





# OBITUARIES

**Amy Joy Campbell**  
Amy Joy Campbell, 38, of Delight, died June 5, 2025. She was born May 14, 1987, to Mick and Joyce Vitzthum in Hope. She was a pre-school teacher at Murfreesboro. Survivors include: her husband, Kevin Campbell; her children, Emma Joy, Asher Jordan, Kassidy Happy, Shelby Nicole and Madison Allyse; a brother, Andrew, and sister Katrina Potter; also grandchildren. Visitation was Sunday, June 8, 2025, at Latimer Funeral Home in Murfreesboro. A private family graveside service will be held at a later date. Online at [latimerfuneralhome.com](http://latimerfuneralhome.com).



**Patricia Ann Stone Elders**  
Patricia Ann Elders, 76, of North Little Rock, Ark., passed away June 3, 2025. She was born Aug. 1, 1, in Nashville, Ark., to Robert Vaughn Stone and Willie Mae Allen Stone. As a proud Scrapper, she graduated Class of 1966 from Nashville High School. She dedicated 36 years to Arkansas BlueCross BlueShield as a Financial Services Support Specialist where she was once presented with their Mom of the Year Award. She enjoyed traveling the world through her extensive postcard collection received from co-workers. She was a devoted 50+ year member of Rose City Assembly of God, now Embassy Church, where she served as Secretary for over 20 years. She also made many cherished friendships at Crystal Hill Assembly of God. The family is deeply grateful for all their support and prayers. She is preceded in death by her father Robert Vaughn Stone; two brothers, Bobby Stone and Billy Stone; great-granddaughter Reign Ann Culwell; mother-in-law Lillian Griffin Cochran; father-in-law Cecil Elder; sister-in-law Patricia Knowles Biggs. She is survived by her beloved husband of 56 years, Jim Elders; mother, Willie Mae Allen Stone; daughter, Pamela Ann Elders; grand-

daughter, Grace Ann Culwell; two great-grandchildren, Promise Anngel and Stone Asaiah Culwell; two sisters-in-law Jerlyn Stone of Nashville, Ark., and Valerie Shelby of Morrilton, Ark.; niece Heather Stone of Percy, Ark.; as well as numerous other relatives, church family and friends. Lifelong friend Kathleen Pittman held a special place in Pat's heart. Work bestie Carla Jones kept her Patty Cake going. The family expresses our heartfelt love and appreciation to you both. Special thanks is extended from the family to all of her caregivers at Lakewood Health and Rehab and CHI St. Vincent Sherwood Rehabilitation Hospital. Visitation will be Monday, June 9, 2025, from 5-7 p.m. at Griffin Leggett Rest Hills Funeral Home, 7724 Landers Road, North Little Rock, AR. Celebration of Life, Tuesday June 10, 2025, at 10 a.m. at Griffin Leggett Rest Hills Funeral Home with Charles M. Barnes and Terry Newman officiating. Burial will follow at Rest Hills Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Embassy Church, PO Box 17070, North Little Rock, AR 72117.



**Marilyn Louise Wells**  
Marilyn Louise Wells, retired age 76, of Mineral Springs, Ark., passed away Monday, June 2, 2025, in Murfreesboro, Ark., surrounded by her family. Marilyn was born Jan. 1, 1949, in Dayton, Ohio, to Robert Howard Martyne and Mary Louise Tyler Kerns. Entering the workforce in the 60's, she spent most of her years as a bus driver in Arizona and in Mineral Springs, Ark. Acquiring her CDL, proudly, in 1999, she worked as an OTR truck driver and also had her cosmetology license. Marilyn loved her family, her grand dogs, reading, knitting, and bossing those she loved around whenever she could. She had a special relationship and connection with her nephew Christopher Ruggles as well as her niece Candi Allmon who were with her until the end. Mari-

lyn loved her family fiercely but wanted to give a special thanks to those she showed so much appreciation for in her last months. She was thankful for this and the bond, especially with Nicole Ruggles, Scott Evans, and Elizabeth Evans along with Christopher and Candi. She is preceded in death by her parents as well as her siblings: Jackie Ruggles, James Kerns, Carl Kerns and nephew Jared Kerns. Survivors include: Two daughters, Leilani Seals of Lockesburg, Ark., and Wendi Wells of Mineral Springs, Ark. Two grandchildren, Bradley Suggs of New York and Nakisha Suggs of Oklahoma. Five siblings, Sammy, Ricky, and Teresa all of Mineral Springs, Ark., Bonnie and Laurie both of Arizona. Four great-granddaughters and one great-grandson. Along with nieces and nephews: Christopher, Mike, Crystal, Brent, Brad, Candi, Nicole, Josh K, April, Deanna, Samantha, Josh P, and Allen. As well as many great nieces and nephews and extended family. There will be a private memorial with family and close friends at a later date.

**Binh Nguyen**  
Binh Nguyen, 79, of Nashville diedn Thursday, June 12, 2025, in Hot Springs. Born Feb. 26, 1946, in Cam Lam, Vietnam, the son of the Dieu Nguyen and Soi Thi Le. He served in the South Vietnam Navy. He became an American citizen in 1994. Survivors include: his wife of 44 years, Kham Nguyen; three sons, Michael Nguyen of Conway; Floy Nguyen and wife Tabetha of Nashville; Vilavanh Nguyen of Sacramento, Calif.; a daughter, Sourikhan Nguyen of Nashville; also grandchildren. Visitation was Tuesday, June 17, from 6-8 p.m. at Latimer Funeral Home. A private memorial service will be held at a later date. **George Mickel Rezansoff**  
George Mickel (Georgie) Rezansoff, of Nashville, died June 13, 2025. He was born April 1, 1958, in Winnipeg, Canada, the son of George and Vera (Kowalchuk) Rezansoff. Survivors include: his wife, Wanda Clemons Rezansoff; two daughters, Samantha Rezansoff and Rachael Tolentino; also grandchildren. A private memorial service will be held at a later date. Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Latimer Funeral Home of Murfreesboro.



**JUNE'S JAM N' JELLIES.** For her first visit to the Farmers' Market in Nashville, last Friday, June Watson of Dierks brought exotic jellies she had made from wild rose and wild violet, in addition to jellies made from traditional fruit sources.



**A WIDE VARIETY.** Josh Tate of Nashville had a multitude of offerings at the Farmers' Market in Nashville, Friday, including shortbread cookies, blackberries and arugula. The market is open from 7-11.

## Honors lists at ASU includes students from area schools

JONESBORO – Students on the Chancellor's and Dean's Lists for the spring 2025 semester at Arkansas State University have been announced. The lists recognize undergraduate students who achieved the highest grade-point averages while completing a minimum of 12 credit hours of study. The Chancellor's List (designated as CL) includes students who earned a perfect GPA of 4.0. The Dean's List (designated as DL) includes students with a GPA of 3.6 to 3.99. Area students recognized included: Hempstead County Washington -- Ada-kay Banks (CL). Howard County Mineral Springs -- Diana Lagunas, CL; LaCole Richardson, DL. Nashville -- Rachel Barton, CL; Amber Burchette, CL; Emersen Gregory, CL; Karrisra Ragland, CL; Ahmelia Williamson, CL; Madison Gray, DL; Mackenzie Pack, DL; Ahniya Williamson, DL. VBS at Mineral Springs church will be from June 22-26 Central Baptist Church in Mineral Springs will host Vacation Bible School from Sunday, June 22-Thursday, June 26. Hours are 6-8 p.m. for children pre-K through 6th grade completed. The church is located at 128 N. Lewis, Mineral Springs. The public is invited. Ridgeway Baptist Church will host Vacation Bible School Vacation Bible School at Ridgeway Baptist Church will be from Monday, June 23 -- Thursday, June 26, from 6-8:30 p.m. The church is located at 912 Peachtree St., Nashville. To register a child go to [www.myvbs.org](http://www.myvbs.org) / RBCNashville. The public is invited.

## Teaching, crafts for adults also offered during New Life Church VBS

Vacation Bible School at New Life Church in Nashville will also feature some teaching and crafts for adults. The church is located at 913 S. Main. Hours will be 6:30-8:30 p.m., June 23-26. The public is welcome.

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**The Nashville News-Leader**  
The Nashville News-Leader (USPS # 023884) is published weekly by Nashville Leader, Inc., 418 North Main, Nashville, AR 71852. Periodicals postage is paid at Nashville, AR 71852.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to Nashville News-Leader, P.O. Box 205, Nashville, AR 71852.

Single issue price: \$1.00.

Subscription rates: Howard, Pike, Sevier, Hempstead and Little River counties, \$45 per year. Outside the five-county area, \$57 per year.

