesboro, Arkansas, passed away on Friday, March 21, 2025 in Nashville. He was born on May 4, 1947 in Thief River Falls, Minnesota, the son of the late Wendell Eugene Cote and Janice Ayre Fredrick-

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his adopted mother, Alma Matthews; a son, Neal Daryl Boyer; and a sister, Loni Kaufman.

Survivors include his chil-

dren, Samantha Boyer, Rebecca McCaleb, Caryn Boyer and Matthew Boyer; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; as well as a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Graveside services will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 26, 2025 in Murfreesboro Cemetery, under the direction of Latimer Funeral Home of Murfreesboro.

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



Possible March fireworks

The end of March 2025 may go out with a bang, the nova of a star that is. A star called the Blaze Star (T Coronae Borealis) might explode on March 27.

The star in question is part of the constellation Corona Borealis, the Northern Crown, but it is a dim one and not part of the crown itself. In fact, a dark sky and binoculars are needed to see it. The constellation's brightest star is called Alphecca. Blaze Star is actually not one star but two, a white dwarf and a red giant locked in a swirling gravitational dance. The dwarf siphons material from the giant which accumulates on its surface making it more and more unstable. About every 80 years it becomes so unstable that it explodes, expelling the excess material. Despite the violence of the event, it survives and begins the process over

The prediction of the nova was made by astronomers who studied the 80-year cycle of Blaze Star's explosions. They concluded that this March date was very likely (if not March then maybe in November...). The nova of Blaze Star, if it occurs, would swell in brightness equal to that of Alphecca, and last for several days. It will be a short-lived "new" star. To find Corona Borealis look for the bright star Arcturus (recall that you can follow the arc of the Big Dipper's handle to the very bright Arcturus), and look due east of it for a group of 7 stars making a backward C. Blaze Star is slightly below the C. Corona Borealis, in the spring rises in the east at about 9 p.m., and is overhead at about 3 a.m., and moved toward the west by 5.a.m.

Wrap your head around the fact that Blaze Star is 3,000 light years away, which means if we see it go nova, we would be seeing something that happened 3,000 years ago when humans were in the Bronze Age.

Because of the way the planets have aligned this year, combined gravitational forces will cause the Earth and the Moon to swap positions on April 1st. The Earth will become the Moon's Moon. Scientists are not certain how this will impact such things as tidal schedules and forces, but it is all short-term. The Moon will gradually be pulled back to its usual orbit around the Earth

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



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NOTES FROM CITY HALL

Trash dumpster

If the gate to the dumpster is locked, it means that the dumpster is full. Please do not leave your garbage in front of the gate. The Pike County Landfill is open Tuesday through Saturday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. If that is not an option, please come back after a new dumpster is delivered.

If you have any questions, please contact City Hall at 870-285-3732. We want to hear from you.

Mayor Jim O'Neal

CONTEST Continued from Page 1

pencil, charcoal, ink, and markers (It is recommended that charcoal and pastel drawings be fixed.)

Collages - must be two dimensional

Prints - including lithographs, silkscreen, and block prints Mixed Media - use of more than two mediums such as pencil, ink, watercolor, etc.

Computer-generated art Photography

When preparing to submit an entry, please reference the official Congressional Art Competition rules and regulations.

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The entire rules, checklist, and release form for the competition can be found on House.gov.

April fool's day has long, laughable history

BY TOM EMERY

Tuesday, April 1 is April Fools' Day, and for many, it provides a moment of humor. Most jokes are fast and harmless, while others are sophisticated efforts to pull one over on the masses.

Whatever the case, unsuspecting victims usually walk away laughing – at least, in most cases.

April Fools' is a joke of a holiday, and not surprisingly, no one knows for sure when it began. Some believe the day goes back to a festival called Hilaria in Roman times, while others place it to the Roman Saturnalia, the Druids of Great Britain, or feasts of

In addition, a reference in a Chaucer work from around 1390 relates a back-and-forth prank between a rooster and a fox that some believe gave rise to April Fools' Day. French literature, meanwhile, dates the custom to the sixteenth century, albeit in various forms with differing backgrounds.

The origins of the day became their own joke on the big day in 1983, when Boston University professor Joseph Boskin claimed that the day came from the reign of Emperor Constantine in the Roman empire, who was persuaded by jesters to name one of them "king for a day." The lucky jester then declared a day of frivolity, giving rise to the eventual April Fools' Day.

The Associated Press bought into the prank, publishing news articles on the revelation. The organization did not learn of the hoax until weeks later.

April Fools' Day is celebrated worldwide, with many countries having special customs. In the United States, most schoolchildren are punked by peers, telling them "your shoe's untied" or "you're missing a button."

