The Murfreesboro Diamond St. 1075 Issue 48 · 1 Section · 8 Pages

\$100

USPC 103-230

Serving South Pike County, Arkansas Since 1975

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4-H looks to help eliminate summer hunger for local kids

MURFREESBORO -- Pike County 4-H is conducting a summer cereal drive to help fight summer hunger.

"The drive provides non-perishable breakfast items that are kid-friendly for children and families in Pike County who would otherwise go without the most important meal of the day -- breakfast," said Pike County 4-H assistant Shannon Ballard.

The items being requested are:

- Cereal
- Oatmeal
- Toaster Pastries Granola Bars

Drop off sites for the items are at the Bainum Library and Learning Center in Glenwood and the Pike County Extension Office in Murfrees-

The program will run from June 1 to July 31.

Wanted man found in Hot **Springs by US Marshals**

MURFREESBORO -- A Delight man who allegedly absconded before he could be arrested on felony charges has been arrested by the US Marshals Service, according to Pike County Investigator Jason McDonald.

McDonald said James David Humphry, 49, was arrested in Hot Springs the night of May 30. Humphry is a convicted felony on parole and is now facing an absconding warrant, which will be separate from his existing felony

Humphry was charged last month in Pike County with felony theft and first-degree criminal mischief following an alleged property dispute in Murfreesboro."







DIAMOND COMES FULL CIRCLE ... Last Saturday, the Crater of Diamonds State Park hosted Kevin Kinard (above left), who discovered the brandy brown 9.07-carat Kinard Friendship Diamond (above right bottom), the second-largest diamond ever found at Crater of Diamonds State Park. Kinard unveiled the newly-cut and jewelry-set diamond and shared its journey from discovery to finished gem (above right top), including behind-the-scenes insights into its transformation by Lauray's The Diamond Center in Hot Springs. The diamond will be on display at the Crater's 12th Annual Prospectors' Gemboree and Famous Crater Diamonds Exhibit on June 21. Kinard, a 33-year-old bank branch manager from Maumelle found the diamond on Labor Day in 2020 just after Tropical Storm Laura dumped two inches of rain in Murfreesboro. Since the Crater of Diamonds became an Arkansas state park in 1972, the only larger diamond found during that time is the 16.37-carat white Amarillo Starlight, discovered in August 1975. The previous record for the second-largest diamond found at the park belongs to the 8.81-carat white Star of Shreveport, discovered in 1981 by Carroll Blankenship, of Shreveport.

4-H announces project to dispose of old flags

MURFREESBORO -- Several Pike County -H students are conducting a project to prop

erly dispose of old American flags.

Flags may be dropped off at the Pike County Courthouse in Murfreesboro.

Congressman Westerman announces case specific office hours for June

WASHINGTON, D.C, -- Congressman Bruce Westerman (AR-04) has announced caseworkspecific office hours in district office locations across the Fourth District for the month of June, to assist with issues for constituents addressing Veterans' Affairs, Social Security, Medicare, IRS, USCIS, and passports.

For casework specifically related to Veterans' Affairs, the following dates and locations are available:

TEXARKANA

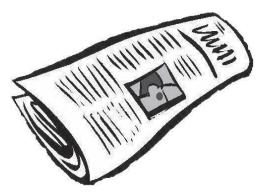
June 26 -- Miller County Courthouse: 400 Laurel St., Texarkana, AR, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

For casework specifically related to Social Security, Medicare, IRS, USCIS, and passports, the following dates and locations are available: **HOT SPRINGS**

June 10 -- 101 Reserve St. Suite 200, Hot Springs, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

TEXARKANA

June 24 -- Miller County Courthouse: 400 Laurel St., Texarkana, AR, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.



Submit Your Local News to the Diamond!

mdiamond@windstream.net

Call (870) 285-2723 for More Information

Texas fugitive arrested for second time in M'boro

MURFREESBORO -- A Texas fugitive has been arrested for a second time this year in Murfreesboro, according to Murfreesboro Police Chief Randy Lamb.

Lamb said Neftalli Lugo, 33, of Houston, Texas, was taken into custody the evening of May 30 and is facing a local misdemeanor charge of fleeing. Lugo's companion, Jaymie Nance, 38, of Murfreesboro was also arrested at their home on West Dickson Street and is charged locally with possession of marijuana.

Lamb said his department along with county

deputies responded to the home on Dickson Street in reference to possible child abuse. When authorities arrived, Lugo allegedly fled on foot and was later apprehended at a local

Lamb said Lugo is wanted on criminal charges out of Texas for an alleged assault on a police officer. Plans are now in the works with the U.S. Marshal Services to get him back to Texas to face the charges.

The chief added that Lugo has been arrested in Murfreesboro before. According to information online, Lugo fled Connecticut back to Texas in April after he posted his bond in a criminal case there. He reportedly was charged with two counts of assault in Texas and then fled to Murfreesboro where he was staying with Nance and her children.

Lugo was extradited to Connecticut at that time by the U.S. Marshals Service.

Lugo and Nance remain in county custody, as of Tuesday morning.

Norman area residents to face charges of animal cruelty

DEWAYNE HOLLOWAY

Editor, Glenwood Herald and Montgomery County News

MONTGOMERY COUNTY - Local concerns raised by area residents has led to the arrest of five Montgomery County residents in relation to an alleged animal cruelty case involving over 100 dogs, cats, and other animals.

Residents along Liberty Road south of Norman, Arkansas began raising concerns about possible inadequate care of animals at a residence on Liberty Road over a week ago. An investigation by the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office resulted in the rescue of dozens of animals and the arrest of five individuals under the suspicion of cruelty to animals.

In a statement released by the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, Sheriff Neal Thomas stated that the search warrant was served Thursday, May 29, 2025 on a 40 acre tract of land located outside the Norman community. The search warrant was in relation to the allegations of ani-

The five individuals arrested include: Janice Voerster, age 53, Jennifer Goodwin, age 32, Randy Hassen, age 61, Donald Bates, age 74, and Ronald Bates, age 74, all of Norman.

All five are being held on a \$1,000 bond under suspicion of animal cruelty, a class A misdemeanor. Hassan also is alleged to have been involved in an altercation with a MCSO officer during the execution of the search warrant. He faces one count each of Disorderly Conduct, a class C misdemeanor, and resisting arrest, a class A misdemeanor.

In a probable cause hearing held Friday in circuit court Sheriff Thomas testified that there were two locations involved in the search. One location was located on Smith Creek Road and the other on Liberty Road. Both locations included multiple structures.

Sheriff Thomas testified that over 100 dogs were located on the two properties with some roaming loose while others were caged, chained or housed in one of the structures. He described the conditions as uninhabitable with several animals visibly malnourished, covered in mud and

He described one group of dogs located in a small kennel so small the

dogs were unable to stand up in the kennel. The water bowl was filled with a dirty liquid that he state he couldn't identify as water. Thomas testified that the floors and furnishings in the living structures were covered in several inches of feces with excessive trash in the resi-

dences. He also stated that the remnants of deceased animals were also

located in some of the residences.

Several volunteers gathered at the location to help in the rescue of animals. The MCSO statement reported that authorities seized over 100

CRUELTY Continued on Page 2



HORRIFIC CONDITIONS ... A dog, pictured above, is shown in its former living conditions prior to being one of many animals seized last week following the arrest of five Montgomery County residents.

CRUELTY Continued from Page 1

dogs, along with numerous pigs, chickens, ducks, sugar gliders, guinea pigs, and cats. All animals were removed and taken into evidence

Nova Star Rescue of Dover, Arkansas spearheaded the extensive animal rescue effort. PAWS of Glenwood was among several other animal rescue organizations to assist in the rescue. Other organizations include: Cuddle Babies, Artemis Project, Jak's Second Chance Rescue, and Hank's Rescue.

PAWS of Glenwood reported that they have taken in over 55dogs, the most of all the organizations.
Sheriff Thomas stated, "I want to personally thank Nova Star

Rescue for their incredible leadership and dedication in orches-

trating this massive undertaking. Our heartfelt thanks also go out to PAWS of Glenwood, Cuddle Babies, Hank's Rescue, and all the other Arkansas animal rescue organizations who volunteered their time and expertise. Furthermore, I am immensely proud of and thankful for the numerous community members who worked tirelessly and selflessly in truly filthy conditions to rescue these animals. Their compassion and unwavering commitment to these helpless animals were truly inspiring.