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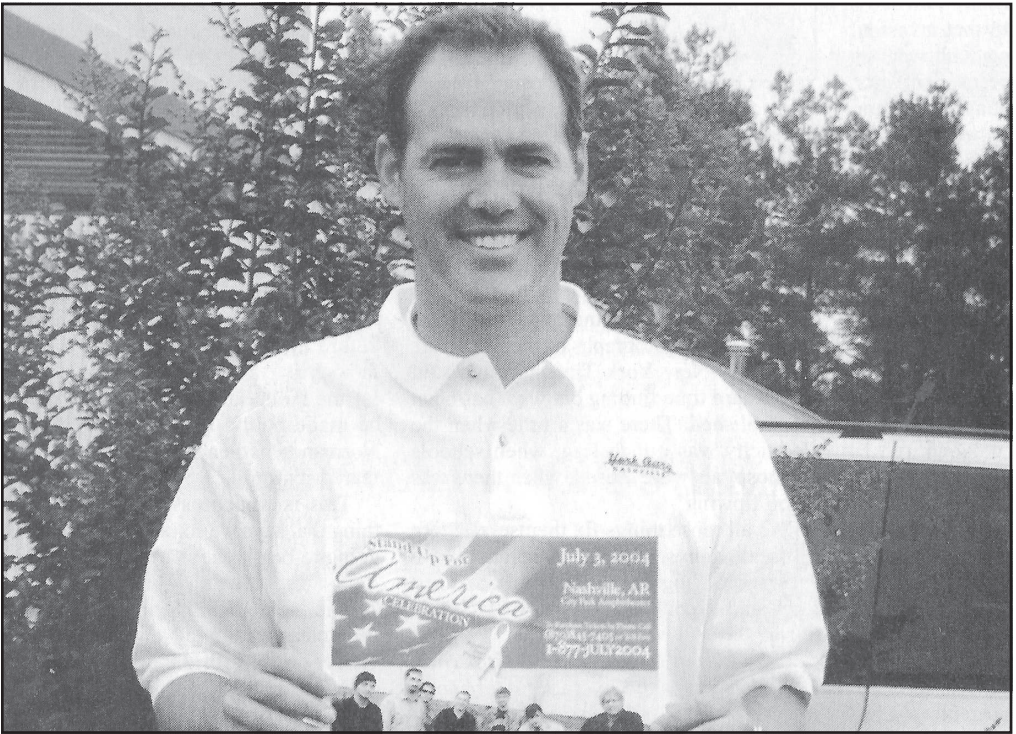


THE CECIL "BIRDDOG" HARRIS MEMORIAL

EARLY FILES

Tales from Howard County's history reprinted in honor of longtime staff historian and photographer, Cecil Harris.  
September 19, 1938 - December 15, 2012

Compiled by Patsy Young



York Gary Autoplex, Gary Dan Futrell owner, contributed \$5,000 to the 2004 Stand Up for America celebration in July.

**122 years ago: June 1903**  
M. L. Ferguson, a farmer who lives near Nashville, has been troubled a great deal as of late by rats in his barn. He called a few of his neighbors in Friday afternoon, and they threw the corn out of the crib and with their dogs they killed 92 big rats in a short while. Mr. Ferguson had previously killed about forty.

A shooting scrape occurred at Emmett, a small station on the Iron Mountain Railroad a few miles north of Hope, Wednesday morning in which Will Sutton was killed, and Andrew Johnson was shot in the arm. Both men were White and had families, and they lived in the same house.

**79 years ago: June 1946**  
County agents and labor supervisors from five adjoining countries met at the Nashville Court House last Thursday afternoon to organize for recruiting pickers for the July Elberta harvest. Peaches are perishable and must be picked at

the proper time.  
The rat population of the United States shot up during the war due to a shortage of chemicals for rodenticides and now we have over 25 million rats.

They do an annual average of 100 million dollars of damage to food and property exclusive of sickness and death caused by disease they spread.  
(Adv.) At the Liberty Theater Friday and Saturday, Allan Lane in "Trail of Kit Carson" plus chapter 2 of "King of the Forest Rangers."

**63 years ago: June 1962**  
Second Lieutenant Rea F. Graves of Mineral Springs, Arkansas, has arrived for a temporary duty tour at Philippine Islands Clark AB at this far East Outpost of the United States Air Force. Lt. Graves is an Air Force navigator permanently assigned to a tactical air command unit at Stewart AFB, Tennessee, and will return there upon completion of the tour.  
Little River near Wilton

claimed a drowning victim over the weekend. Joe Bivens, thirty-two-year-old Longview, Texas, vacationer, lost his life Sunday afternoon after rescuing two of his children. The children were wading in the river and apparently stepped into deep water. The father answered their cry for help and pushed the children toward the bank. He was pulled under by the speeding current. The children reached the shore safely. The mother and a five-month-old baby watched helplessly from the bank.

**42 years ago: June 1983**  
A Murfreesboro resident was seriously injured Saturday night in a one-car accident south of Saratoga. Don Sells, an Ashdown radio station announcer, was in the surgical intensive care unit of Wadley Hospital in Texarkana Monday morning.  
Sells reportedly suffered a broken hip, broken jaw, lost several teeth and was impaled on the floor shift of his car.

# Public Record of Howard County

Items or documents that were filed, issued or recorded at the Howard County, Ark., courthouse during the period June 5-11, 2025, unless noted otherwise:

**Marriage Licenses**  
(*Marriage licenses cost \$60 at the County Clerk's office*)  
June 5. Jonathan Odan Pugh, 21, Umpire, and April Madeline Clark, 18, Umpire.  
June 6. Cash William King, 22, Nashville, and Abigail Lane McMahan, 22, Magnolia.  
**Civil Court**  
CV25-65. June 7. Portfolio Recovery Associates vs. Ana Rodriguez. Debt.  
CV25-66, June 11. Arkansas Dept. of Finance & Administration vs. Kevin and Jennifer Smith. Register judgment.  
**Domestic Relations Court**  
DR25-51, June 5. Madison Brooks vs. Benjamin Brooks. Divorce.  
DR25-52, June 10. Jacob Cole-Allen Dinger vs. Dusty Marie Dinger. Divorce.  
DR25-53, June 10. State of Arkansas Office of Child Support Enforcement vs. Timothy Ross. Support.

**Criminal Court**  
(NOTE: POCS = possession of controlled substance; PODP = possession of drug paraphernalia; DOCS = delivery of controlled substance)  
CR25-56, June 9. State of Arkansas vs. Alexis Jarvier Garcia, 25, white/Hispanic male, 1216 Mine St., Nashville; rape, class Y felony.  
CR25-57, June 11. State of Arkansas vs. Nickolas Earl Lemons, 32, white male, 507 Jones Rd.; felon in possession of firearm, class D.

CR25-58, June 11. State of Arkansas vs. Marlon Montes Benson, 51, black male 1102 S. Hutchingson (sic), Nashville; DOCS, class Y.  
CR25-59, June 11. State of Arkansas vs. Gremyko Scoggins, Jr.; 34, black male, 512 N. 6th St., Nashville; furnishing prohibited articles, class B.  
CR25-60, June 11. State of Arkansas vs. Phillip Lain Janes, 35, white male, 306 Kolb Town Rd., Dierks;

terroristic act, class B; 1st degree criminal mischief, class D.

**Land/Property Transactions**  
**Quitclaim Deeds**  
June 5. Bobby Clint Turner and Charisse Arsolon: to Bobby Clint Turner; 2.116 ac. in S33 T10S R27W.  
June 9. Linda Sue Lenarduzzi and Roland Lenarduzzi, her husband; to James McAtee and wife, Linda McAtee; an undivided half interest in 20.52 ac. in S7 T10S R27W.  
**Executrix's Deed**  
June 9. Linda Sue Lenarduzzi, Executrix of the Estate of Wirta Faye McAtee, deceased; to James McAtee an undivided half interest in 20.52 ac. in S7 T10S R27W. \$8,500.  
**Beneficiary's Deeds**  
June 5. James R. Flenor, widower; to James Stanley Flenor and Charles David Flenor; aggregate 15.15 ac. in Tract 6-7 Dyer Home Place, S36 T5S R29W.

June 5. Mark Patrick Stapp; to Ronald Stapp; Lots 3-4, Block 5, Original Town of Dierks.  
June 9. Revocation of the Beneficiary Deed by Joan Williamson.  
**Redemption Deeds**  
June 6. State of Arkansas; to Courtney Clark, Prescott; Lot 4 and part of Lot 5, Block 11, Original Dierks, aka 506 Bock Ave., Dierks; delin-

quent taxes and penalties of \$1,214.01.  
June 10. State of Arkansas; to Kyle and Lisa Whisenhunt, Nashville; 1 ac. in S24 T8S R27W, aka 192 Nathan Road; delinquent taxes and penalties of \$312.54.  
**Warranty Deeds**  
June 6. (Special) Diamond Bank; to Loyd Woodruff and wife, Denise Woodruff; Lots 6-7 and part of Lot 5, Block 2, McCullough's Addition, Town of Mineral Springs; also aggregate 0.2 ac. in two other properties, part of Runnels St. \$19,000.  
June 9. Vicki Cook and Vince Cook, wife & husband; to Alayna Moore and Caleb Cook, Trustees of the Vince & Vicki Cook Irrevocable Trust; Lot 22, Cottonshed #2, Howard County.  
June 9. Joan Williamson; to Randall Slade Bissell; 3 ac. in S30 T7S R28W with exceptions. \$38,000.  
June 9. Michelle L. Ward, surviving spouse of Mitchell R. Ward; to Wendell Wayne Ward and Daniel Thomas Dupree, a married couple, tenants by the entirety; aggregate 0.5 ac. in S30 T7S R28W. \$13,000.  
June 10. Phillip Edward Efird and Karen Efird, Trustees of the Efird Family Revocable Trust; to Justin Lee Richison and Benjamin Lane Richison; 20 ac. in S34 T5S R29W with exceptions. \$160,000.

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in observance of


Juneteenth

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# Point of view

## Soldiers march

### My official critique of the Birthday Parade, protests

YES, I AM STILL HERE peeking out my window on Main Street, and as a military veteran, and as an alumnus of high school and college marching bands, I know something about marching smartly and ‘in step.’

We didn’t see it at the President’s military parade. I missed a lot of the parade, just as I missed a lot of the coverage of the “No Kings” protests around the country at the same time. I was doing something important -- having an adult libation on the patio while charring a piece of meat on the grill.

But I did get a glimpse of both the parade and the protests. I formed my opinion well before any of the tv ‘experts’ could weigh in with theirs, but they seemed to agree with me that the Army’s marching was not all that sharp.