Media outlets often spoof their followers with fake headlines and false news stories. Ône of the greatest-ever April Fools' Day pranks was pulled off by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) in 1957, when the network reported a story on spaghetti that was being harvested from trees by Swiss farmers.

The bounty was because a parasite called the "spaghetti weevil" had been wiped out, leading to a bumper harvest of pasta.

Apparently, some viewers didn't get the joke. So many people contacted the BBC with requests on how to raise their own spaghetti trees that the network had to publicly admit the hoax the following day.

The BBC has pulled one over on viewers on other April Fools' Day holidays, including with a 2008 report on a newly-found colony of flying penguins in Antarctica.

Sometimes, pranks can backfire. On April Fools' Day in 1980, a Boston television station told viewers that the Great Blue Hill, a 635-foot rise near the city, was erupting. Panic ensued, as some residents near the hill evacuated their homes. The station's executive producer was fired as a result.

Not everyone in Beantown got the message. Eighteen years later, a pair of hosts on a Boston radio station reported that the mayor of the city had been killed in a car accident. Not surprisingly, both hosts were canned for their inexplicable attempt at humor.

Most April Fools' Day jokes, though, are less intense. Gameshow enthusiasts had a good laugh on April 1 when the late Alex Trebek, the host of Jeopardy, and Pat Sajak, his counterpart on Wheel of Fortune, traded places for the day. Other broadcast outlets that enjoy a good April Fools' prank on viewers include Cartoon Network and Netflix.

In 1996, Taco Bell bought full-page ads in seven major daily newspapers to announce that the restaurant chain had acquired the Liberty Bell to help ease the national debt. The artifact had been renamed the "Taco Liberty Bell."

Two decades later, National Geographic told its Twitter followers that the magazine would no longer publish photos of nude animals.

four-part episode of the popular sitcom I Dream of Jeannie as the lead character, the genie named Jeannie, tried to learn the date of her birthday. She was delighted to finally learn the big Though April 1 is in the early spring, the weather can play its

During the 1967-68 broadcast season, NBC gave viewers a

own pranks. In 2018, Midwestern residents awoke to find measurable snow on the ground. Sometimes, real news is mistaken for humor, such as on April 1, 2004, when Google announced plans to create Gmail - and many didn't believe it.

Many American college campuses find a way to celebrate April Fools', and universities often use the day to offer fake reports that the school mascot is being changed.

School newspapers offer another outlet for April Fools' humor. At Illinois State University, the campus paper, the Daily Vidette, dubs itself the "Daily Vendetta" for April Fools' issues,

On April 1, 1993, readers were treated to "news" that a Viking had attacked one of the campus buildings, apparently "mistaking it for a medieval castle."

On April Fools' Day in 1999, Illinois State readers learned that Watterson Towers, a 28-story housing center on campus that is one of the tallest student residence halls in the world, was to be dwarfed by a 25-level parking deck. It was just one of a myriad of pranks over the centuries on the first of April.

Tom Emery is a freelance writer and historical researcher from Carlinville. He may be reached at 217-710-8392 or ilcivilwar@yahoo.com.

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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 email to mdiamond.editor@windstream.net

'Dear Preacher'

By Buddy Ray, Murfreesboro Church of Christ

THE BIBLE -THE ABSOLUTE TRUTH

We find ourselves living in a world today where many people have turned their backs on God and are living in a way that is contrary to God's Holy Word. A great number of people say that there is no abthoritative standard by which we should live our daily lives. As children of God, we find this thinking does not align with what the Bible teaches. We know that the Bible IS absolute truth, the ultimate authority; and it is the standard by which we must live our lives and by which we will be judged.

In Mark 13:31 Jesus says Heaven and earth will pass away, but MY words will by no means pass away. A powerful verse for us is found in Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and powerful and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. We



see from this verse that the word of God is the most powerful thing that we have today.

Scripture tells us many more truths about the word, and we will examine 5 of them

1. IT IS INSPIRED AND FULLY EQUIPS US - 2 Timothy 3:16-17

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2. THY WORD IS TRUTH – John 17:17

Sanctify them by your truth, your word is truth.

3. THE TRUTH SHALL MAKE US FREE – John 8:32

And you shall know the truth and the truth shall make

4. IT I THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT – Ephesians 6:17

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the God.

5. IT WILL ULTIMATELY JUDGE US ALL – John 12:48

He who rejects Me, and does not receive MY words, has that which judges him the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.

From these passages we see that the Bible is the absolute truth, given us the standard by which we are to live, gives us the plan of salvation and will ultimately judge us.

Do you believe fully that the Bible is the word of God, the absolute authority and are you daily living by the teachings found in the Bible?

May God continue to richly bless each of you!