Sheriff Thomas also extended his appreciation to neighboring law enforcement agencies for their invaluable support. He offered his thanks to Polk County Sheriff Scott Sawyer and Pike County Sheriff Travis Hill for assisting with Montgomery County patrol efforts while MCSO personnel was focused on this case.

Others volunteers cited in the MCSO statement were members of Liberty Baptist Church, Montgomery County Judge Bart Williams, Montgomery County Road Department, Montgomery County Office of Emergency Management, Caddo Gap Volunteer Fire Department, Mount Ida/Southfork Volunteer Fire Department, Ricky Lee of Subway, Mount Ida Shack Attack, American Red Cross, Bob's Food City, and a host of others who gave selflessly to help with this unprecedented rescue effort.

Once rescued, efforts turned to nursing the animals back to health. A local volunteer veterinarian and several veterinarian technicians worked to diagnose and treat the rescued animals quickly. Many of the animals responded quickly to treatment and most are on the road to recovery.

Rescue efforts have taxed rescue organizations financially with many already near capacity at their locations. PAWS of Glenwood reported on social media that they had to set up off-

site quarantine locations to protect the animals already in their

Items needed include: paper towels, bleach, sheets, fly strips, bags, sprays, brooms, sharpies and duct tape, non-bleach cleaning sprays, slip leads, puppy food, cat food, litter, dewormer (Safeguard), flea and tick spray, medications, collars, dog food, syringes to administer oral liquid wormer, collars (large/medium), laundry soap, medium towels, gas gift cards, cedar shavings, pee pads, doggie treats (no rawhide please), large stainless steel dishes, latex gloves (medium, large, XL), Dawn liquid detergent, flea and tick shampoos for puppies, Adams flea and tick spray for cats and dogs, foaming dry shampoo with flea and tick protection, step in harnesses, eye cleansers and ointment, ear cleaner/soothing drops, Hot spot treatments, dog grooming/washing mitts, washcloths, kneeling pads/cushions, double and triple A batteries, poop scoop for dog yards, toilet paper, kennel trays for large and XL kennels, small amounts of cat/kitten flea, tick and dewormer, and litter scoops.

They also need volunteers to help with the rescued animals. There are a number of tasks volunteers can do to help with the recovery of the animals.

Visit PAWS of Glenwood's Facebook page for more information and ways you can help.

Sheriff Thomas announced on social media over the weekend that he has secured a location to help with the recovery of some of the rescued animals. Many of the same items are needed at this location as well. Supplies can be left at the Montgomery County Courthouse.

Pictures are starting to circulate of some of the rescued animals in hopes that if they were lost they might be reunited with their original owners. Everyone is asked to consider fostering one or more of these animals.

Please contact any of the rescue organizations mentioned if you would like to volunteer or would like to donate to the res-

SHELTER TO HOLD FUNDRAISER SATURDAY

This Saturday, June 7, PAWS of Glenwood will hold a benefit meal at John Benjamin Park, 25-53 Industrial Park Lane in Glenwood.

Food will be ready at ready at 11 a.m. featuring authentic cajun cuisine including gumbo, boudin, boiled crawfish, crawfish etouffee, corn, potatoes and sausage with a selection of desserts.

Cherokee Lee will preform, an entertainer/singer, known for being unapologetically patriotic. He features selections includ-

ing southern rock, country, and the blues. Lee recently relocated to Pike County from South Florida, where he entertained for almost 10 years, and previously performed in Murfreesboro.

"Come out, listen to some good music, eat some good food, and take a PAWS for the cause," said a release for the event.



County extension agents to offer ServSafe Managers Training in June

Pike County Family and Consumer Science Agent

MURFEEESBORO -- The Pike and Montgomery County Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) Extension agents will be hosting a ServSafe Managers training course on June 24–25 at the Glenwood Bainum Community Room, offering food service professionals a critical opportunity to advance their food safety knowledge and certification.

The training sessions will run from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on both days, with the certification exam scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on June 25. The cost for the full training package — which includes the course, book, and exam — is \$140. Those needing only to retake the test can do so for \$60.

The ServSafe® Manager Training is a nationally recognized

program designed to educate food service managers, operators, and owners on best practices in food handling — from receiving and storing ingredients to preparing and serving meals safely. Participants who successfully complete the course and pass the exam will receive a Certificate of Completion from ServSafe®.

The importance of food safety is underscored by data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which estimates that foodborne illnesses affect roughly 1 in 6 Americans annually — leading to approximately 48 million illnesses, 128,000 hospitalizations, and 3,000 deaths. Even a 10% reduction in foodborne illness rates could prevent 5 million people from becoming sick each year.

ServSafe® is a key component of the Food Safety initiative led by the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service's Family and Consumer Sciences

Department. Certified county educators deliver the training and proctor the exams statewide. Each year, the Cooperative Extension Service partners with the Arkansas Restaurant Association to help train hundreds of food service employees across Arkansas for certification and recertification.

ing ensures food service workers are equipped with the most current and relevant safety practices. For more information or to register for the Glenwood training, contact the Pike County Extension office at 870-285-2161.

Murfreesboro Town Hall meeting set for June 26

MURFREESBORO -- The City of Murfreesboro's Mayor's Office has announced that on Thursday, June 26, a town hall meeting will be held at the Municipal Building at 6 p.m.

The featured speaker will be state senator Steve Crowell, who will be discussing and answering questions about the recent state legislative session.

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

Your Hometown Newspaper since 1975

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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• P.J. Tracy IV, Editor

• Christy Coccarelli, Office Manager/Photographer

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Mailing Address: P.O. Box 550, Murfreesboro, AR 71958

Telephone: 870-285-2723

Business Hours: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Please Send Change of Address Information to: Murfreesboro Diamond

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.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

RYAN MCCLOSKY, JAMES MCCLOSKY, JORDAN MCCLOSKY,

Vs.

55 CV-25-24

Petitioners,

JONATHAN RANDALL WATSON, ALL OTHER **INTERESTED PARTIES** Defendants,

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

All that part of the South Half of the Southwest Quarter (S1/2 SW1/4) of Section Five (5), in Township Eight (8) South, in Range Twenty-Four (24) West, lying Northeast of Saline Creek, and containing 40 acres, more or less

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, to wit:

All that part of the South Half of the Southwest Quarter (S1/2 SW1/4) of Section Five (5), in Township Eight (8) South, in Range Twenty-Four (24) West, lying Northeast of Saline Creek, and containing 40 acres, more or less

The Defendant, and/or any and all other persons claiming said lands or 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 as set forth by the Petitioner or be forever barred from asserting his or her interest.

WITNESS my hand and seal as Clerk of the Circuit Court of Pike County, Arkansas, this 15th day of May, 2025.

CIRCUIT CLERK OF PIKE COUNTY, ARKANSAS

SABRINA WILLIAMS

(a.b., 266w., 46,47,48,49)

ServSafe® sets the industry standard in food safety. This train-

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: JO ANN BARENTINE, deceased No. 55PR-25-25

PUBLIC NOTICE

Last known address of the decedent: 811 N Clay Street, Glenwood, Pike County, AR 71943 Date of Death: March 22, 2025

An instrument dated May 27, 2025, lawfully appointed TODD BARENTINE and KENNETH BARENTINE as Co-Administrators of the above estate.

That all persons having claims against the estate must exhibit them, duly verified, within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or they shall be forever

barred and precluded from any benefit in the estate. This notice first published on this 4th day of June, 2025.

> Lee Ann Cannon Petitioner

> > BY: DUSTIN BISSELL Attorney for Petitioner 306 E Broadway Glenwood, AR 71943 (870) 356-2589 Arkansas Bar #2022047 (d.b., 144w. 48,49)

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CERISE RENEE LEBLANC, DECEASED NO. 55PR-2025-9-2

NOTICE

Last Known Address: 908 S. Washington Ave Murfreesboro, AR 71958 Date of Death: March 24, 2025

The undersigned was appointed Administrator of the estate of the above named decedent on April 4, 2025.