In fact, I found myself saying “I hope these soldiers can fight better than they march.”

There was some property damage at one protest; none at the other two thousand. On the other hand there was no visible property damage along the mostly deserted route of Dear Leader’s Birthday Parade.

I did notice that Dear Leader was wearing one of his trademark red campaign caps, so that makes this a political event.

No doubt it was a very strange day that will one day be remembered in books if there are any books that have evaded censors.

Since I’m treading on sensitive issues, let me address one more. I believe that Robert Kennedy, Jr., is wrecking the National Institutes of Health, and we Americans will pay the price for many, many years. I am all for medical research.

I betcha RFK, Jr., couldn’t march smartly and in step with others, either.

God bless America!

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CONGRATULATIONS to the City of Mineral Springs for putting on a ‘Juneteenth’ celebration in that town’s city park.

One of the three keynote speakers, I noticed, was Skip Bell of Lockesburg who is high on my Hero List.

The MS celebration actually took place for convenience’s sake on Saturday, June 14, in Bridgeman Park.

The REAL ‘Juneteenth’ will be Thursday, June 19, which is a federal holiday commemorating President Lincoln’s announcement of the end of slavery. It is sometimes called Emancipation Proclamation Day. It actually commemorates the arrival of Union Troops in Galveston at the end of the Civil War and the subsequent proclamation that the slaves were freed.

These days I celebrate St. Paddy’s Day, Columbus Day, MLK Day, Cinco de Mayo, Independence Day and Juneteenth just like a good American. You can be a good American AND be proud of your roots.

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ANIMAL CRACKERS. Results are in and it’s a ‘Celebration,’ not dread. Mom and Pop Bluebird are again in the bluebird house. It didn’t take long for the mean ol’ mockingbird to return and make their feeding routine miserable.

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NOTICE THIS. Where would our nation be without immigrants? Well, you’d have to ask the Cherokee, the Caddo, the Apache, Navajo, etc.

My own ancestors came penniless from Ireland and Wales. I married a girl whose ancestors came from Scotland, and they were probably a bit leery to have a Welshman/Irishman join their line.

I am for protecting our borders. I’d like orderly admission and a chance to weed out some people.

It hasn’t been all that long since the Nashville Rotary Club had a night class to prepare immigrants to take the U.S. citizenship exam. As I recall, a rotation of Rotarians taught weekly classes at the ‘old’ elementary school on Fourth St. There were 12 adult students. At the end of the classes the group went to Memphis to take the exam. Eleven passed and swore the oath as new citizens.

Occasionally I see some men and women from that class.

Here’s a new story related to people identified as Hispanics: In the newspaper last week was a story about three kids from Howard County who were in the 2025 graduating class at the Arkansas School for Math, Science and the Arts.

Two from Nashville, and one from Mineral Springs. The coed from Mineral Springs was selected to give the student response speech at the commencement exercise.

All three students are Hispanics. Thank you for making America Great.

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MORE THINGS I LEARNED from the Universal Classroom of Life: “Reading gives us someplace to go when we have to stay where we are.”

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WORD GAMES. I love oxymorons: Jumbo Shrimp.

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HE SAID: “I have to tell you that J.S. Bach was easily the greatest musical innovator in the history of the world. He was so advanced for his time. There’s a spiritual depth to his music. You can listen to it and it’s like meditation.” Brian Wilson of the Beach Boys. RIP and thanks for the music

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SHE SAID: “We have to prove to the disinherited majority of the world that ecology and conservation will not work against their interest but will bring an improvement in their lives.” Indira Gandhi, twice served as Prime Minister of India; assassinated in office in 1984

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SWEET DREAMS, Baby

Mine Creek  
Revelations



By  
Louie Graves

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fully immunized, remember to get the booster shot.

Presented in the public interest by the Nashville News-Leader

## Tuition, fees to increase for 2025-26 at Arkansas colleges and universities

By State Sen. Jimmy Hickey Jr.

Tuition will increase at almost all Arkansas universities and colleges in the fall.

The University of Arkansas System Board of Trustees has approved tuition and fees for the school year that begins in the fall of 2025. The system comprises five four-year universities, several colleges in the medical school, an online university and eight two-year colleges. More than 70,000 students are enrolled. The system employs 28,000 people and has a total budget of more than \$4 billion.

A typical undergraduate at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville who takes 30 hours will see an increase of 3.89 percent. Tuition will go up 2.5 percent to \$8,092 and mandatory fees will increase 8.88 percent to \$2,404.

The University of Arkansas at Little Rock will increase fees by 1.93 percent, to \$3,161, and tuition for undergraduate residents will not change. The University of Arkansas at Monticello will see tuition increase from \$189 to \$194 per credit hour.

At the University of Arkansas

at Pine Bluff the cost of a credit hour will go from \$211 to \$219. The University of Arkansas at Fort Smith will increase tuition for the typical undergraduate from \$5,940 to \$6,600. Fees will go up from \$3,188 to \$3,226.

The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences will raise tuition by \$475 to \$17,475 at the College of Medicine. Tuition at the College of Pharmacy will remain \$10,428.

The Board of Trustees of the Arkansas State University System has also set new rates for tuition and fees at its campuses. The system has four-year universities - ASU in Jonesboro and Henderson State in Arkadelphia.

It has a two-year college in Beebe with campuses in Heber Springs, Searcy and the Little Rock Air Force Base. It has a two-year college in Newport with additional campuses in Marked Tree and Jonesboro. Also, the system has colleges in West Memphis, Mountain Home and Malvern.

The ASU system includes a campus in Queretaro, Mexico. In total, the system enrolls almost 35,000 students.

ASU at Jonesboro will raise

tuition and fees by 3.3 percent, to \$10,430.

Henderson State will raise tuition and fees 2.5 percent, to \$10,560. At both ASU-Newport and ASU-Beebe tuition and fees will be \$4,290, up 3.6 percent and 2.9 percent respectively.

At ASU Mid-South in West Memphis tuition and fees will increase 1.9 percent, to \$4,770. At ASU-Mountain Home tuition and fees will increase 1.4 percent, to \$4,200.

The University of Central Arkansas at Conway will raise tuition and fees by an average of 3.96 percent for graduate and undergraduate students.

A typical undergrad who enrolls for 30 credit hours over two semesters will pay \$10,940, up from \$10,523 this year.

Arkansas Tech in Russellville will increase tuition and fees for a typical undergraduate by 2.55 percent. A student taking 15 hours a semester will pay \$5,113 a semester. That is \$127 more than last year. Students at the Ozark campus enrolled in skilled career education and skilled trades will pay \$140 per credit hour, up from \$136 last year.

## More support for nation’s farmers

By U.S. Sen. John Boozman

Rural communities in Arkansas and across our country have been facing a bleak picture for years. The problems created by declining populations and aging infrastructure were recently compounded by crushing inflation and other challenges that have taken a profound toll, especially on farmers and the agriculture industry.

These trends must reverse, or we could pass the point of no return imminently.

That is why I have been leading a years-long push to support farmers, ranchers, foresters, and the towns and regions they live and work in, through an updated farm bill. We are poised to make important progress in that endeavor and beyond. Through a process known as budget reconciliation, we have the opportunity to foster a stronger, safer and more prosperous America by lowering taxes, bolstering domestic energy production, and securing our southern border. It also presents an opportunity to deliver enhanced tools and resources farmers desperately need.

As Chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, I have met with hundreds of farmers across the country to hear their struggles and pleas for support. Just recently I sat down with members of the Arkansas Farm Bureau and the Ag

Council of Arkansas who echoed the dire straits they and their peers continue to face. The good news is Senate Republicans are advancing several policy wins they have been calling for.

Our committee has crafted a section of the budget bill that invests in rural communities and America’s farm families. We are confident that these measures will provide the risk management tools and updated farm safety net they need to keep producing the safest, most abundant and affordable food, fuel and fiber in the world.

A modernized safety net will help ensure the next generation of agriculturalists can continue farming by protecting against economic uncertainty and market volatility.

Further, we are enhancing the disaster assistance programs available for livestock, specialty crop and honeybee and aquaculture producers.

Additionally, our provisions also expand access to more affordable crop insurance while making the program more responsive to industry risks.

This assistance is vital, as farm bankruptcies increased by 55 percent in 2024 compared to 2023, while the average cost of production for major row crops over the past three years is 38 percent higher than it was 10 years ago.

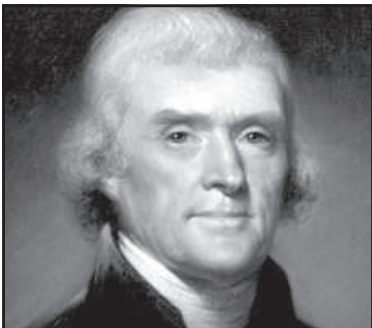
Operating under the outdated policies of the 2018 farm bill is

no longer an option. So, as we continue pushing to pass a farm bill this Congress, we are seizing this unique opportunity to pursue critical updates and enhancements in the meantime.

The broader legislation also permanently extends the 2017 tax cuts and ensures family farmers, ranchers and producers can benefit from small business deductions, relief from the death tax and an increased means to access and secure farming loans at lower costs. With this bill, we ensure Arkansas’s farm families and small businesses have the opportunity to preserve their legacies for the next generation and prevent an approximate \$5,000 increase in annual taxes, according to analysis from the American Farm Bureau Federation. Without this relief, additional taxes on the agriculture industry are estimated to total a crushing \$9.3 billion.

Arkansans know that our farmers and ranchers are facing real challenges. Our budget reconciliation measure delivers the risk management tools and updated farm bill safety net they need to keep producing and raising the food we put on our tables.