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The Frank and Ada Coleman estate auction features a vast collection of items from their farm/home in the Brownstown Community where they lived for many years, the family has commissioned Todd Morris Auction Co. to sell at auction the following items.

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- 5. Major news network, acr.
- 8. Elect democratically 12. Dharma teacher
- 14. Mosaic artist
- 16. Between ids and super-egos
- 17. More unfriendly
- 18. *Babylonian ruler, code creator

- 31. a.k.a. crown vetch
- 34. *Viracocha, the eighth Sapa ____ of King-

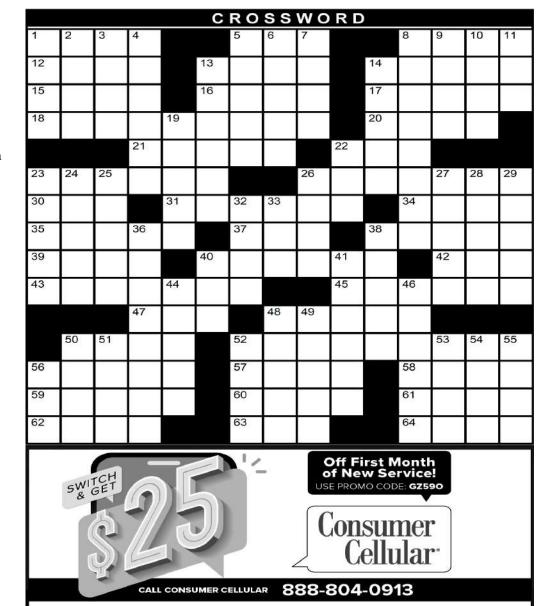
- 39. And others, for short
- 42. Aptitude test, acr.

- 45. In ignoble manner 47. One behind plate, for short
- 48. Patrick Swayze/Demi Moore movie
- 50. George Lucas' warrior-monk 52. *Egypt's famous queen
- 57. Military status
- 58. "High" time
- 60. Rainbows, e.g.
- 62. Difficult situation

64. Biblical paradise

DOWN

- 1. Ho-hum
- 2. Indian royal 3. Mosque V.I.P.
- 4. Plane road 5. "Sometimes a cigar is just a ___
- 6. She turned to stone 7. Not yet final, legally speaking
- 8. *Second-longest reining British monarch 9. Spaghetti aglio and _
- 10. Do like bees?
- 11. Go wrong
- 13. Top of a mountain, e.g. 14. #8 Down's headdress, e.g.
- 19. Untwist a rope
- 22. Third degree
- 23. Lawyers' loads 24. Informed of latest trends (2 words)
- 25. Homeric epic
- 26. Exterminator's target
- 27. Liquorice flavor
- 28. Based on number 8
- 29. Rash
- 32. *Mohammad Reza ____ Pahlavi 33. Get calories
- 36. *Robert Graves' "I, _
- 38. Comprehend
- 40. Medicinal amt.
- 41. Kindle editions 44. Not quite right
- 46. Posture 48. Unfriendly stare
- 49. From this time
- 50. Equinox month 51. Concludes
- 52. Underwater hermit
- 53. Arnold Lobel's "Frog and _ 54. Tug-of-War equipment
- 55. Soon, to a bard
- 56. Burton of gothic horror genre



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Extension suggests putting hummingbird feeders out early

BY RYAN MCGEENEY

U of A System Division of Agriculture

LITTLE ROCK — While many Arkansas hummingbird lovers have typically filled their first feeders in mid-April, extension experts say the best way to support the migration is to hang those feeders with the first signs of spring, if not earlier. And in 2025, "earlier" is even sooner than you think.

page shows about a dozen sightings in Arkansas, including one as far north as Russellville.

Sherri Sanders, White County agricultural extension agent for

feeders, I think because they correlate that with planting warmseason vegetables," Sanders said. "But we need them out about a month before that, because our little babies are coming through

they can refuel," she said.

In a blog post for the Cooperative Extension Service, Sanders recommended several prime locations for viewing hummingbirds in Arkansas, including Mount Magazine State Park, Petit Jean State Park, Hot Springs State Park and the Buffalo National

And of course, backyard gardens are always a great way to welcome in the migratory beauty. Sanders recommended planting native flowers, avoiding pesticides, providing shelter with trees and shrubs and maintaining water sources such as bird

baths and fountains.

Becky McPeake, extension wildlife biologist for the Division of Agriculture, said the occasional burst of unseasonably warm air from the south may drive the birds north ahead of their expected migration schedule.