All persons having claims against the estate, including claims for injury or death caused by the negligence of the decedent, must exhibit them, duly verified, to the undersigned within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or they shall be forever barred and precluded from any benefits in the estate.

This notice first published the 4th day of June, 2025.

Gary Fitch, Administrator c/o Hutcherso Law Firm, PLLC Attorneys for the Estate P.O. Box 841 Magnolia, AR 71754 (870) 234-6111 / (870) 234-6699 FAX

(h.l.f. 152w., 48,49)

County economic development commission announces next steps in moving Pike County forward into the future

PIKE COUNTY – The Pike County Economic Development Commission (PCEDC) is undertaking steps in their growth to one day help bolster the current and future businesses of the county in an effort to grow and move the economies of the county in a positive direction.

The group explained how they were going to go about the process and what their goals were at a public presentation late last month in Murfreesboro.

The group, made up of members from across the county, stated their mission statement to open the presentation led by Glenwood based dentist Clayton Sorrells.

"The Pike County Economic Development Commission is dedicated to fostering sustainable economic growth and prosperity within our County through collaborative partnerships, strategic investments, targeted programs, and evidence-based initiatives. We will work diligently to expand, retain, and create new jobs while providing comprehensive support to existing businesses. Our holistic approach focuses on developing a resilient local economy, attracting new enterprises that complement our county's strengths, and enhancing quality of life for all residents. Through responsible stewardship of resources and inclusive decision-making, we strive to build an economy that offers opportunities for everyone to thrive both today and for generations to come that create jobs, support businesses, and enhance quality of life for all residents."

The PCEDC has formed a strategic partnership with the Arkansas Economic Development Institute (AEDI), whose expert analysis has helped inform the group with comprehensive data to start their journey. It was stated that In the upcoming months, PCEDC and AEDI will be collaborating closely to comprehensively refresh and enhance our information systems.

"This valuable alliance demonstrates our ongoing commitment to data excellence and positions us well for future growth opportunities," Sorrells said.

On behalf of Pike County Economic Development Commission, the Arkansas Economic Development Institute has stated that they intend to assist the county and PCEDC in the development and writing of a strategic plan designed to establish a list of community priorities and actionable steps toward those

This strategic plan will be developed through data collection, a community survey and meeting to better understand the public's wants and needs, and a series of focus group meetings to further develop strategies.

Planned information from AEDI include:

- Up to date data on Pike County
- Community Survey and Survey Report
- 4-6 focus group meetings to develop strategies

• Pike County Strategic Plan

The project timeline for the first month will include collection up to date data on Pike County, which will be shared with Pike County through a public meeting.

Within the next two months, AEDI will create a survey to be distributed by PCEDC to residents, workers, and other participants across Pike County's community and commerce, which will be processed and results reported back to the county via a second public meeting. The two groups will develop from four to six focus areas based on information received from the surveys and public meetings.

Then, in a period from three to seven months, AEDI and PCEDC host a series of focus groups to create strategies with actionable steps to further the established focus areas.

In eight months, AEDI will utilize all the information and

strategies developed during the process to create a strategic plan SUDOKU Lead Call today and receive a FREE SHOWER PACKAGE **PLUS \$1600 OFF** SAFE STEP 1-855-576-5653 With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082165. NSCB 008299. 6 4 5 8 9 9 6 5 6 2 4 9 7 8

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.



Q: How is carpal tunnel syndrome treated?

A: The carpal tunnel is a space in the wrist where ligaments, nerves and tendons pass through to the palm of the hand. Carpal tunnel syndrome is when the median nerve, which runs from the forearm through the carpa tunnel to the hand, is compressed due to irritation or swelling. It is a common condition — the American Medical Association estimates that as many as 10 million people

in the U.S. are affected. Arthritis, injury, trauma or

mechanical issues in the wrist, as well as repetitive hand motions are some causes of carpal tunnel syndrome. Health conditions such as diabetes, gout and hypothyroidism can also cause carpal tunnel syndrome. Anyone can develop the condition, but it is most common in people over the age of 40. Carpal tunnel syndrome affects women more

8

Symptoms normally come about gradually and include numbness and tingling in the fingers and hand, cold or swollen fingers, and weakness in the affected

Physical therapy to strengthen

the muscles and increase flexibility in the wrist, over-thecounter medications to reduce inflammation and pain, and wearing a splint are possible treatments for carpal tunnel syndrome. In some cases, surgery may be necessary. See your health care provider if you are experiencing symptoms.

that PCEDC can use for a plan forward

The Arkansas Economic Development Institute is located in Little Rock. For more information about the group, please visit

Some of the data provided by the AEDI includes:

- A roughly 1,000 person loss in population from the 2010 census across the county (11,000 to 10,000) with further losses projected through 2029 in a negative growth rate • A population density of 16.6 persons per square mile
- A 44.2 median age, with the largest single age group being males 60-64 years of age • A \$27,872 per capita income for residents in 2024, with a \$49,248 median household income and \$69,106 average house-
- hold income • Broken down by municipality, the per capita income and median household incomes are Antoine \$20,298/\$30.789, Daisy \$35,746/\$76,000, Delight \$31,561/\$30,682, Glenwood
- \$20,536/\$33,958 and Murfreesboro \$23,493/\$37,206 Retail trade has the largest number of businesses in the county with 78, followed by services (excluding public administration) with 68, accommodation/food services with 56 and health care/social assistance with 38
- Some 17.5% of the county population lives below the poverty level (2022) with 20.8% of households below the poverty level
- In 2024 it is estimated that the average household will spend \$1,399 on apparel and services, \$5,024 on groceries, \$148 on computers and hardware, \$5,885 on health care and \$2,378 on eating
- The labor force of Pike County is estimated at 3,950 people above age 16, with a 3.5% unemployment rate overall and a 10.7% unemployment rate for those aged 16-24
- Education levels are 10% with no high school diploma, 40% high school graduates, 30% with some college/associate's degree and 19% with a bachelor's and higher educational level
- The average commute time to work for people who reside in the county is 29.3 minutes

As for economic development of the county, it was stated that it is fundamentally structured as a three-legged stool, with each leg representing a critical function: job creation, job retention, and job expansion. Like any stool, the stability of a region's economic development strategy depends on the equal strength and attention given to each component.

Sorrells stated that it was important not to focus solely on the acquisition of new businesses, but also to focus on the success of the businesses already located in the county.

"If PCEDC neglects any of these three pillars it will create inherent instability in our county's economy. Just as a three-legged stool cannot stand with a weakened or missing leg, economic development strategies falter when they overemphasize recruitment at the expense of retention, or when they fail to nurture the expansion potential of their existing business community. The most successful economic development organizations implement coordinated strategies across all three areas, creating a balanced approach that maximizes employment opportunities while building sustainable economic prosperity.

For the process of strategic planning, it was stated that the PCEDC needs to develop comprehensive economic development strategies with measurable goals that align with the county's strengths and opportunities. This should include identifying target industries that match local assets through a process

- SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) specific to the local economy
- Asset-based community development approaches that build on existing resources
- Diversification strategies to reduce dependence on single
- · Scenario planning for economic disruptions (recessions,
- natural disasters, industry shifts) Third-party facilitation for objective community input and
- stakeholder engagement • Formal adoption of plans by governing bodies to ensure

It was also stated that infrastructure was crucial to any growth plans - the County needs reliable transportation networks, affordable utilities, available industrial/commercial real estate, and robust broadband connectivity to ultimately attract and re-

Additionally, an educated workforce is crucial for any attempt

DEVELOPMENT Continued on Page 4

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1211 Anthony Ave., Murfreesboro, Arkansas 71958

www.latimerfuneralhome.com

Obituaries

Jerry Lee Linzy, 84, Murfreesboro



Jerry Lee Linzy, age 84, of Murfreesboro, Arkansas passed away on Monday, May 26, 2025, in Little Rock, Arkansas. He was born March 23, 1941, in Roy, Arkansas, the son of the late Woody Lee Linzy and Frances Inez Reeves Linzy.