Standing with our farmers by investing in rural America and the future of agriculture is imperative, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to deliver this key support promptly.



“Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter.”

Thomas Jefferson, 1787

Free press, free people

## Nashville News-Leader

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418 North Main, Nashville, AR 71852.



Hall

Continued  
from page 1A

lic schools for so many years,” Dr. DeBlack said. “Dennis Horn devoted his career to shaping the minds and lives of young people, always placing students and their success at the heart of everything he did. His name became synonymous with dedication, leadership and a lifelong service to education.”

Horn graduated from NHS in 1956 and went on to serve as a teacher, a coach, a junior high principal, and “an incredible 16 years as principal at Nashville High School, from 1984 to 2000. In all the roles, he embodied the Scrapper spirit,” Dr. DeBlack said.

The Arkansas Association of Educational Administrators named Horn the winner of the Administrator of the Year Award in 1988. He received the Nashville Chamber of Commerce Orange and Black Award in 2003, “celebrating a legacy of service that extended far beyond the walls of the school building.”

Dr. DeBlack asked banquet attendees how many had Horn as a teacher, coach or principal. Hands went up throughout the event center.

**Thomas Goodwin** - President of the NHS Class of 1965, Dr. Tom Goodwin taught for 39 years at Hendrix College, where he became the Elbert L. Fauset Distinguished Professor of Organic Chemistry. “In that capacity he helped shape the minds of many future scientists,” Dr. DeBlack said. “His impact in the world of higher education earned him one of the highest honors in academia in 2003 - United States Professor of the Year, awarded by the Carnegie Foundation and Council for the Advancement and Support of Education. That distinction speaks volumes about the lives he changed through mentorship, innovation and passion for teaching.”

Dr. Goodwin’s contributions extended far beyond the classroom. He led “groundbreaking research, including the development of a molecule now in clinical trials for the treatment of leukemia,” Dr. DeBlack said. “His commitment to sustainability in science also earned him the Pfizer Green Chemistry in Education Award, honoring his work to build a greener, more responsible future through chemistry.”

Dr. Goodwin’s wife Cathy prepared the video and accepted the Hall of Honor Award.

**Mary Sue Williams** - “Some top-notch celebrities are known only by their first name. In the halls of Nashville High School, our next inductee was known to generations of students by her first and middle names,” Dr. DeBlack said.

A 1930 graduate of NHS, Mary Sue Williams attended Hendrix College for two years, then earned her bachelor of arts degree from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. She received her master’s in English and education from George Peabody and Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn.

“Her greatest impact came right here at Nashville High School, where she was a beloved and legendary English teacher known as Miss Mary Sue,” Dr. DeBlack said. “In her classroom, Mary Sue did a lot more than just teach grammar. She cultivated a love for literature, language and critical thinking. Her classroom was a place where standards were high, encouragement was constant, and where students were challenged to reach their full potential. We are proud to honor the late Mary Sue Williams for her intellect, her dedication and her passion for teaching.”

Hannah Williams, granddaughter of the recipient, prepared the video and accepted the award on behalf of “Miss Mary Sue.”

**Rev. Willie Benson** - The fourth Hall of Honor inductee “is a man whose life has been a shining testament to service, faith and leadership - Willie Benson,” Dr. DeBlack said. “From an early age, Willie embodied a profound sense of purpose. Ordained as a minister at just eight years old, he began a lifelong journey grounded in unwavering faith and a deep commitment to others. That calling led him not only to the pulpit but also to the service of our nation.”

Rev. Benson retired from the U.S. Air Force as a master sergeant. “He served his country with honor and distinction, including during the Korean War. His leadership and discipline in the military reflected the same values he lived by in his ministry - courage, humility and integrity.”

Upon returning home from the military, Rev. Benson turned his energy and wisdom toward his community. He was appointed to Gov. Bill Clinton’s Advisory Board and contributed his voice and leadership to numerous committees in Nashville, “always striving to make his hometown stronger, more compassionate and more united,” according to Dr. DeBlack. “Willie Benson’s life is a powerful reminder that true

greatness is found in lifting others up.”

Rev. Benson’s daughter Gynder Benson prepared his video.

**Hall of Fame**

Inductees into the Hall of Fame include the following:

**Thomas Blaine** - “I never had the honor to see our first [Hall of Fame] inductee perform, but those who did will tell you that he was one of the best all-around athletes in Nashville’s athletic history,” Dr. DeBlack said. Thomas Blaine, class of 1963, was a four-year letterman in football, basketball and track, and a three-year letterman in baseball. “Thomas didn’t just participate in sports; he elevated them. His name became synonymous with commitment, consistency and leadership, both on and off the field.”

A member of the “N” Club and captain of the football team, Blaine “led by example. His grit and heart on the gridiron earned him All-District honors and the distinguished title of Nashville MVP,” Dr. DeBlack said.

He was All-District in basketball and was an outfielder and pitcher in baseball and a high jumper and middle-distance runner in track. “Every field, every court, every track Thomas set foot on was made better by his presence.”

Teammate George Jones prepared Blaine’s video. His niece Amanda Puryear accepted the award on his behalf.

**Kay McClure** - “It is a special privilege for me to announce our next inductee because she was a classmate of mine in the NHS class of 1969,” Dr. DeBlack said. “Kay McClure was a pioneering figure in women’s athletics at Nashville. She came up in the days of 6-on-6 women’s basketball, but she could have played in any generation.”

McClure was “a prolific scorer and one of the best pure shooters - male or female - in the school’s history. A two-time All-District selection, she reached heights that few have ever approached, averaging an extraordinary 33 points per game,” Dr. DeBlack said. “But her crowning moment, the one that still echoes in the lore of Nashville High School, came when she scored an astounding 51 points in a single game, no shot clock, no three-point line. That performance wasn’t just a record; it was a statement of excellence, drive and unshakable determination. Kay, your achievements continue to inspire, and your place in our history is more than secure.”

See Hall • Page 6A



Former Coach Frank Puryear (center) accepts Hall of Fame awards on behalf of brothers Nolan and Vaughn Tollett. Hall of Fame steering committee president Tem Gunter (left) and Assistant Superintendent Tate Gordon made the presentation.



Gaye Graham (center) displays the Hall of Fame award she received on behalf of her father, the late Joe Goodrum. Hall of Fame steering committee president Tem Gunter and Assistant Superintendent Tate Gordon made the presentation.

School

Continued  
from page 1A

won’t have to go out and buy supplies. This will give them some relief.”

The board approved a group of model policies for 2025-26 from the Arkansas School Board Association. They cover topics ranging from replacing a board member who resigns or leaves a particular zone to posting board meeting agendas on the school website.

Another policy required by state law sets up a procedure for members of the public to address the school board. There will be a sign-

up sheet at board meetings for anyone who would like to speak. They will be allowed three minutes, according to the state.

Administrators from each campus presented proposed changes to student handbooks at their schools. Board members approved all of the changes, which will be reviewed in the June 25 *News-Leader*.

The board approved indexes for extended contracts, along with an index for managing the district’s Scrapper Supermarket. “This was cut from the grant” that the pantry receives, Graham said. The index for the position will be .05.

Senior class sponsors’

index will be .03.

Graham recommended raising the hourly pay for the high school secretary to \$17.21 per hour.

The board accepted the following resignations:

Megan Stanton, assistant trap coach

McKenzie Seymour, agri teacher

Dara Goff, elementary science

Erica Tollett, special ed aide

Kristell Hernandez, primary secretary

Employment of staff included the following:

Rachel Sparks, special ed paraprofessional

Bravyn Bell, agri teacher

Brittney White, secretary

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**Mineral Springs School District**  
will be having the  
**Seamless Summer Feeding Program**  
this year. Any child under the age of 18 will be eligible to receive a free breakfast and lunch. In order to receive a meal, this child must be present to pick up the meal.  
The dates are **June 9, 2025 thru June 30, 2025. Monday-Friday.**  
Lunches will be served in the cafeteria on the Mineral Springs Campus.  
**Breakfast 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.**  
**Lunch 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

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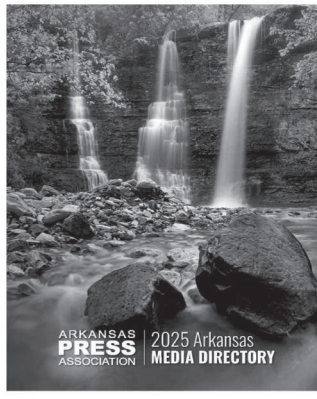
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# Hall

Continued  
from page 5A

**La'Michael Pettway** - "One of the most decorated and dynamic athletes to ever wear the Nashville uniform" is how Dr. DeBlack described La'Michael Pettway, Class of 2015. Pettway's athletic achievements "are simply extraordinary. A three-time All-State selection, three-time Arkansas Super Team honoree, four-star ESPN football recruit, ranked 45th nationally and 8th in Arkansas, La'Michael dominated on the gridiron with a level of skill and athleticism rarely seen."

Pettway "wasn't just a football star. On the basketball court, La'Michael was just as impressive, earning All-State, All-District and All-Southwest honors."

He went on to play football at the University of Arkansas and Iowa State before reaching the professional ranks, playing in the XFL with the Birmingham Stallions and earning NFL roster spots with the Houston Texans, Indianapolis Colts and New England Patriots, Dr. DeBlack said. "From small-town beginnings to national recognition, La'Michael Pettway's story is one of drive, determination and exceptional talent. He has inspired countless athletes and brought immense pride to our community."