"Hummingbirds are going to follow the weather," McPeake said. "So if there's enough nectar for them to consume, enough plants blooming, they're just following the weather north in the

Both Sanders and McPeake said that Arkansans who haven't put their feeders out already should make it a point to do so as

"There's concern for birds in general, that there's been a downward trend in population," McPeake said. "Hummingbirds not only eat nectar, but also occasionally eat insects — so the perception that insect populations are decreasing also has implications for our songbirds, including the hummingbird."

McPeake recommends a sugar-to-water ratio of 1:4. Red dye isn't necessary to attract the birds, she said, and can in fact be harmful to them.

"Go ahead and put your feeder out early," she said. "You might have to clean it a few times and replenish the sugar, but you'll be ready when they come through, whenever that might be. Look for the signs of spring, such as blooming flowers. That's when you need to have your feeders out."

McPeake and Sanders said hummingbird lovers should also keep watch for the southern migration, which occurs in Septemr and October, as flocks return south.

"We ask that people keep their feeders out later in the year, until there are no hummingbirds seen," McPeake said. "People don't need to take their feeders down by any certain date — they just need to watch their feeders and keep them up until there just aren't any stragglers.

"Some of these birds are heading south from as far north as Canada," she said. "They need to stop and replenish themselves for a few days before they continue their journey south.

To learn about extension programs in Arkansas, contact the Pike County Cooperative Extension Service at (870) 285-2161 or visit www.uaex.uada.edu.



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- 1. London native, e.g.
- 13. *Henry _____, a serial husband
- 15. Cracked open
- 20. Minute bit 21. Cavern or cave
- 22. Not amateur
- 23. Sapodilla tree gum 26. *Akhenaton or Tutankhamun
- 30. Be bedridden
- dom of Cusco
 - 35. Like some peppers
 - _-been
 - 38. Trots and canters
 - 40. Shred of clothing
- 43. a.k.a. sodium carbonate
- 56. Capital of Tunisia
- 59. River in India
- 61. Al Capone, e.g
- 63. Striped stinger

Ruby-throated hummingbirds have already been sighted across the southeastern United States, from eastern Texas to Florida, according to Hummingbird Central, a hub for volunteer hummingbird migration sightings. The group's 2025 migration

the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture, said the mid-April "rule of thumb" is likely based on a common misunderstanding of the spring gardening checklist. "People wait until April 15 or so to put out their hummingbird

Arkansas on their way to Canada. "We need to get the word out to help them with a pit stop so

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Week of March 24, 2025

Rattler track teams have success in early part of season

MURFREESBORO -- The Murfreesboro Rattler high school and junior high track teams have progressed in their respective seasons heading into this week's spring break.

Murfreesboro Junior High School opened at the De Queen Cub Relays on March 4.

De Queen would win the boy's division with 135 points. Murfreesboro finished in tenth place with 18 points.

Other areas schools competing included Dierks Junior High in seventh place with 31 points and Mineral Springs in eleventh place with 17 points.

Athletes finishing in points places included: Josh Fox, fourth place 400 meter dash, 1:01.20 Keith Wilkinson, eight place 300 meter hurdles, 57.28 Josh Fox, Cooper Lowery, Jack Lamb, Keith Wilkinson; fifth place 4x800 meter relay, 10:59.21

Cooper Lowery, second place pole vault, 8'6"

On the girl's side of the meet, Murfreesboro would finish in fourth place with 62 points, while De Queen would claim first place in the competition with 139.5 points.

The Dierks Lady Outlaws would accrue 35 points, while Mineral Springs tallied 12 points.

Athletes finishing in points places included: Macy Gills, first place 100 meter dash, 13.74

Ma'Shaylia Morris, fourth place 100 meter dash, 14.03

Ma'Shaylia Morris, second place 200 meter dash, 27.84

Macy Gills, first place 400 meter dash, 1:08.5

Maci Price, McKinlee White, Kyndahl Posey, Ma'Shaylia Morris; sixth place 4x100 meter relay, 1:01.38

4x200 meter relay team, sixth place, 2:05.5

Adalyn Silva, Carsyn Ballard, Kaydence McAnelly, Yoanna Gonzalez; fifth place 4x800 meter relay, 12:49.41

Ma'Shaylia Morris, first place high jump, 5'1" McKinlee White, sixth place pole vault, 5'6" Carsyn Ballard, seventh place pole vault, 5'6" Macy Gills, fifth place long jump, 13'4.5" Ma'Shaylia Morris, seventh place long jump, 12'3"

WOLF RELAYS

The Murfreesboro Senior High squads entered their first meet of the year at Prescott's Wolf Relays on March 6.

The Rattlers finished in eleventh place with 22 points, well behind Prescott's 119 point that won the meet. The Lady Rattlers were sixth with 46.5 points, which trailed Magnolia with 132

Other area teams at the meet included Dierks (boys fourteenth place with 10 points, girls fourteenth place with 12 points) and Mineral Springs (boys eighth place with 33 points, girls fourth place with 62 points).