Mr. Linzy was attending the Trinity Missionary Baptist Church in Murfreesboro, Arkansas. He started out with his career at the age of 19 working for the Arkansas State Highway Department. Following that he spent many years working in construction operating a dozer and later becoming a foreman over construction crews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife Brenda Kathleen (Kathy) Linzy; and one brother David Linzy.

Survivors include one sister Jo Ann Hoover and husband Leon of Murfreesboro; one daughter Tracy Cortez and husband Ernest of Houston, Texas; step children Christy Peek and Sherri Lambert; adopted granddaughter Whitney Dickerson and husband Alexander; two nephews Brad Hoover of Murfreesboro, Shay Hoover and wife Mandy of Nashville; one niece Sherri Ford and husband Mark of Springhill; his sister in law Melva Linzy of Hope; as well as numerous family and friends.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, May 29, at Latimer Funeral Home in Murfreesboro, with Bro. Kenneth Bobo officiating, burial followed in the Roy Cemetery under the direction of Latimer Funeral Home in Murfreesboro.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Roy Cemetery, In care of Jo Ann Hoover, 2306 Hwy. 301 S. Murfreesboro, AR. 71958, or Diamond Bank in Murfreesboro.

You may send an online sympathy message at www. <u>latimerfuneralhome.com</u>



Earth and solar system takes a speedy vacation around the universe

The beginning of summer is on the horizon later this month. Among the things associated with this particular season are the dominance of the Sun and family vacations.

The Sun has been in a period of increased solar activity since late 2024 which is part of a cycle that occurs about every 11 years. This solar maximum period is predicted to peak in July. This maximum activity period can result in increased numbers of sunspots, flares, auroras and geomagnetic storms that can disrupt communications, power grids and satellite systems. A major solar flare recently (June 1) caused auroras to be visible much further south than usual. There may be more to come this summer.

The heat of the summer sun is a good reminder of its power. Our star, like all stars, is a gigantic ball of hydrogen and helium held together by its gravity. The Earth is in an almost perfect orbital relationship with the Sun. If Earth was 10 % closer to the Sun it would be too hot for most life, and if it was 10% farther from the Sun it would be frozen. Astronomers call Earth's well-placed orbit the Goldilocks Zone. Consider also that a bowl the size of the Sun would hold 1.3 million Earths.

As families move about the planet on vacations, the Earth itself is on the move. The Earth spins at about 1000 miles per hour and orbits the Sun moving at a speed of 67,000 miles per hour. One day of orbital travel amounts to about 24,900 miles. So, if you need a low budget vacation this year, just get comfortable on the porch or patio and enjoy the ride on your planetary spaceship.

Earth's cosmic motion and speed does not end with its motion around the Sun. Our Solar System moves along in the swirl of the Milky Way Galaxy at a leisurely 450,000 miles per hour (it takes about 230 million years to make a complete go around). The Milky Way itself is moving toward the mysterious "Great Attractor" (astronomers are not sure what it is) at a speed of about 325 miles per second. It is a wild ride across the universe.



Where To Find A Copy of the Diamond:

People's Pharmacy Cash Saver C-Stop Tobacco & More EZ Mart

2 3 5 9 8 2 5 3 8 6 4 3 5 6 8 9 1 5 3 8 4 3 6 8 2 5 9 7 4 3 2 5 9 6 7 4 1 8 2 3 8 4 6 9 3 5 8 9 6 1 9 6 8

DEVELOPMENT Continued from Page 3

at attracting new business, as such PCEDC must collaborate with educational institutions to create training programs that align with industry needs, ensuring businesses have access to skilled workers.

The group will also seek to ensure financial tools are available, including tax incentives, grants, low-interest loans, and publicprivate partnerships that can support business growth and attraction. It was also stated that the PCEDC will need to create and monitor an economic analysis capabilities to track metrics like job growth, wage levels, business starts/ closures and industry trends to measure progress and adjust strategies.

Sorrells stated that the county must work together for any plan to ultimately have success.

"Strong partnerships between government, business, education, and community organizations create the collaborative environment needed for economic success."

The public has been invited to be a part of the process

"We cordially invite you to become a valued member of the Pike County Economic Development Commission and attend our monthly meetings. As a collaborative alliance of forward-thinking businesses and dedicated citizens, our PCEDC is committed to fostering sustainable economic growth and enhancing quality of life throughout Pike County," said

The PCEDC will commence the development of our Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy on July 7 in the Kirby school cafeteria at 6 p.m.

"We ask for your participation and valuable input to ensure this strategic plan is authentically representative of Pike County residents' needs and aspirations. Your contributions are

essential to shaping the economic future of our community," said Sorrells.

It was stated that for those who wish to be a real part of the process, membership in the PCEDC offers unique opportunities to shape our region's economic future through strategic initiatives, networking with key stakeholders, and access to specialized resources designed to support business expansion and workforce development.

"Whether you represent an established enterprise seeking new growth avenues, an emerging venture with innovative ideas, or are a citizen passionate about community prosperity, your perspective and participation are essential to our collective success," Sorrells stated. "Join us in building a vibrant, resilient economy that benefits all members of our county. Together, we can transform challenges into opportunities and create lasting prosperity for generations to

Ultimately, the group will seek to hire an executive director, who will serve and represent the county in a full-time capacity. While the county, municipalities in the county and involved businesses/individuals will have to accrue the money to pay the executive director's salary, Cossatot Community College will partner with the PCEDC in paying that person's

To get more information on becoming a member, or on the PCEDC as whole, visit any of the board members listed below or email edcpikeco@gmail.com.

The PCEDC is comprised of president Johnny Plyler of Glenwood, vice-president Sorrells of Glenwood, secretary/treasurer Phil Terrell of Murfreesboro, Darwin Hendrix of Antoine, Becky Frazier of Daisy, Scott Howard of Delight and Karen Barlow, representing unincorporated Pike County.

PIKE COUNTY PUBLIC RECORD $\diamond\diamond\diamond\diamond\diamond\diamond\diamond\diamond\diamond\diamond\diamond\diamond\diamond$

DOMESTIC RELATIONS

DR-25-22 -- Tresa Hill, vs. Timothy Hill, di-

DR-25-23 -- Cecil White, vs. Karen White, divorce, May 2

DR-25-24 -- Kelsey Johnson, vs. Matthew Oliver, order of protection, May 5

DR-25-25 -- Randi Lamb, vs. Jeffery Cox, divorce, May 8

DR-25-26 -- Trista Francis, vs. James Sample, divorce, May 9

DR-25-27 -- Morgan Morrow, vs. Nickolas Lockeby, order of protection, May 14 DR-25-28 --Christina Fugitt, vs. Dakota

Stinnett, divorce, May 19 DR-25-29 -- Breanna Stevens, vs. Benjamin

Stevens, order of protection, May 20 DR-25-30 -- Benjamin Stevens, vs. Breanna Stevens, divorce, May 29

CV-25- 29 -- Kaylynn Babbitt, civil-other, April 21

CV-25-30 -- Discover Bank, vs. Israel Delatova, debt collection, April 24

CV-25-31 -- HW, vs. AR CADC, administrative appeal, April 24

CV-25-32 -- Crown Asset Management LLC., vs. Chad Hughes, debt collection, April 30

CV-25-34 -- LVNV Funding, vs. Freela Hudson, civil-other, May 7

CV-25-35 -- Crown Asset Management, vs. Robert Cogburn, civil-other, May 8

CV-25-36 -- Credit Acceptance Corp., vs.

Pasty House, contract-other, May 13 CV-25-37 -- Credit Acceptance Corp, vs. Drew and Sativa Hensley, contract-other, May

CV-25-38 -- Credit Acceptance Corp., vs. Cody Grinnis, contract-other, May 21

CV-25-39 -- Credit Acceptance Corp, vs. Jessica Perez, contract-other, May 22

CV-25-40 -- Citibank NA., vs. Steven Forrest, debt collection, May 23

MARRIAGE LICENSE

Gazmir Arshi, 34, Glenwood; Elizabeth Paige Cowart, 35, Glenwood, May 12

Richard Robert Owens, 20, Kirby; Monica Elizabeth Herring 21, Glenwood, May 16

Collan Rex Lee, 31, Gurdon; A;ocoa Nicole Lee, 31, Murfreesboro, May 21

Joshua Franklin Huffman, 31, Murfreesboro; Mikalyn Lee Wenner, 25, Royal, May 23

Christopher Glen Gates, 41, Murfreesboro; Tabatha Dianne Smith, 41, Murfreesboro, May

Anthony P. Paul, 57, Casa Grande AZ.; Joann CV-25-33 -- Cameron Reeves, name change, M. Moreno, 49, San Antonio, Texas, June 2

AGFC announces free fishing weekend statewide this Friday through Sunday

LITTLE ROCK -- Arkansas State Parks invites you to join us for Arkansas Free Fishing Weekend from noon on Friday, June 6, until Sunday evening, June 8.