**Jamie Erby** - A member of the class of 1998, Jamie Erby is "another Scrapper whose name remains etched in the memories of fans, teammates and coaches alike. Jamie was a fierce competitor and a commanding presence on the field and court. A three-year starter in football and a three-year letterman in basketball, Erby "brought intensity, heart and leadership to every game he played. From the moment he stepped onto the football field as a sophomore, his impact was undeniable, earning second-team All-District honors," Dr. DeBlack said. "Jamie wasn't content with that. He pushed himself further, securing first-team All-District honors in both his junior and senior seasons."

Erby was named All-State in 1997. "Known for his lockdown defense and sharp instincts, Jamie earned the Outstanding Defensive Back Award, a reflection of the grit and discipline that defined his game." He was selected to the Howard County All-Star team and the *Texarkana Gazette* All-Star team.

"Jamie was a leader, a teammate and a role model who represented Scrapper pride with every play, every practice and every moment in uniform," Dr. DeBlack said.

**Joe Goodrum** - The next inductee was Joe Goodrum, "a true pillar of Scrapper athletics and someone who meant a lot to me person-

ally," Dr. DeBlack said. A member of the class of 1950, Goodrum was "a standout in both football and track during his time at Nashville High School." He went on to play football and run track at Henderson State.

Goodrum returned to Nashville in 1959 "to coach and mentor the next generation of Scrappers" as an assistant football coach and head track coach. "He poured his heart into every practice, every meet and every game. His leadership culminated in one of the proudest moments in our school's history - guiding the 1967 football team to a state championship as head coach and athletic director," Dr. DeBlack said. Goodrum coached in the Arkansas All-Star game in 1962 and 1968.

"Even when faced with life's greatest challenges, including losing his sight in 1969, Joe's spirit never wavered. He continued to serve as our athletic director until his retirement in 1978, proving that true leadership is not measured by what one sees, but by the strength of one's vision and heart," Dr. DeBlack said. "Joe Goodrum's life is a testament to perseverance, service and unwavering commitment to the student-athletes of Nashville."

Goodrum's daughter Gaye Graham recorded the video and accepted the plaque on his behalf.

**Catherine Jones Reeves** - A 2006 NHS graduate, Catherine Jones Reeves is "one of the most accomplished athletes in school history," Dr. DeBlack said. Reeves "made an impact from the moment she stepped into competition, setting the tone for a career marked by excellence. Catherine's talents extended across three sports - basketball, softball and track."

In basketball, she was named Rookie of the Year her freshman and sophomore seasons. Her "unselfish play and tough defense earned her both Highest Assist and Defense Awards," Dr. DeBlack said. In softball, she received three Golden Glove Awards. She was named All-District and All-Region three times in both basketball and softball, "a rare achievement," Dr. DeBlack said.

In track, she was named Long Distance Runner of the Year, "proving her strength, stamina and drive extended far beyond the baseline or diamond," according to Dr. DeBlack.

"Catherine Jones Reeves was more than an athlete. She was a leader, a competitor and an example of what it means to represent the Scrapper Spirit in every stride, pass and pitch. Her legacy will continue to inspire future generations."

**Kayla Green Nesmith** - Inductee Kayla Green Nesmith, a 2004 graduate, "was the embodiment of what it means to be a student-athlete. She was a four-sport

competitor who displayed extraordinary talent and determination in every uniform she wore. Her athletic achievements earned her wide recognition, but it was her balance of academics, leadership and character that set her apart," Dr. DeBlack said.

Graduating as salutatorian of her class, "Kayla proved that discipline and drive know no boundaries. Her grace and leadership extended beyond the field, as she was crowned Homecoming queen and honored as Miss NHS, acknowledgments of the deep respect she earned from peers and faculty alike," Dr. DeBlack said.

"Kayla's journey is one of outstanding versatility, resilience and pride in representing her school at the highest level. Tonight, we proudly induct [her] into the Scrapper Hall of Fame, not just for her athletic victories but for the extraordinary person she is and the legacy she leaves behind," according to Dr. DeBlack.

**Tyler Serrano** - A 2008 graduate, Tyler Serrano "was the heartbeat of the Nashville Scrapper football program during one of the most dominant eras in our school's history. From the moment he stepped on the field as a sophomore, Tyler Serrano made an impact, earning first-team All-Conference, All-State honors and a coveted spot on the Arkansas Super Team. His junior year only raised the bar, as he repeated as an All-State and All-Conference selection and earned the title of Defensive Back of the Year," Dr. DeBlack said.

"But it was his senior year that cemented his legacy. Once again named to the first-team All-Conference. He was a 4A Player of the Year nominee, and on the biggest stage, he delivered - earning MVP honors in the 4A state championship game," Dr. DeBlack said. Serrano played a "critical role in three consecutive state championship teams, and his contributions went far beyond the stat sheet. He led by example, with toughness, humility and a passion for the game that inspired his teammates and lifted the Scrapper program to greatness. Tonight, we celebrate not just an extraordinary athlete, but a true leader and champion."

**Nolan Tollett** - Inductee Nolan Tollett, class of 1936 was "a man whose legacy reaches across generations, a Scrapper whose life was defined by excellence, service and leadership," according to Dr. DeBlack. He was a multi-sport athlete, competing as a tight end on the football field and as a pole vaulter and sprinter in track and field. Tollett "took that same dedication with him to the University of Alabama, where he graduated in 1939 with a degree in science education, blending his love

for athletics with a lifelong commitment to learning."

Tollett taught and coached at Apalachicola High School in Florida before serving overseas in the Army Air Corps in World War II, "exemplifying the same courage and character he showed on the field."

After the war, he returned to coaching, "most notably at Hope High School, where he led the team to a state football championship in 1946, a crowning achievement in a lifetime of service through sports and education," Dr. DeBlack said. "Nolan Tollett's journey reflects the very best of what it means to be a Scrapper - excellence in athletics, a commitment to personal growth and a legacy of service to others."

Former Coach Frank Puryear made Tollett's video and accepted the award on his behalf.

**Vaughn Tollett** - After recognizing Nolan Tollett, Dr. DeBlack said the Hall of Fame was "honored to recognize the extraordinary life and legacy of his younger brother Vaughn Tollett, class of 1937. Vaughn Tollett was an elite athlete from the start, setting multiple track records at both the high school and collegiate levels."

Tollett was a member of the "N" Club and competed in javelin and the pole vault. "But it was on the football field that Vaughn truly left his mark. As a halfback for the University of Alabama, he competed on one of the sport's biggest stages, the 1941 Dallas Cotton Bowl Classic. His scholarship to Alabama came by way of Assistant Coach Bear Bryant, a name legendary in football history. Yet in a gesture that speaks volumes about his character, Vaughn agreed to accept the scholarship only if his brother Nolan could join him, a decision that reflects not just talent, but loyalty," Dr. DeBlack said.

Tollett received his Arts and Science degree from Alabama in 1942 and a master's degree in theology from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. He pastored two churches in Tennessee and joined the U.S. Air Force as a chaplain, serving for three decades before retiring as a lieutenant colonel in 1978.

Tollett's life "reminds us that greatness is not only measured by touchdowns or trophies but also by the lives we touch, the values we uphold and the faith we carry into every chapter of our lives," Dr. DeBlack said.

Lenore Paulk, Tollett's daughter, recorded his video. Puryear accepted the plaque.

**Maurice Johnson** - "One of the most electrifying and accomplished athletes in Scrapper history" was 1994 graduate Maurice Johnson, Dr. DeBlack said. "Maurice left a legacy at Nashville High School that will long be remembered. In basketball, he scored 1,270 points and



Superintendent Doug Graham welcomes the crowd of about 250 people to the Hall of Fame induction banquet Saturday, June 14, at Occasions.



Athletic Director James "Bunch" Nichols concludes the induction banquet with the familiar line, "Once a Scrapper, always a Scrapper."

gathered 745 rebounds, both still school records." He was named All-State in 1993 and 1994 and played in the 1994 Arkansas All-Star basketball game.

On the football field, "He was just as dominant, earning All-State recognition in 1993 and securing his place in Scrapper lore by scoring the first-ever touchdown in a state championship game for Nashville. It was a defining moment in our program's history," Dr. DeBlack said.

"His record-setting performances, versatility across sports and trail-blazing achievements make Maurice Johnson not just a great athlete, but a Scrapper legend. We honor him not only for the numbers he posted or the games he won, but for the inspiration he provided to every athlete who dreamed of wearing the Scrapper Uniform," Dr. DeBlack said.

**Acknowledgments**  
Superintendent Doug

Graham welcomed the inductees and guests to the banquet.

He thanked members of the Hall of Fame steering committee for their work on the event, including President Tem Gunter, Frank Puryear, Dr. Tom DeBlack, Ashley Riggs, Tate Gordon Coach Brad Chesshir and Johnny Wilson.

Graham also recognized the banquet's corporate sponsors, including Hollis Heating & Air, Diamond Bank, GeoSurfaces, Pafford EMS, York Gary, Architecture Plus, Occasions, Scrapper Booster Club, Boom Boom Floor Service, Paul Ray Trucking, Shelter Insurance, Rush Truck Center, Tyson Foods, Print Mania and Amelia's Picalily.


Coach Brad Chesshir gave the invocation.

Athletic Director James "Bunch" Nichols concluded the program.

About 250 people attended the event.

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# ‘A great day to be a Scrapper’



Former coaches James Reed (left) and Ron Alexander (fourth from left) visit with Scrappette alumnae Beth Graham Yenser, Kayla Green Nesmith, Catherine Jones Reeves and Erin Morris Bell. Nesmith and Reeves were among the Hall of Fame inductees Saturday night, June 14, at Occasions in Nashville.