Athletes finishing in points places included: Mason Phillips. third place high jump, 4'8" Mason Phillips, fifth place pole vault, 7"0' Charleigh Wheeler, eighth place long jump, 14'11" Alex Parker, fourth place long jump, 20'5" Alex Parker, third place triple jump, 40'11" Kinslee Howell, eighth place discus, 73'10" Boys 4x800 meter relay team, sixth place, 10:03.78 Charleigh Wheeler, sixth place 100 meter hurdles, 18.78 Ava Cox, fifth place, 1,600 meter run, 6:44.29 Kinleigh Mounts, sixth place, 1,600 meter run, 6:54.36 Ethan Jones, sixth place 1,600 meter run, 5:35.52 Lucas Carey, eighth place 1,600 meter run, 5:39.23 Charleigh Wheeler, first place 300 meter hurdles, 54.14 Mason Phillips, fourth place 300 meter hurdles, 59.28 Kinleigh Mounts, fourth place, 800 meter run, 2:58.01 Ava Cox, fourth place, 3,200 meter run, 15:01.39 Ethan Jones, fifth place 3,200 meter run, 12:59.12

DIAMOND BANK RELAYS

The Murfreesboro senior high squads traveled to Caddo Hills next to participate in the Diamond Bank Relays on March 13. At the event the boys placed in second place with 71 points, behind Caddo Hills' 188 points.

Other local schools participating included Dierks (44 points, seventh place) and Kirby (18 points, tenth place).

Athletes finishing in points places included:

Cesar Reyes, eighth place long jump, 16'10.5" Kaleb Delarosa, seventh place discus, 86'11"

Lucas Carey, Caleb Terrell, Ethan Jones, Landen Jones; second

place 4x800 meter relay, 10:02.50

Cesar Reyes, third place 100 meter dash, 12.44 Ethan Jones, third place 1,600 meter run, 5:49.17 Lucas Carey, fourth place 1,600 meter run, 5:58.02 Landen Jones, seventh place 1,600 meter run, 6:30.59

Caleb Terrell, first place 110 meter hurdles, 19.53

Cesar Reyes, fourth place 400 meter dash, 58.36 Caleb Terrell, second place 300 meter hurdles, 48.63

Lucas Carey, fourth place 800 meter run, 2:22.44

Cesar Reyes, seventh place 200 meter dash, 25.51

Ethan Jones, fourth place 3,200 meter run, 14:06.07 Lucas Carey, Caleb Terrell, Landen Jones, Cesar Reves; third

place 4x400 meter relay, 4:07.84 The Lady Rattlers would win the meet with 190 points, easily

outpointing second place Caddo Hills with 145 points.

Dierks High School would finish in third place with 58 points. Athletes finishing in points places included: Mason Phillips, first place high jump, 4'8"

Arianna Jones, third place high jump, 4'6" Payton Niles, fourth place high jump, 4'6"

Charleigh Wheeler, second place long jump, 14'1.5" Mason Phillips, fifth place long jump, 13'9' Isabella Frazier, seventh place long jump, 13'4.75"

Arianna Jones, second place triple jump, 29'5" Josey Jones, third place triple jump, 29'3" Kinslee Howell, second place discus, 74'2"

Gracie McMillian, fifth place discus, 65'3" Josey Jones, first place pole vault, 7'6" Mason Phillips. second place pole vault, 7'6"

Kinleigh Mounts, Ava Cox, Jordyn Nance, Josey Jones; second place 4x800 meter relay, 11:58.16

Mason Phillips, first place 100 meter hurdles, 19.45 Isabella Frazier, first place 100 meter dash, 14.11 Charleigh Wheeler, third place 100 meter dash, 14.28

Payton Niles, eighth place 100 meter dash, 15.52 Isabella Frazier, Jordyn nance, Mason Phillips, Charleigh

Wheeler; first place 4x200 meter dash relay, 1:56.28 Ava Cox, fourth place 1,600 meter run, 6:48.58 Kinleigh Mounts, sixth place 1,600 meter run, 7:10.20 Josey Jones, first place 400 meter dash, 1:11.50

Jordyn Nance, second place 400 meter dash, 1:13.12 Mason Phillips, first place 300 meter hurdles, 56.93 Kinleigh Mounts, third place 800 meter run, 3:00.85 Isabella Frazier, first place 200 meter dash, 29.66 Arianna Jones, second place 200 meter dash, 30.38 Ava Cox, third place 3,200 meter run, 15:49.98

SOUTHERN BANCORP RELAYS

Last week, on March 20, the senior Rattler squads competed at Gurdon's Southern Bancorp Relays, with the boys finishing with 13 points in fourteenth place behind meet winner Prescott with 141.33 points. The Lady Rattlers finished in fourth place with 74.5

points behind Prescott with 121 points. Other local schools participating included Dierks (boys, sixteenth place, 8.5 points; girls eighth place, 41 points) and Kirby (boys, twelfth place, 16 points).