Our state parks provide access to 12 rivers and 29 lakes, making Arkansas a renowned destination that draws anglers for unparalleled opportunities for both seasoned anglers and weekend adventurers. With clear waters and well-managed habitats, The Natural State stands out as one of the nation's top destinations for exceptional fishing experiences.

Whether casting for bass or trolling for stripers, you'll find exciting fishing adventures in our parks. Full-service marinas and boat docks are available, offering boat rentals, fishing supplies, fuel and more for your convenience. Free Fishing Weekend is made possible by a proclamation by Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders.

Free Fishing Weekend, sponsored by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, is an annual event in June that allows everyone in the state, both residents and non-residents, to fish without the need for a license or trout stamp. While all daily limits and fishing regulations remain enforced, the license requirement will be waived from noon on June 6 until 11:59 p.m. on June 8.

"Arkansas Free Fishing Weekend is a fantastic opportunity for families, friends and nature enthusiasts to reconnect with the great outdoors and experience the thrill of fishing in The Natural State," said Shea Lewis, secretary of Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism. "Whether casting a line from the shore of a tranquil lake or wading through a babbling stream, Arkansas offers endless possibilities for unforgettable fishing adventures."

Arkansas State Parks facilitate access to these natural wonders, providing fishing opportunities in numerous lakes statewide, including Lake Greeson at Daisy State Park. Famous for its clean, clear water. It offers anglers stripers, black bass, crappie, bream, catfish and small-

For more information about Arkansas Free Fishing Weekend events and fishing opportunities in The Natural State, please visit ArkansasStateParks.com.

Share your big fish catches with Arkansas State Parks on social media this weekend! Tag your photos with #ARStateParks for a chance to be featured.



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MURFREESBORO SENIOR ADULT CENTER LUNCH MENU

MONDAY, JUNE 9

Chicken sandwich, potato wedges, red cabbage slaw, lettuce & tomato, cookie

TUESDAY, JUNE 10

Beef macaroni casserole, roasted potatoes, green beans, mixed green salad, brownie

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11

BBQ chicken, mac & cheese, glazed carrots, kale slaw, frosted spice cake

Lunch served at 11:30 a.m. For more information (870) 285-2312. Open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 8 a.m. Carry out is now available for \$6.00

'Dear Preacher'

By Buddy Ray, Murfreesboro Church of Christ

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE?

It is a popular saying, "We are what we eat." It is more certainly true, however, "As a man thinks in his heart, so is he." There is disagreement among translators as to whether Proverbs 23:7 says that, but in any case, it is true. Jesus says, "For out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks. The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil." (Matthew 12:34-35).

Whatever is in a bucket



is what spills out when the bucket is jolted. What spills out of us when life jolts us is that with which our minds and hearts are filled. Jesus said, "For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder,

adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander" (Matthew 15:19).

Want to fill your or your children's hearts with violence, lying, killing and approval of all kinds of sexual sins? Then watch television and set your children watching it for hours on end. What goes in affects both what comes out and what one is.

May each of us fill our hearts and minds with those things we learn from God's word. God be with you as we begin another week in service

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Rather Retirement Kecpetion



The world (and Delight) looked totally different in May of 1987 when Cathy Hendrix started working at the "biggest little bank in Arkansas." Shoppers could get a dozen eggs for less than a dollar, a gallon of milk for a little more than a dollar, and a gallon of gas for \$1.15. Cathy began as a secretary in the loan department-answering phones, waiting on customers in the lobby, preparing the monthly board minutes, and figuring loan calculations and credit life by hand. When Rusty Silvey joined the bank, she received a loan calculator. As technology changed in the banking industry, she rolled with the changes. She went to UACCH and took Microsoft Office classes-she flew to Minnesota for loan processing training. She never once took a vacation during the week prior to or the week of the board meeting. In the 38 years that she has worked at the Bank of Delight, her coworkers and employers have stood by her through countless good times and not so great times-she divorced and remarried becoming Cathy Rather, she buried her parents, she welcomed all of her grandchildren into the world. Her colleagues became family as well-in fact, she baby-sat current bank president Vince Grimes when he was a little boy. As the world changed, she was a constant smiling face at the bank. Regardless of what was happening in her personal life, she exuded professionalism at every turn. Cathy's attention to detail and knowledge of the loan policies and procedures made her a valuable employee; but more importantly her empathy and kindness to everyone is what will be remembered. Please join us in celebrating the well-earned retirement of Cathy from the Bank of Delight on June 13, 2025 from 9-11 a.m.

Trinity Missionary Baptist Church

Hwy 27 N. Murfreesboro

Worship 11 a.m.
Sun. Eve. 5 p.m.
Wed. Bible study & Prayer Meeting 6 p.m. Facebook services on Sunday at 10:45 a.m. & 5 p.m.

Bro. Curtis Abernathy

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Bank of Delight 503 E. Antioch St. Delight

(870) 379-2293



Murfreesboro church of Christ

305 S. Second Ave.

Sun. Bible Study 9:30 • Worship 10:20 Sun. eve. 6 p.m. • Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m. Radio Broadcast B99.5 @ 8:30 a.m.

Bro. Buddy Ray

Attend Church This Sunday!

OT TIME OF THE RAPINATE TO STE INCLUDED?

email us at mdfamond@windstream.net

MHS baseball announces postseason awards list

MURFREESBORO -- The Murfreesboro Rattler baseball program announced their postseason recognition list for the 2025 season.

The Rattlers finished the recent season with a 23-10 record, 7-2A conference champion and a semi-finalist in the recent Class 2A state tour-

Baseball athletes named to post-season honors included:

- Brody Maroon -- 2A All-Conference, 2A All-State, 2A-7 Outstanding pitcher of the year
- Lathan Compton -- 2A All-Conference
- Laytan Wilcher -- 2A All-Conference, 2A All-State, 2A-7 Outstanding infielder of the
- Cameron Stevens -- 2A All-Conference • Kale Burns -- 2A All-Conference, 2A All-Region
 - Kooper Caldwell -- 2A All-Conference
- Isaac Kuykendall -- 2A All-Conference, 2A All-Region, 2A All-State Tournament team
- Carter Gilmer -- 2A All-Conference, 2A All-
 - Alex Bonner -- 2A All-Conference

Education, caution key to avoiding Arkansas' six venomous snake species

BY REBEKAH HALL

U of A System Division of Agriculture

LITTLE ROCK -- Whether enjoying the Natural State on land or by water this summer, it's important to keep an eye out for Arkansas' six native venomous snake species — and to educate yourself on how to avoid them.

Shannon Caldwell, 4-H Center program director for the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture, said learning about the state's 39 native snake species can help Arkansans better enjoy their time outside.

"The best thing to do is learn about these snakes because the more you learn, the better you can understand which are venomous and which are not," Caldwell said. "If you know that snakes don't want anything to do with you, that's going to cut down on your fear response. But if you don't educate yourself, and you feel like every snake is potentially harmful, then that cuts into your enjoyment of being outside."

Of the 39 native snake species, the six venomous species include the Eastern Copperhead, Northern Cottonmouth, Western Diamondbacked Rattlesnake, Western Pygmy Rattlesnake, Timber Rattlesnake and Texas Coral snake. For a guide on identifying these species and more information about native snakes, visit the Cooperative Extension Service's Snakes of Arkansas web page.

Caldwell also recommends the Herps of Arkansas website, which offers an identification guide for amphibians and reptiles in the state, including both harmless and venomous snakes. When hiking or traveling on Arkansas' many waterways, awareness is key.