## Halls of Fame, Honor induct 15

News-Leader photos/JOHN R. SCHIRMER



Hall of Honor inductee Dennis Horn (center) displays his plaque after accepting the award from Tem Gunter (left). Tony Horn (right) joined his father at the banquet. Horn served as a teacher, coach, principal and school board member during his career at Nashville.



Johnny Wilson, Dr. Tom DeBlack and George Jones swap stories before the Hall of Fame banquet Saturday night.



Ivory Johnson, Pat Johnson and Maurice Johnson visit after the banquet. Maurice Johnson was a Hall of Fame inductee.



Guests look over the memorabilia at tables prepared by the inductees and their families. Everything from pictures to helmets to awards could be found.



Nearly 250 people attended the Scrapper Hall of Fame banquet Saturday night, June 14, at Occasions.



Jamie Erby displays his Hall of Fame award June 14.



Cathy Goodwin (center) accepts the plaque on behalf of her husband, Hall of Honor inductee Dr. Tom Goodwin. Tem Gunter and Tate Gordon made the presentation.



Hall of Fame inductee Kay McClure (center) accepts her award from steering committee president Tem Gunter (left) and Assistant Superintendent Tate Gordon.



Tyler Serrano was among 11 Hall of Fame inductees last Saturday night.

Scrapper Hall of Fame, Hall of Honor induction • Saturday, June 14 • Occasions, Nashville

*Congratulations to all the Scrapper Hall of Fame Inductees*

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Participants display their awards from last week’s camp.



Campers grab plenty of basketballs for the morning.

# Future Scrappettes on the court

News-Leader photos/DEDE ROBINSON



Girls in grades 3-8 attended the Shooting Stars camp June 9-10 at Scrapper Arena. Coach Paul Dean, Coach Magen Scrivner and members of the Scrappette basketball team worked with the girls.



Coach Paul Dean gives out T-shirts to the campers.

# Scrappers host team camp

News-Leader photos/JOHN R. SCHIRMER



Teams from Hope, Camden Fairview, Glen Rose, Hot Springs Lakeside and Nashville are set for team camp June 10 at Scrapper Stadium.



Scrapper quarterback DJ Jefferson (8) sets up a pass as linemen keep Camden Fairview defenders at bay during last week’s team camp.



Myles Hawthorne scores for the Scrappers against Hope at the conclusion of last week’s camp.



Davonte Gilliam (3) goes after the loose football at team camp June 10.



Coach Brad Chesshir talks to the Scrappers following team camp June 10 at Scrapper Stadium. Players and coaches will wrap up the first part of summer workouts Thursday, June 19. The Arkansas Activities Association’s dead weeks will begin June 23 and continue through July 4. Workouts will resume July 7.

The ball drops into the hands of Demetrus Shelley for a big gain during team camp last week.

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SPORTS LEADERS  
Players of the Week as selected by  
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Scrapper Hall of Honor, Hall of Fame inductees

The Scrapper Hall of Fame and Hall of Honor inducted new members Saturday night, June 14. (See page 1A.)

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FIND NEW ROADS



# Home&Heart

## T.H.I.N.K. Your Way to Summer Water Safety

By Angie Freel

Howard County Family & Consumer Science

A popular social media influencer lost her three-year-old child to drowning last month. This will likely cause many to pay closer attention this summer when supervising children swimming in a pool, lake, river, or even a cold roadside creek. Drowning is the number one cause of death for children ages 1-4 in the United States.

If you have a pool or take children swimming anywhere, pay close attention – drowning is silent. If you have a pool, get a safety fence, if you have a safety fence gate with a broken latch, fix the latch.

Learn CPR, make it a priority to get children swimming lessons – it only takes a second to drown.

Whether it’s a pool, lake, or stream that offers relief from the heat, it’s important to **T.H.I.N.K.** your way to water safety, said Shannon Caldwell, 4-H center program director.

“Using the **T.H.I.N.K.** acronym can make it easier to remember some of the most common water safety issues that lead to injury,” Caldwell said. “By making yourself aware of these issues, you are more likely to be prepared and take proper precautions during water activities.”

“**T**” stands for **TOO**. Ask yourself these questions: Am I TOO tired? If so, take a break. Is the water TOO cold? If the answer is yes, do not swim in that area. Is the area I’m swimming in TOO far from safety? Check and see where you are in relation to a lifeguard, or shoreline.

“**H**” stands for **HAZARDS**. Teach your children to stay away from ditches, culverts, and unfamiliar creeks and ponds in your area. These areas can have many different hazardous materials lying in wait. Hazards can be anything from a hole to a broken tree branch, know what you’re getting into and pay attention to your surroundings.

“**I**” stands for an **INEXPERIENCED** swimmer. Pool noodles and floaties are fun, but they are not meant to work as a flotation device. If you have an inexperienced swimmer, make sure they wear a coast guard approved life jacket, appropriate for their size. A life jacket should fit snug but comfortable. Also stay within arm’s reach in case they need help.

“**N**” stands for **NO** substitute for adult

supervision. Lifeguards are on duty to prevent and respond to water emergencies, they are not there to babysit. Make sure you constantly watch your children when they are near water.

“**K**” stands for **KNOW** the area. Bodies of water can contain unexpected hazards, such as stumps, logs, shallow areas, drop offs, and strong currents.

“Many people will make water recreation part of their summer activities,” Caldwell said. “Sometimes people just get excited about their water activity and don’t pay attention to things like overheating, increased water flow and current due to recent rains, or drifting far from the shore, lifeguard, or supervising adult. Being prepared and aware can make your water activities a fun, stress free experience,” she said.

Special thanks to Olivia McClure and Shannon Caldwell for article content.

I saw this recipe in Farm Credit’s Rural Scene magazine Summer Edition and want to share it with you. It is a quick and easy cookie for busy summer schedules.

It was originally submitted to Farm Credit by members of the Mourot family in honor of their Granny Lorene Kordsmeier (who happened to have MY grandmother’s first name).

**Cookie Squares**  
1 box cake mix – butter flavor  
½ c. vegetable oil  
2 eggs  
2 T. water  
1 tsp. vanilla  
Mix all ingredients for 3 minutes on medium speed using a stand or hand mixer. Pour into greased and floured pan. Bake at 325 degrees for 20-25 minutes. Put on rack, let cool, and then cut into squares.

The University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture’s mission is to strengthen agriculture, communities, and families by connecting trusted research to the adoption of best practices.

Through the Agricultural Experiment Station and the Cooperative Extension Service, the Division of Agriculture conducts research and extension work within the nation’s historic land grant education system.

The Division of Agriculture is one of 20 entities within the University of Arkansas System. It has offices in all 75 counties in Arkansas and faculty on three campuses.



**BIG BOWL OF BIG PEPPERS.** The garden of John and Joyce Sprouls of Ozan has produced some whopper batches of jalapeño peppers like this bowl-full he brought by the newspaper office.

### Pike County HAM Radio Club offering classes

The Pike County HAM Radio Club is planning to host license classes and tests this summer.

The club will hold “technician” and “general level” classes on July 11-12 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days. Also, the club will hold license testing on July 26 from 9 a.m. to noon.

These events will take place at the conference room in the Glenwood Police Department at 210 N. 2nd St in Glenwood.

Anyone interested on classes or testing should contact one of the following:

Mark Reed  
903-701-5954  
mark.reed.ii@gmail.com  
Will Henderson  
870-925-0168  
redhenderson@hotmail.com  
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## Howard County District Court