Athletes finishing in points places included: Mason Phillips, fifth place high jump, 4'8" Mason Phillips, third place pole vault, 7'0" Josey Jones, fifth place pole vault, 6'0" Arianna Jones, second place long jump, 14'11" Isabella Frazier, seventh place long jump, 13'8" Girls 4x800 meter relay team, fourth place, 12:16.98 Boys 4x800 meter relay team, sixth place, 10:22.43 Arianna Jones, seventh place 100 meter dash, 14.45 Gracie McMillian, eighth place discus, 75'3' Jordyn Nance, seventh place 400 meter dash, 1:14.87

Cesar Reyes, eighth place 400 meter dash, 59.16 Charleigh Wheeler, first place 300 meter hurdles, 53.53 Mason Phillips, third place 300 meter hurdles, 57.73 Caleb Terrell, seventh place 300 meter hurdles, 49.25 Kinleigh Mounts, first place 800 meter run, 2:46.46 Lucas Carey, third place 800 meter run, 2:17.81 Mason Phillips, seventh place 200 meter dash, 30.76 Ava Cox, fourth place 1,600 meter run, 6:40.74 Ethan Jones, eighth place 3,200 meter run, 12:49.66 Mason Phillips, seventh place 100 meter hurdles, 19.76 Girls 4x200 meter relay team, third place, 1:59.37

Legislature approves clarifying birth emergencies

STATE CAPITOL WEEK IN REVIEW Senator Steve Crowell

LITTLE ROCK – The legislature has approved and sent to the governor a bill that clarifies the meaning of a medical emergency when the life of a woman and her unborn children are threatened. House Bill 1610 defines a medical emergency as a condition

which complicates the medical condition of a pregnant woman to the extent that termination of her pregnancy is necessary to save her life, according to "reasonable medical judgment." The standard of "reasonable medical judgment" is longstand-

ing and is used not only in medical care of pregnant women but also in all other medical contexts, according to HB 1610. Throughout the many years of its use, it has never proven to be unworkable or vague. The bill's sponsors said they wanted to clarify that physicians

ecuted under Arkansas anti-abortion laws if the unborn child unintentionally dies. Arkansas has one of the strictest abortion bans in the country. It

who act in good faith to save a woman's life would not be pros-

is only allowed to save the life of the mother. In other news both the Senate and House of Representatives has approved HB 1258 to establish standards for certifying community health workers. The bill outlines how much training is required and what health services they can perform.

The bill is part of a broader effort this year to improve maternal health care in Arkansas. Many counties lack obstetricians and gynecologists, and pregnant women are more likely to go without adequate prenatal and postnatal care.

An important provision in HB 1258 allows community health workers to be reimbursed by the state Medicaid program, which will make maternal care more accessible in areas that are now under-served medically.

The Senate passed legislation that removes a costly financial burden from families with a child in the juvenile justice system.

Under SB 340, they would no longer have to pay fines and fees. They would no longer have to pay diversion fees, which go for counseling and services ordered by the juvenile court. The family would not have to pay for physical or psychiatric evaluations. However, the juvenile court could still order the juvenile or his or her parents and guardians to pay restitution.

SB 340 will be considered next by the House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth and Legislative Affairs.

The House has approved two bills intended to protect children from potentially harmful online technologies. Both are in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

HB 1717 restricts the ability of web site operators to collect and distribute information from minors. HB 1726 requires online operators to take reasonable measures to avoid content that would worsen a child's anxiety, depression, eating disorders, substance abuse, suicidal behavior, bullying or sexual abuse.

The House passed HB1713 to prohibit ballot issues if their title is written in English above the eighth-grade level. When a group submits a proposed ballot title to the state attorney general for approval, the attorney general would have to reject it if it were written at too high a level. Under the bill, the attorney general would use a national standard, known as the Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level test, to determine how much education is required to read it.