"Snakes are going to be where they can find food and shelter," Caldwell said. "If there's going to be rodents in an area, there's potentially going to be things that want to eat rodents there, snakes included."

Take the following steps to practice snake

- Make sure your path is well lit and has little ground cover, where snakes may be easily seen. If walking at night, use a light source to brighten the path.
- Never step over logs or other obstacles unless you can see the other side.
- Always look with caution. "Don't just blindly stick your hand somewhere," Caldwell said. "Wear gloves to protect yourself or take a stick or pole to help you flip something over, so you're not putting yourself at risk."
- Make noise and carefully watch where you
- Wear close-toed shoes or boots. Many snakebites result from going barefoot or wearing sandals outside.

Caldwell said most snake bites result from accidents — such as stepping on a camouflaged snake — or from people trying to handle a

"When you encounter a snake, the best response is to avoid it," Caldwell said. "Try to take a different path, especially if you don't know what type of snake it is. It's probably headed in a certain direction, so let it go and do your best to stay out of its way."

Caldwell recommended staying on the established path, if walking on a trail, as the path is "there for a reason, so you can enjoy those settings in a more controlled way." She said this can also help with avoiding other animals, insects and arachnids, including ticks.

If enjoying the water in a canoe, kayak or tube, "you might have less control over your path, so it's important to learn about your surroundings," Caldwell said. "Try to avoid areas where snakes like to take shelter, such as the trees along the shore, or places where it would be convenient for something to hide. While looking ahead to avoid water obstacles, watch for overhanging limbs and maneuver carefully around them."

SNAKEBITE TREATMENT

If bitten by a venomous snake — or if you're unsure of the type of snake — seek immediate

"Don't try to bring the snake with you to the hospital," Caldwell said. "Most of us have a camera in our pocket, so try to get a picture of it if you can, but don't feel like you have to pause care to identify the snake. Once you get to the medical facility, they will be able to look at the wound and provide the right care."

- Remain calm, so as not to increase blood circulation and spread venom more quickly through the body.
- Remove rings, watches, shoes and other restrictive clothing near the bite.
- Call ahead, if possible, to alert medics or call your local emergency medical facility if you need transportation.
- Keep the bite area immobilized as much as possible.
- Do not apply ice, do not make cuts, and do
- not apply a tourniquet. Clean the bite with soap and water. Cover

it loosely with a clean, dry bandage. Caldwell said that if you are bitten by a snake that you're sure is nonvenomous, treat the bite as you would any other bite, scrape or cut.

If hiking in a more remote area, Caldwell said it's important to prepare for emergencies by taking a wilderness first aid course.

"If you're going to be spending time in our beautiful state away from close medical care, then you need to make it a priority to take a wilderness first-aid class so that you have the knowledge of what to do," Caldwell said. "The regular first aid that many of us learn is designed with the expectation that you have access to close medical care. Wilderness first aid is unique, because it centers on the reality of being far away from a doctor or hospital. It's all about education."

All native snakes, including venomous snakes, are protected by law. It is illegal to kill snakes in Arkansas unless they pose an immediate threat to people, pets or property. The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission enforces regulations which prohibit killing nongame

Wilderness First Aid courses are available through the American Red Cross. The C.A. Vines Arkansas 4-H Center also hosts a Wilderness First Aid course through the National Outdoor Leadership School every two years.

To report nuisance wildlife, such as snakes in your home or yard, call the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's nuisance wildlife hotline at 833-345-0315 and visit agfc.com/education/nuisance-wildlife.

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

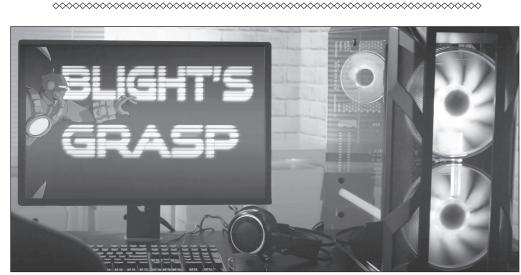


REPRESENTING THE RATTLERS ... Rattler graduated senior Brody Maroon participated in the Red River Fellowship of Christian Athletes All-Star Football showcase last week. The FCA event between Arkansas and Texas was held in Texarkana, with team members were chosen from schools in Arkansas and northeast Texas. The Arkansas team won the game by a 21-0 score. Maroon (pictured above) is accompanied in the photo by Rattler coach Buddy Ray and former Rattler coach Brad Chesshir.





WANTED BY AUTHORITIES ... Shana Pickrell (right) and Andrew Pipkins (left) of Kirby are being sought by the Pike County Sheriff's Office for alleged fraudulent use of a credit card and financial identity fraud totaling \$65,000.



SAU STUDENTS LAUNCH GAME ... Southern Arkansas University's Game Development program proudly announces the official release of Blight's Grasp, an immersive student-developed action game now available on Steam. Play Blight's Grasp on Steam: https://store.steampowered. com/app/3470150/Blights_Grasp/. The game drops players into a fast-paced, alien world where they must battle corrupted creatures, master elemental abilities, and unravel the mystery behind a planet in decay -- all while on a desperate quest to find the protagonist's missing sister. SAU invites the community and gaming enthusiasts everywhere to support these rising developers by playing, reviewing, and sharing Blight's Grasp.

Women artists sought for registry

LITTLE ROCK -- The Arkansas Committee of the National Museum of Women in the Arts (ACNMWA) is accepting applications for its biennial Juried Artist Registry of Arkansas women artists. The application is available on the ACNMWA website at www.acnmwa.org/ programs/juried-artist-registry. The deadline to apply is July 31, and there is a \$20 entry fee.

The application is open to all artists who are residents of Arkansas at the time of application. The registry will be featured on the ACNWMA website from October 2025 to October 2027.

ACNMWA devotes significant consideration to the selection of its invited juror for the Juried

Artist Registry. Serving as juror for the 2025-2027 registry is Carey Voss, Curator of Exhibits at the Historic Arkansas Museum in Little Rock. Voss holds a Bachelor of Arts from Hendrix College and a Master of Fine Arts in Paint-

The 2023-2025 Artist Registry is online at

Founded in 1989, ACNMWA is a nonprofit volunteer organization that highlights the ac-

Pair faces felony drug charges

MURFREESBORO -- Felony drug charges have been filed in Pike County against two people following undercover operations by the 9th West Drug Task Force.

Charles Christ, 63, of Glenwood, was charged May 28 with delivery of methamphetamine. Christ pleaded innocent to the charge Monday and his bond was set at \$50,000 with a Sept. 29 pretrial date.

Christ allegedly sold methamphetamine during a controlled narcotics investigation involving confidential informants at his home on Opal Street in Glenwood.

Sandra Kay Jarvis, 68, of Amity, was charge June 2 with delivery of a controlled substance (adderall). Jarvis allegedly sold an undercover agent 60 pills for \$300.

Jarvis was arrested June 2 and has yet to make a court appearance and remains in county custody, as of Tuesday morning.

MAY 30 COURT

John D. Allen, 26, of Saratoga, entered a guilty plea in Howard County May 28 on Pike County charges of possession of marijuana and Oxycodone pills and probation revocation.

He was sentenced to six years in the Arkansas Department of Corrections (ADC) and had his probation extended for an additional year.

JUNE 2 COURT

Jeremy Rankins, 44, of Murfreesboro, pleaded guilty to the charge of delivery of a controlled substance and was sentenced to 15 years in the ADC with five years suspended.

Michael Griffith, 38, of Caddo Gap, pleaded guilty to the charge of possession of drug paraphernalia and was sentenced to three years in the ADC with three suspended.

Christopher Gibson, 43, of Murfreesboro, pleaded guilty to the charge of fleeing and was sentenced to three years in the ADC with three years suspended.

Carlton A. Breazeale, 42, of Murfreesboro pleaded guilty to an amended charge of possession of firearms by certain persons and was sentenced to four years in the ADC with two years suspended.

Cameron Stevens, 21, of Amity, pleaded "true" to violating the terms of his probation and was sentenced to 120 days in the county jail and six years of probation.