**June 12, 2025**  
*BF=Bond Forfeited*  
**Howard County**  
Bradley, Javon S., 29, Ozan, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245  
Centeno Cruz, Henry J., 31, Nashville, \$195 BF, no driver's license/expired license  
Copado, Oralia G., 44, Pittsburg, Texas, \$240 BF, speeding; \$245 BF, failure to appear  
Drent, Edward N., 41, Lockesburg, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245  
Dunn, Katrina N., 45, Mineral Springs, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$1,505 owed  
Esquivel, Rodolfo, 27, Ashdown, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$95; guilty of speeding, fined \$240  
Faulkner, Alex, 27, Dierks, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445; guilty of speed too fast for conditions, fined \$200  
Hendrix, Courtney Lamar, 32, Lockesburg, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445; guilty of no child restraint, fined \$195; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245  
Hernandez-Diaz, Fidel, 35, Nashville, guilty of third-degree battler, fined \$710 and sentenced to 90 days in jail  
Hudson, Howard Lee, 73, Nardin, Okla., \$195 BF, expired vehicle tags/no tags; \$195 BF, striking fixtures on highway; \$245 BF, failure to appear  
Little, Nathaniel T., 23, New Boston, Texas, \$230 BF, speeding  
Lott, Jason Eric, 46, Texarkana, Texas, guilty of DWI, fined \$1,110, credited with time served, license suspended and must complete DWI educational course  
McFadden, Ricky R., 39, Columbus, \$145 BF, no proof of liability insurance  
Medina, Inocente M., 53, Glenwood, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$2,210 owed  
Mills, Maverick, 18, Hope, \$270 BF, speeding; \$185 BF, no vehicle license  
Ramirez-Gallardo, Eri, 38, De Queen, \$195 BF, no driver's license/expired license  
Rhone, Nekembe J., 23, Ashdown, \$240 BF, speeding; \$185 BF, no vehicle license; \$345 BF, no proof of liability insurance; \$245 BF, failure to appear  
Riley, Asiashanna R., 22, Texarkana, guilty of speeding, fined \$240; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245  
Rogers, Alex C., 57, Nashville, guilty of speeding, fined \$270; guilty of careless or prohibited driving, fined \$345  
Ruiz, Nathan A., 29, Clarksville, Tenn., \$250 BF, speeding  
Steward, Tristan J., 37, Mineral Springs, guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245  
Sullivan, Ethan Daniel, 19, Nashville, \$260 BF, speeding  
Taber, Jessica J., 49, Arlington, Texas, \$240 BF, speeding; \$245 BF, failure to appear  
Turnbough, Dakota Lane, 19, Cove, \$45 BF, no seat belt  
Whitmore, Porsha R., 36, Nashville, gilt of non-payment of fines, \$430 owed  
**City of Nashville**  
Bailey, Barry Allen, 55, Umpire, \$270 BF, disorderly conduct  
Barragan, Ramon, 26, Nashville, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445  
Beasley, Latrina, 49, Waldo, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$1,950 owed  
Benson, Marlon Montes, 51, Nashville, guilty of third-degree domestic battery, fined \$1,110  
Bethel, Derick James, 43, Mineral Springs, guilty driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445; guilty of no seat belt, fined \$70  
Culp, Devin, 26, Nashville, \$45 BF, no seat belt  
Drent, Edward N., 41, Lockesburg, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$630 owed; guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445Eason, Kartavious D., 27, no contest, criminal trespass, fined \$270  
Europe, James C., 29, Mineral Springs, guilty go non-payment of fines, \$1,825 owed; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245  
Evans, Michael Andrew, 28, Nashville, \$45 BF, no seat belt  
Hayslip, Nikita, 33, Nashville, guilty of third-degree battery, fined \$710; guilty of disorderly conduct, fined \$310  
Harris, Marc, 50, Ozan, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$1,115 owed, committed to jail; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245  
Hayes, Paris Nichole, 36, Nashville, \$345 BF, no proof of liability insurance; \$45 BF, no seat belt  
Henry, Anthony D., 40, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$3,235 owed, committed to jail-suspended conditions  
Henry, Jeanette, 58, Nashville, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$95; guilty of failure to pay registration, fined \$210; guilty of no vehicle license, fined \$185; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$95  
Hernandez, Antonio H., 30, Nashville, \$195 BF, no driver's license/expired license; \$345 BF, no proof of liability insurance; \$245 BF, failure to appear  
Medina, Inocente M., 53, Glenwood, guilty of DWI, fined \$1,110, credited for time served, license suspended and must complete DWI educational course  
Michael, Christie Edith, 50, Camden, guilty of no driver's license/expired license  
Ornelas, Roberto Miguel, 36, Mineral Springs, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$2,070 owed, committed to jail-suspended conditions; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245  
Pack, Jonathan Spenser, 32, Nashville, \$195 BF, no child restraint  
Sanders, Chad L., 33, Ashdown, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445; guilty of possession of controlled substance, fined \$1,075 and license suspended for six months  
Slaton, Jasmine, 30, Nashville, guilty of third-degree battery, fined \$660; guilty of second-degree criminal mischief, fined \$410  
Slattno, Bruce Lee, 39, Nashville, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445  
Stewart, Terelle, 28, Mineral Springs, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$1,045  
Stuart, Derrick P., 47, Columbus, guilty of DWI, fined \$1,110, credited for time served, license suspended and must complete DWI educational course  
Teran, Heriberto, 34, Mineral Springs, \$195 BF, no driver's license/expired license  
Trimble, Orlandis, 37, Childress, Texas, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$340 owed  
Villalobos, Beverly, 33, Murfreesboro, guilty of no vehicle license, fined \$185; guilty of non-payment of fines, \$225 owed  
Ward, Ashley D., 28, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$1,750 owed  
Watson, Utorya A., 19, Ozan, \$270 BF disorderly conduct  
Weston, Tyrese, 22, Fulton, guilty of disorderly conduct, fined \$270  
**City of Dierks**  
Beard, Michael D., 23, Idabel, Okla., \$240 BF, speeding  
Duty, James M., 38, Nashville, Tenn., \$270 BF, speeding  
Petts, Johnnathan, 36, Hot Springs, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$345  
**City of Mineral Springs**  
Bevill, Adam, 42, Nashville, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445; guilty of no vehicle license, fined \$185  
Flores, Erika, 18, Mineral Springs, guilty of no driver's license/expired license, fined \$195; guilty of no proof

of liability insurance, fined \$345; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245  
Flores, Manuel, 42, Texarkana, Texas, \$230 BF, speeding; \$195 BF, no driver's license/expired license; \$345 BF, no proof of liability insurance  
Hendrix, Courtney Lamar, 32, Lockesburg, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$345; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$345; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245; guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445  
Lopez Pina, Bladamir, 20, Texarkana, Texas, \$240 BF, speeding; \$245 BF, failure to appear  
Marlow, Jason, 35, Mineral Springs, \$445 BF, driving on suspended or revoked license; \$345 BF, no proof of liability insurance  
Ornelas, Roberto M., 36, Mineral Springs, guilty of shoplifting, fined \$410; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$285; guilty of obstructing government operations, fined \$370  
Rush, Jacob N., 19, Texarkana, Texas, \$50 BF, failure to present insurance; \$270 BF, speeding  
Steward, Tristan J., 37, Mineral Springs, guilty of drinking in public, fined \$220  
Stewart, Trelle, 28, Mineral Springs, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$345

**Bench Trials**  
**Howard County**  
Bradley, Robert R., 49, Hope, \$195 BF, expired vehicle tags/no tags  
Thomas, Nicole Marie, 32, Mineral Springs, guilty of DWI, fined \$1,110, credited with time served, license suspended and must complete DWI educational course



**TEAM MEMBERS.** Payton Hale, Asher Howard, Emmett Jamison, Ryan Moore

### Howard County 4-H Forestry Team competes at state, wins fourth

**By Dawson Bailey •** Howard County Extension Agent – Agriculture

On May 8, the Howard County Forestry Team traveled to Monticello to compete in the State 4-H Forestry Contest. The team was made up of Payton Hale, Asher Howard, Emmett Jamison and Ryan Moore. This team has spent countless hours since October practicing and studying different areas of forestry. For the 4-H Forestry contest, they have had to learn to identify a wide range of trees in Arkansas, be able to measure the volume of the trees, identify pests and diseases related to trees, learn how to use a compass and measure distance by pacing, and know some vocabulary and facts about forestry. These young men also competed in several FFA forestry competitions during the spring to help prepare them for the 4-H competition. During the FFA competitions, the teams are given lists of trees and equipment to select from during the tree ID and equipment ID sections. The 4-H competition does not allow any lists and spelling is a factor. The team placed fourth in the State 4-H Forestry Competition. The judge said this year had some of the highest scores he had seen in any state competition.

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Auction Info: 1950 Antique Gibson Tractor, Dakota Arms Wetherby, McMillian & Co 416 Rigby Rifle, Mark X 338 Winchester Magnum, Remington Model 700, 7mm Remington Ultra Magnum, Interarm Mark X 35 Whelen, SAKO AV 375 H & H, (3) Barrel Action Mauser 8mm, (2) Mauser Rifle Model 24, Mauser Rifle Model 48, Mauser Rifle Model 98, Mauser Rifle Turn Down Bolts, Turkish Mauser, Spanish Mauser, BRNO Mauser, Beretta 300 Year Anniversary Commemorative Over/Under Centenario Shotgun, Thompson Center 50 Caliber Cap Lock Muzzleloader, Muzzleloader Kodiak 53 Caliber, Ruger Bolt Action with a Scope, Savage Muzzleloader with scope, Flintlock Squirrel Rifle 40 Caliber, Thompson Center Contender 6 Barrels & 5 Scopes, Eclipse Double Barrel Shotgun, Ranger Single Shot Shotgun, 2 Boxes of 44-40 Winchester 200 Grain Soft Point, 2 Boxes 20 Gauge, 4 boxes of 12 Gauge, 3 boxes of Holland & Holland, 4 boxes Turkey Ammo, 2 Boxes of Whelen, 3 Boxes of 7 mm Ultra Magnum, 3 boxes of Remington Magnum, .340 WBY Mangum Weatherby, 6 Rounds 375 H & H, 6 Boxes 22 Magnum, 357 Herra Wildcat Caliber, 2 Full Boxes Swiss Shell 7.65, 5 Boxes 300 Remington Ultra Mag. Craftsman tin Lathe accessories Tooling, Taps & Dies toolbox full and more, 4 inch Vice on Stand, 6 inch grinder on Stand, Old type antique hand reels, Heavy Duty Worktable for Hammering and Pounding, Oehler Model 35P Proof Chronograph, Drill Press Vice, Shooting Stand Set, Shooters Bible Collection from 1964-2001, Checkering Tool Diamond Pattern for Gun Stocks, Butt plates trigger guard for Muzzle Loader, Muzzleloading Lock, Mauser Supplies, Knife maker pins-decorative pins, Ammo Shelve-30 alt 6, 280 Remington, 270 Winchester, 12 gauge turkey shells, 410, Remington 22250 Remington 12 gauge, Dremel Accessories, V Blocks, Spring Clamps, Gun Smith Screwdrivers, pin punches, scope screws, Remington boat tools, (7) Muzzle Loaders, combing tools, scope mount drill jig, small vice, Inletting Screws, Poly Dex Jeweling fixture, recoil pad jig, receiver fixture, top dead center punch, punch set Stanley, Hook & Pick Baby Screw Driver, Cleaning Rods, Led Sled, Gun Cases, Reloading Manuals, Garmin GPS, Shelves of Reloading Bullet Rifle Pistol Bullets, Various reloading Powders-Smokeless, Dillon 450 Color Blue, Forster Coax Color Red, Redding 7 color green, Lee Tourte, Shell Holders, Sinclair Scope Alignment Tool, Pichay Flush Mount Installation Kit, Gun Cleaning Supplies, Drill Bits & Packages, Gun Vice, Varius Starrett Tools Including-Calipers Micrometers, and Dial Indicators, Starrett Levels, Mitutoyo Micrometer, Letter Stamps for Stamping Gun Pads, Fowler depth Micrometer, Starrett Tri Square, 1 lb. lead Bars, Craftsman Stools, Inside Micrometer Measures inside, Indicator Holders, Dial Calipers, Kubota Zero Turn Lawnmower, 6 x 10 Single Axle Trailer, 16 FT Cattle Gooseneck Trailer, John Deere H Tractor, John Deere Lawn Tractor, John Deere Collectable Bench, Sledge Hammer, Farm Jack, Roll Around Jack, Hangers, Grease Gun, GCV 160 Power Washer, Extension Cord, Dinner Bell, Handmade Picnic Table, Metal Tables, Cast Iron, Fish Cookers, Coke-Cola Cooler, 2 Concrete Fountains, 2 Galvanized Stock Tank, 4 Butane Bottles, Smoker, Priefert Tiller, BBQ Smoker on a Trailer, TV's, Craftsman Welder Mounted on Trailer, Seeder, Lawn Trailer, Yard Tools, Antique School Desk, Fishing Poles, Fishing Tackle Box with Bait, (2) Metal Filing Cabinets, (4) Metal Chairs, (2) Lawn Chairs, Bow and Arrow Target, 2 Wine Glass Jugs, Ice Chest, Road Flairs, Pottery Bowls, Pots & Pans, Cast Iron Dutch Oven, Kitchen Stuff, Microwave, Antique Bow Saw, Antique Meat Saw, Cotton Scale, Kenmore Refrigerator, Upright Deep Freeze, Dyson Vacuum, Kenmore Washer & Dryer, 3 Antique Clocks, Lift Chair, Couch, Replica Ice Box, Antique Potato Holder, Antique Breadbox, Coring Ware, Wilcox & Gibbs Portable Sewing Machine, Leaf Sweeper, David Wright Painting Prints, 3 Bar Stools, Hall Tree, Indian hand painted plates, Glass Curve Curio Cabinet, Queen Size Brass Bed, NRA Trail Blazer, Queen Bedroom Suite 5 Pieces, Resistol Hat, Quilting Rack, Antique Ladder Back Chairs, 6 ft. Folding Table, Lazy Boy Leather Recliner, New Home Sewing Machine, Okinawa Fine China.