PUE	3L		NOT		SE
CITY OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT JA	MURFREESBORO NUARY 1, 2024 - DECEMB	ER 31, 2024	Total Expenditures Balance Street Fund December 31, 2024		\$ 528,247.72 \$ 13,956.10
	NERAL FUND			OPERATING FUND	
Balance January 1, 2024 Receipts		\$ 478,985.23	Balance January 1, 2024 Receipts		\$ 0.00
State Revenues Property Taxes	\$ 22,232.80 \$ 0.00			\$ 12,561.10 \$ 593,027.23	
Sales Taxes Fines, Forfeitures, and Costs	\$ 753,358.70 \$ 2,716.24		Total Receipts	\$ 260,471.71	S 866,060.04
Franchise Fees Transfers In	\$ 87,706.45 \$ 227,688.80		Total Street Funds Available Expenditures		\$ 866,060.04
State Grant Funds Other	\$ 7,400.00 \$ 2,610.78			\$ 70,115.05 \$ 427,297.40	100
Total Receipts Total General Funds Available		\$ 1,103,713.77 \$ 1,582,699.00	Total Expenditures Balance Street Operating Fund December 31, 2024		\$ 497,412.45 \$ 368,647.59
General Expenditures	\$ 21,815.61			EDP GRANT	
Other Services and Charges Transfers Out	\$ 1,320,299.63		Balance January 1, 2024 Receipts	\$ 308,877.00	\$ (102.00)
Administration Expenditures Personal Services	\$ 1,342,115.24 \$ 16,969.45		Expenditures Balance December 31, 2024	\$ 308,775.00	\$ 0.00
Other services and charges	\$ (19,430.04) \$ (2,460.59)			ACT 833	
Advertising & Tourism Expenditures Personal Services	\$ 1,209.46		Balance January 1, 2024 Receipts	\$ 32,926.93	\$ 36,244.06
Other services and charges	\$ 711.06 \$ 1,920.52		Expenditures Balance December 31, 2024	\$ 30,920.02	\$ 38,250.97
District Court Expenditures Personal Services	\$ 6,765.80		ADMINISTE Balance January 1, 2024	RATION OF JUSTICE	S 0.00
Fire Expenditures	\$ 6,765.80		Receipts Expenditures	\$ 116,494.76 \$ 116,494.76	
Personal Services Other services and charges	\$ 7,313.36 \$ 2,849.86		Balance December 31, 2024		S 0.00
Park Expenditures	\$ 10,163.22		A	RPA FUND	
Personal Services Other services and charges	\$ 7,508.78 \$ 0.00		Balance January 1, 2024 Receipts	\$ 2,388.65	S 208,662.82
Police Expenditures	\$ 7,508.78			\$ 204,530.93	\$ 6,520.54
Personal Services Other services and charges	\$ 36,113.73 \$ 60,421.86		CITY S Balance January 1, 2024	SERVICE FUND	S 17,267.15
Other soffices and charges	\$ 96,535.59		Receipts	\$ 532.03 \$ 3,648.00	
Sanitation Expenditures			Balance December 31, 2024	JTOMATION FUND	\$ 14,151.18
Personal Services Other services and charges	\$ 19,749.18 \$ 23,912.68		Balance January 1, 2024	\$ 11,219.76	\$ 46,984.13
	\$ 43,661.86			\$ 11,797.59	\$ 46,406.30
Personal Services Other services and charges	\$ 13,936.66 \$ 0.00			AL JUSTICE FUND	\$ 7,191.87
Water Expenditures	\$ 13,936.66		Receipts Expenditures	\$ 2,648.01 \$ 0.00	7,171.07
Personal Services Other services and charges	\$ 2,095.16 \$ 0.00		Balance December 31, 2024	DEVELOPMENT FUND	\$ 9,839.88
Zoning Commission Expenditures	\$ 2,095.16		Balance January 1, 2024 Receipts	\$ 3,733.55	\$ 17,307.08
Personal Services Other services and charges	\$ 1,076.50 \$ 0.00		Expenditures	\$ 3,107.68	\$ 17,932.95
Total Expenditures	\$ 1,076.50	\$ 1,523,318.74		BOAT FUND	
Balance General Fund December 31, 2024		\$ 59,380.26	Balance January 1, 2024 Receipts	\$ 741.08	S 1,737.49
GENERAL Balance January 1, 2024	OPERATING FUND	\$ 0.00	Expenditures Balance December 31, 2024	\$ 2,342.00	\$ 136.57
Receipts Property Taxes	\$ 50,244.04	0.000	Balance January 1, 2024	MAN'S FUND	\$ 20,765.87
Fines, Forfeitures, and Costs Franchise Fees	\$ 30,395.58 \$ 16,393.42		Receipts Expenditures	\$ 16,727.48 \$ 5,206.68	
Transfers In Other	\$ 1,392,869.57 \$ 86,136.83			FIRE DEPT SUB STATION	\$ 32,286.67
Total Receipts Total General Funds Available		\$ 1,576,039.44 \$ 1,576,039.44	Balance January 1, 2024 Receipts	\$ 652.64	\$ 16,262.70