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ing from American University. www.acnmwa.org/artists-23-25.

complishments of Arkansas women artist. For more information on NMWA, visit

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Land is Located approx. 4 mls. East of Murfreesboro AR. on HWY. 26 LIVE WEBCAST from our Office in Glenwood THURSDAY JUNE 5th at 11 AM

80± Acres Vacant Land SELLING LIVE and ONLINE from our OFFICE located at 275 HWY 70 East in Glenwood Arkansas. We will Offer (2) 40± Tracts and All Together. Great place to run Cattle, Hunt, Off Grid Living, Camping and many other endless opportunities. Get your friends together and come to the Auction or Bid Online before there is no land to lease or buy. Close to the Crater of Diamonds State Park and Lake Greeson Little over an Hour to Hot Springs and Texarkana.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PIKE COUNTY, ARKANSAS

MURFREESBORO NURSING CENTER, a limited

DEFENDANTS

RELIANT MANAGEMENT GROUP, LLC and STATE OF ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES and INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

NOTICE OF COMMISSIONER'S SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that in pursuance of the authority and directions contained in the Decretal Order of Circuit Court of Pike County, made and entered on the 24th day of April, 2025, in case number 55V-24-95 then pending therein the case of Chambers Bank v. Murfreesboro Nursing Center, a limited liability company, et al, the undersigned, as Commissioner of said Court, will offer for sale at public venue to the highest bidder, on the 1st Floor Lobby of the Pike County Courthouse located at #1 Courthouse Square, Murfreesboro, AR 71958, in which said Court is held, at 10:00 a.m. on June 24, 2025, the following described real estate in

A part of Lots 1201 and 1203 Washington Street, all of Lots 1205 and fractional Lot 1301 Washington Street, all of Fractional Lots 1301 and 1302 School Street, all of Lots 1203, 1205 and 1206 School Street, a part of Lots 1202 and 1204 School Street and a portion of adjoining and abutting street described as follows: Beginning 52.0 feet North of the Southeast corner of Lot 1201 Washington Street; thence West 82.0 feet to a point in abandoned M.D. & G Railroad right - of- way; thence with said Railroad right -of- way South 24 degrees 00 minutes West 50.5 feet; thence South 15 degrees 00 minutes West 17.5 feet to a point in the center of 12th street; thence West 152.0 feet; thence North 94.2 feet; thence West 100.0 feet; thence North Street; thence South 148.5 feet to the Northeast corner of Physician's Building Site; thence West 159.8 feet; thence South 85.1 feet to the Southwest corner of Pharmacy Building Site; thence East 159.8 feet; thence South 15.0 feet to the POINT OF BEGGING. All within the Washington Street and a part of Lot 1202 School Street described as follows: Beginning at the Southeast corner of Lot 1201 Washington Street; thence North 67 feet, more or less, to the Southeast corner of Pharma-Cald Pharmacy, Inc. Property for the POINT OF BEGINNING; thence West 159.8 feet; thence South 15 feet; thence East 159.8 feet; thence North 15 feet to Arkansas, as per plat recorded in Book "P" at page 410 of the Deed Records of Pike County,

Subject to covenants, easements and right of way, if any

TERMS OF SALE: On a credit of thirty (30) days, the purchaser being required to execute a bond as required by law and the Order and Decree of said Court in said cause, with approved security, bearing interest at the rate of ten percent (10%) per annum from date of sale until paid, and a lien being retained on the premises sold to secure the payment of the purchase money. Should any successful bidder fail to perform under the instructions of the Commissioner at time of sale, then that bid shall be void and set aside. The Commissioner thereafter shall find that the subject property be awarded to the next successive highest bidder, until performance rendered. Purchaser shall be responsible for any taxes or assessments due on the Property.

Given under my hand this 12th day of May 2025.

The sale is made subject to any and all stipulations made in the Decretal Order filed of record on the 24^{th} day of April, 2025. The Commissioner does not warrant title, boundary lines, taxes and or improvements, if any, on this property or properties in Pike County, Arkansas.

Case No. 55CV-24-95

liability company and

Pike County, Arkansas, to wit:

223.0 feet to the Northwest corner of Lot 1301 School Street being a point in Highway No. 19; thence East along Highway No. 19 366.0 feet to the Northeast corner of Lot 1301 Washington town of Murfreesboro and conforming as near as possible to Plat of E 1/2 SW 1/4 of Section 8, Township 8 South, Range 25 West recorded in Deed Book "P," Page 410 of Deed Recorders of Pike County, Arkansas, LESS AND EXCEPT the following described tract; Part of Lot 1201 the POINT OF BEGINNING; being a part of Kelly's Addition to the town of Murfreesboro,

(hereinafter referred to as "Property").

DELIGHT AND MURFREESBORO CEMETERIES RECENTLY

Raid shuts down Hot Springs massage parlor

Griffin: 'I am committed to shutting down these hotbeds of human trafficking and Chinese criminal interference in our way of life'

LITTLE ROCK - Attorney General Tim Griffin issued the following statement announcing the results of a raid at AI Massage in Hot

"On May 22, investigators from my office conducted a raid at AI Massage at 3954 Central Avenue in Hot Springs. Our operation was based on intelligence indicating that the massage parlor was facilitating prostitution and enabling human trafficking.

During the operation, more than \$22,000 in American cash was seized, as was currency from Turkey, Thailand, and Colombia. About 100 unused condoms were confiscated, along with what is believed to be a home remedy to treat sexually transmitted infections, which implies there was sexual activity occurring at the

No arrests have been made at this time, but suspects have been identified, and our investigation is ongoing. Three individuals, all Chinese nationals, were provided victim services by victim advocate groups. One of the victims shared that she came to the United States through Mexico, responding to an online ad in China for work in the United States not of a sexual nature.

This operation stems from intelligence gathered during Operation Obscured Vision, an effort my office coordinated in January with local law enforcement agencies targeting suspected illicit massage parlors in multiple locations throughout the state.

I am committed to shutting down these hotbeds of human trafficking and Chinese criminal interference in our way of life.

I am grateful for the invaluable cooperation

of the Hot Springs Police Department, 18th East

Judicial District Prosecuting Attorney Michelle

Lawrence, Arkansas State Police, Into the Light,

and the Northwest Arkansas Center for Sexual

Assault's REACH program. I will update the

Obscured Vision in January, raids on illicit

massage parlors this year have now led to six

arrests, two additional warrants issued, and

SIMIAILIL AIDS

Combining with the results of Operation

public on this case as it develops."

confiscations.

SABRINA WILLIAMS, COMMISSIONER (j.c.r. 728w., 47,48)

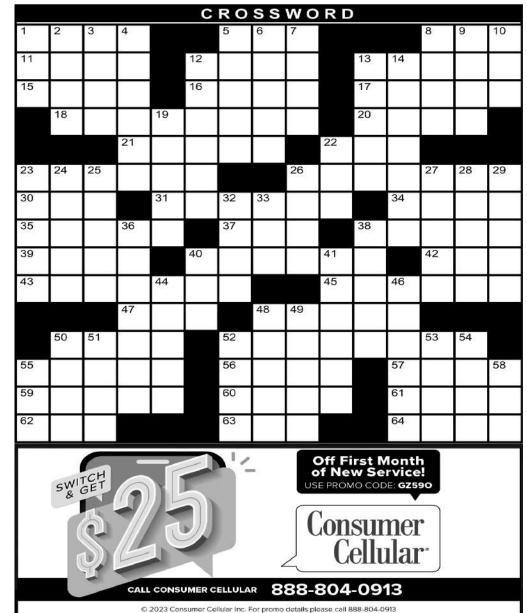
FATHER'S DAY

* -- Theme Related Clue

ACROSS

- 1. Home to Taj Mahal
- 5. Centum weight, acr.
- 8. Psychedelic drug, acr.
- 11. Elephant trainer's poker 12. *Ned Stark's youngest daughter
- 13. Draw out a conclusion
- 15. Parks of Civil Rights fame
- 16. Toothy wheel
- 17. Birth-related
- 18. *Pinocchio's father 20. Fortune-telling coffee remnant
- 21. Religious doctrine
- 22. D.C. mover and shaker, abbr.
- 23. Assembled
- 26. Raidable hotel room amenity
- 30. Evergreen creeper
- 31. "Fasten" a shoe (2 words)
- 34. Nay, to a baby
- 35. Dryer accumulation, pl.
- 37. Expose to moisture
- 38. White heron
- 39. Sodium hydroxide 40. Same as battle-ax
- 42. UN labor grp.
- 43. Like localized disease
- 45. Crab's grabber
- 47. Catcher in the what? 48. Food-borne bacteria 50. Begone!
- 52. *"Fathers and Sons" author
- 55. Not expensive 56. Medicinal plant
- 57. Joie de vivre
- 59. Batu Khan's posse
- 60. *Fils' father 61. Chicken of the sea
- 62. *Tarzan's adoptive dad
- 63. Before, poetically 64. Big Bang's original matter

- **DOWN**
- 1. Financing acronym
- 2. Hot rum drink 3. *Official flower of Father's Day
- 4. Adjusts
- 5. Minotaur's island
- 6. *Kurt Russell's son of "Thunderbolts"
 - 7. Tropical tuber
 - 8. Stringed instrument
 - 9. Slang for heroin
 - 10. Marina ____ Rey, CA 12. "To do" list
 - _ a high note"
- 14. *Fictional Mr. _ ___ who banished children's nanny to a doghouse
- 19. Banana refuse, pl.
 - 22. Gladys Knight's band member
- 23. *Christopher Robin's father A.A. _
- 24. Like certain flu
- 25. Church assembly
- 26. Speechless
- 27. Gabriel of Chile
- 28. Administer ceremonial oil
- 29. Chopper blade
- 32. Nile dweller, for short
- 33. Snake-like reef dweller
- 36. *Cormac McCarthy's post-apocalyptic father/son novel (2 words)
 - 38. Expatriate
 - 40. Dream in the sky 41. Climactic stage
 - 44. Nearsited one
 - 46. Degrees in right angle 48. Prolific Swiss mathematician
 - 49. Ten million, in India
 - 50. Mercantile establishment
 - 51. This location 52. Cassette contents
 - 53. Twelfth month of Jewish calendar
 - 54. Rooftop contraption
 - 55. Cuban dance step 58. "Platoon" setting, for short



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Inexpensive summer fun as easy as blowing bubbles MURFREESBORO -- Summer is the perfect season for fami-

lies to reconnect, explore, and create lasting memories. But with the rising cost of activities, keeping children entertained without draining your wallet can feel like a challenge. The good news? Some of the best moments don't come with a price tag. With a little creativity and planning, you can fill your summer calendar with low- or no-cost adventures that deliver maximum fun.

Start by putting together two simple "What to Do" boxes—one labeled "Outside" and the other "Indoors." On index cards, write out different activities from the list below and place them in the appropriate box. Each day, a different family member can pick a card and lead the activity. It's a fun way to keep things spontaneous while avoiding the cost and hassle of last-minute planning.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES & OUTINGS

welcome visitors and give kids a chance to interact with animals. Explore a local fire station – Call ahead and schedule a tour; kids love the trucks and gear.

• Visit a farm, pet store, or local animal shelter – Many places

- Try kite flying, paper airplane races, or paper boat races Borrow books from the library with easy instructions to make your own.
- Go on a nature hike Take along a field guide or scavenger hunt list. Check out our State Parks website and click on the "Activities" tab to see what is scheduled throughout the summer.
- Plant a garden or container garden Watching seeds sprout teaches patience and responsibility. • Visit nature centers – Many run by the Department of Con-
- servation have hands-on exhibits and programs. Have your kids met the Daisy State Park turtles housed a the visitor's center? After you stop in to say hello to three-toed box turtles, Johnny and Willy, be sure to stop by the park's new playground. It is worth the drive.
- Check out free or reduced admission days at zoos and muse-

PIKE COUNTY EXTENSION EVA LANGLEY, FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES AGENT FAMILY • NUTRITION • FOOD SAFETY • FINANCE • FITNESS & HEALTH

ums – Plan ahead to take advantage of these.

- Camp in your backyard Pitch a tent, make s'mores, and tell stories under the stars.
- Host a neighborhood block party or picnic Make it a potluck and turn it into a community celebration. • Join Vacation Bible Schools or day camps – Many churches
- free or low-cost sessions filled with games and learning. Go swimming – We live in an area rich with lakes and rivers and streams just waiting for you and your family to take the
- Take a "family history tour" Walk around your community while sharing stories and visiting places important to your fam-
- Have sack races, peanut-on-a-spoon races, or egg races –

Old-fashioned games never go out of style. INDOOR CREATIVITY & LEARNING:

- Home cooking lessons Bake bread, churn homemade ice cream, or cook up a batch of a family favorite cookies. • Learn to knit or do needlework – Great for developing fine
- motor skills and patience. • Draw your dream house – Use a big sheet of paper and go
- all-out with detail and imagination. Take part in library reading programs and story times – In Pike County, we have three community libraries: Glenwood Bainum Library, Murfreesboro Library and Delight Library. Give

them a call to see what summer programs they have planned. • Put on a puppet show, play, or talent contest – Use old socks,

- stuffed animals, or just your imagination. • Write and illustrate your own story – Let kids bind it into a
- homemade book. • Have a board game day – Dig into old favorites or teach a
- Start a "Fair Entries" Box Fill it with the arts and crafts and homemade jams made over the summer and be ready to enter items in the Pike County Fair for some winning ribbons the first week of September.
- Go "treasure hunting" at garage sales Turn it into a mission to find the coolest item under \$5.

Summer doesn't need to be filled with amusement park trips or expensive camps to be magical. Whether it's making bubbles in the backyard, baking together, or discovering a new trail, these little moments will be the ones your children remember. Try out a few of these low-cost ideas this season—you may be surprised just how far your creativity, and a box of activity cards can take

One of the simplest joys of summer? Bubbles! Here are a couple of recipes you can make at home. The first one uses Glycerin, which can be found at drug stores and discount stores. The second one uses corn syrup instead of glycerin. Have fun!

BUBBLE MIX WITH GLYCERIN:

1 tbsp glycerin, 2 tbsp dish soap, 9 oz water

Mix ingredients together, pour into a shallow dish or bottles, grab your favorite bubble wand, and let the fun begin. Glycerin makes the bubbles sturdier and longer-lasting, which means fewer pops and more smiles.

BUBBLE MIX WITH CORN SYRUP

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3 cups of warm water, 1/2 cup dish soap and 2-3 Tbsp of corn

Mix everything together slowly, trying to make as few bubbles as possible while stirring.

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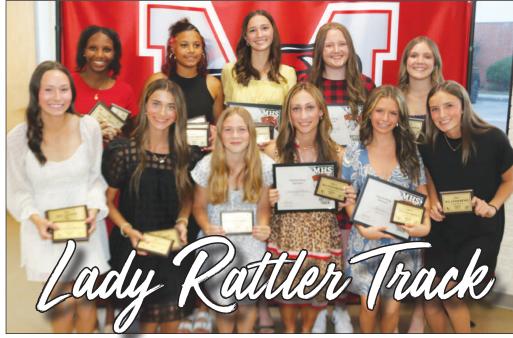
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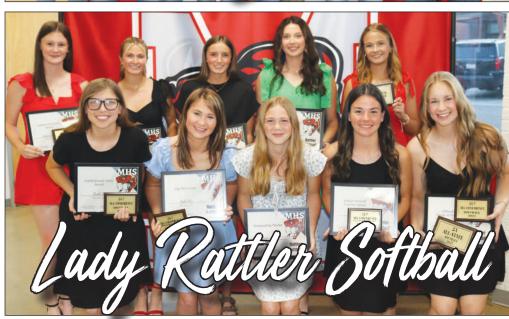
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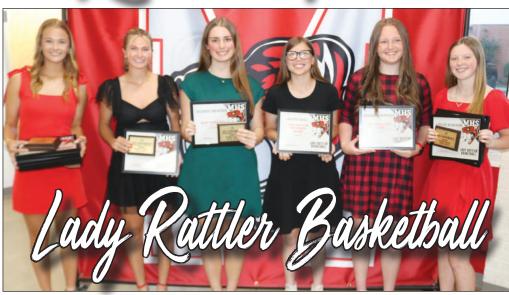






















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