General Expenditures		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	Balance December 31, 2024	\$ 2,860.11	S 14,055.23
Other Services and Charges	\$ 185,344.46 \$ 236,875.70		Balance January 1, 2024	PAL COURT COST	\$ 3,077.54
Administration Expenditures	\$ 422,220.16		Expenditures	\$ 508.68 \$ 146.00	
Personal Services Other services and charges	\$ 87,529.18 \$ 17,778.28		Balance December 31, 2024		\$ 3,440.22
Advertising & Tourism Expenditures	\$ 105,307.46			JDGE & CLERK'S FUND	
Personal Services Other services and charges	\$ 6,047.30 \$ 2,345.02			\$ 3,066.05	\$ 774.08
City Service Building Expenditures	\$ 8,392.32		Balance December 31, 2024	\$ 3,510.98	\$ 329.15
Other services and charges	\$ 77.25 \$ 77.25		NEW FII Balance January 1, 2024	RE TRUCK FUND	\$ 73,029.98
			Receipts Expenditures	\$ 43,914.07 \$ 0.00	
District Court Expenditures Personal Services	\$ 22,891.29		Balance December 31, 2024 NEW PO	LICE CAR FUND	\$ 116,944.05
Fire Expenditures	\$ 22,891.29		Balance January 1, 2024 Receipts	\$ 0.04	\$ 39.79
Personal Services Other services and charges	\$ 22,625.08 \$ 49,189.44			\$ 0.00	S 39.83
Lake Greeson Fire Expenditures	\$ 71,814.52			ARK FUND	S 29,372.74
Other services and charges	\$ 1,858.93 \$ 1,858.93		Receipts Transfers In	\$ 108,343.86	
Library Expenditures Other services and charges	\$ 1,775.00		Other Total Receipts	\$ 32,069.61	\$ 140,413.47
Park Expenditures	\$ 1,775.00		Total Park Funds Available Expenditures		\$ 169,786.21
Personal Services Other services and charges	\$ 42,113.47 \$ 3,530.06		Personal Services Other services and charges	\$ 45,433.77 \$ 111,870.36	
Police Expenditures	\$ 45,643.53		Total Expenditures Balance Park Fund December 31, 2024	111,070,30	\$ 157,304.13 \$ 12,482.08
Personal Services Other services and charges	\$ 192,081.58 \$ 54,615.76			ACTIVITY FUND	\$ 5,769.75
Sanitation Expenditures	\$ 246,697.34		Receipts	\$ 0.00 \$ 55.00	3,107.13
Personal Services Other services and charges	\$ 85,341.88 \$ 82,268.02		Balance December 31, 2024	SPORTS FUND	s 5,714.75
Street Expenditures	\$ 167,609.90		Balance January 1, 2024	\$ 7,814.68	\$ 8,574.58
Personal Services Other services and charges	\$ 80,342.35 \$ 2,442.75			\$ 6,886.17	\$ 9,503.09
Water Expenditures	\$ 82,785.10			SPECIAL FUND	
Personal Services Other services and charges	\$ 1,076.50 \$ 27,217.97			\$ 241.98	\$ 2,569.59
Zoning Commission Expenditures	\$ 28,294.47		Expenditures Balance December 31, 2024	\$ 0.00	S 2,811.57
Personal Services Other services and charges	\$ 5,382.50 \$ 170.40				
Total Expenditures	\$ 5,552.90	\$ 1,210,920.17			
Balance General Operating Fund December 31, 2024		\$ 365,119.27		EBTEDNESS	
			Type of Debt	Amount	Last Payment Due
				\$ 2,008.85 \$ 43,072.85	11/6/25 7/7/26
			Short term financing obligations Short term financing obligations	\$ 14,154.16 \$ 62,611.13	12/16/26 6/16/27
ST	REET FUND			\$ 13,688.20 \$ 8,686.37	7/19/28 4/24/29
Balance January 1, 2024 Receipts		\$ 406,614.84	All financial records for the City of Murfreesboro are public records as		
State Revenues Transfers In	\$ 122,934.98 \$ 9,436.79		during regular business hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Ave, Murfreesboro, Arkansas.		ton
Other					
Total Receipts	\$ 3,217.21	\$ 135,588.98	If the record is in active use or in storage and, therefore, not available	at the time a citizen asks to examine	it,
Total Receipts Total Street Funds Available Expenditures	\$ 3,217.21	\$ 135,588.98 \$ 542,203.82	If the record is in active use or in storage and, therefore, not available the custodian shall certify this fact in writing to the applicant and set a at which time the record will be available for inspection and copying.	the transfer of the transfer of	it,

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(c.o.m., 38,