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## Pike County couple being held on debit card fraud

A Pike County couple charged with fraudulent use of a credit or debit card and accused of stealing approximately \$65,000 pleaded innocent to the charges Monday.

Shana Nicole Pickrell, 31, of Murfreesboro, and Andrew Pipkins, 36, of Kirby, were both charged May 23 with one count of fraudulent use of a credit or debit card with Pipkins also being charged with financial identity fraud.

The charges are the result of a Pike County investigation that began on May 8 when a Pipkin’s family member reported that a large amount of money had been fraudulently withdrawn from his personal bank account and that he suspected Pickrell and Pipkins, as both were living at his residence at the time.

The family member had discovered unauthorized transactions, including sev-

eral connected to Pickrell’s PayPal account. When confronted by the family member, Pickrell admitted to the theft and requested two days to return \$25,000.

Overall, there were 515 disputed transactions, totaling approximately \$65,000.

During the investigation, three audio recordings of calls made to the bank by a person fraudulently identifying himself as the family member were reviewed. The family member later identified the voice as belonging to Pipkins.

Pipkins is currently under active supervision with the Arkansas Probation and Parole Division, according to case information. Pickrell also has prior convictions.

Pipkins’ bond was set at \$40,000 and Pickrell’s at \$30,000 by Judge Tom Cooper. Both remain in the county custody, as of Tuesday morning, with parole holds for both.

### Andy Griffith Show re-run club hosting meeting June 29 in M’boro

Everyone is invited to join free of charge the Murfreesboro chapter of “The Andy Griffith Show Re-run Watchers Club - Rev. Tucker’s Congregation.” The next meeting will be Sunday, June 29, 2:00 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall of Murfreesboro First Baptist Church.

Interim Pastor Rick Hyde will be hosting a “Mayberry Popcorn Fellowship.”

The group will watch a

“Moments from Mayberry - Being Faithful” video and play The Females vs. The Males “Mayberry Trivia Game.” (Kids are invited!)

A trophy will be awarded to the winning team.

The church will furnish the popcorn, those attending need to BYOSD (Bring Your Own Soft Drink).

Rev. Tucker AKA Rick Hyde, Interim Pastor

\*PS: Gomer says, “Hey!”



**JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION IN MURFREESBORO**  
Participants came from all over the state for Murfreesboro’s Juneteenth celebration held June 13-14. The event included a parade and a live DJ, dancing, karaoke and hot dogs at the park.  
Murfreesboro Diamond photos

# Attend Church This Sunday!

**HOLY MASS**  
**St. Martin’s Catholic Church**  
1011 W. Leslie •Nashville

Sunday (Eng.) - 9 a.m.  
Sunday (Esp.) - 11 a.m.  
Wednesday - 6 p.m.  
Thursday - 8 a.m.  
1st Friday - 6:30 p.m.  
Saturday (Esp.) - 6:30 p.m.

**Fr. Salvador Vega, Pastor**  
**Welcome • Bienvenidos**

**LOCKESBURG FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ~ 11:00 A.M.**  
**& MT. CARMEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 12:15 P.M.**

**TOMMY HALSELL, PASTOR**  
*Everyone is always welcome!*

*You are invited to worship with us at...*  
**Center Point Missionary Baptist Church**  
211 Church St. • Center Point

Pastor: Jaron Tipton  
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.  
Evening Service 5:00 p.m.

-- Non-Denomination --  
**New Life in Jesus Christ Church**  
913 South Main St. • Nashville, AR

Sunday Morning Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesday Evening Worship 5:30 p.m.  
**Pastors: Lankford & Mary Alice Moore**

**EBENEZER UMC**  
318 West Dodson • Nashville

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

*“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors”*  
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325 *Facts About The* **BIBLE** BY JOHN LEHTI

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IT IS A TEDIOUS JOURNEY OVER VAST WASTELANDS AND WILDERNESS AND THE CARAVAN MOVES SLOWLY....

**A BRIDE FOR ISAAC**  
ELIEZER HAS TAKEN DEPARTURE OF REBEKAH’S FAMILY AND NOW MAKES THE LONG TRIP BACK TO ABRAHAM, CARRYING IN THE CARAVAN REBEKAH, ISAAC’S BRIDE-TO-BE, WITH HIM....

FOR REBEKAH, IT MUST SEEM EVEN SLOWER, FOR HER NEW LIFE WILL NOT BEGIN UNTIL THE JOURNEY IS ENDED....

...NIGHT AND DAY, THE JOURNEY CONTINUES, FOR ELIEZER INTENDS TO RETURN AS FAST AS POSSIBLE....

FINALLY, A DAY ARRIVES WHEN HE VIEWS HIS HOME, IN THE DISTANCE...

...AND NOW ISAAC, TAKING A STROLL TO MEDITATE IN THE QUIET OF THE EVENING, SEES, AT LAST, THE CARAVAN CARRYING HIS FUTURE BRIDE FROM AFAR !

**Next Week**  
MAN AND MAID !

**First Baptist Church**  
415 N. Main • Nashville

**Come Worship With Us!**  
Sunday school 9 a.m.  
Morning worship 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.  
Evening worship 6:00 p.m.

**Rev. Kevin Sartin**

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Worship 11:00 a.m. • Youth 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday evening service 6:00 p.m.

**Rev. Charles Green, Pastor**

**Unity Baptist Church**  
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Pastor:  
Bro. David Cassady

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Prayer Meeting - Wed. 6:30 p.m.  
Jim Henderson, Pastor

**HOLLY CREEK Missionary Baptist Church**  
705 Main St. • Dierks • 286-2010


Sun. School 10:00 a.m.  
Sun. Morning Worship 10:50 a.m.  
Sun. Evening 5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday WOW 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.  
**Pastor: Bro. Brian Finn**  
Radio Program: 9:45 Sunday Morning • B99.5 FM  
Visit us at: www.hollycreekmbc.net

**First Christian Church**  
500 N. Main • Nashville  
(Corner of Main & Bishop)  
**845-3241**


Sunday Bible School - 9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study 6:00 p.m.  
**Minister: Jim Pinson**

**MINERAL SPRINGS CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
318 Bridgeman Dr. • Mineral Springs  
870-287-5652

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Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesday Service: 6:00 p.m.

**First United Methodist Church**  
1403 W. Sunset St. • Nashville  
870-845-3030  
nashvillefumc.org

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Worship 10:50 a.m.  
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# Reflecting on June 15, 1836

## Celebrating anniversary of Arkansas gaining statehood

June 15, 1836, stands as a defining moment in the history of the United States, marking the day Arkansas transitioned from a frontier territory into the Union as the 25th state. This anniversary serves as an opportunity to reflect on the origins, struggles, and rich heritage of Arkansas, a state that has played a significant role in shaping the cultural and historical fabric of the nation.

Arkansas’ journey to statehood was a story of ambition, persistence, and transformation. Originally part of the Louisiana Purchase acquired by the United States from France in 1803, the region that would become Arkansas was a vast and untamed land. In 1819, it was established as the Arkansas Territory, encompassing not only present-day Arkansas but also parts of what is now Oklahoma.

The territorial period saw rapid changes as settlers poured into the region, drawn by its fertile lands and opportunities for farming. The population grew swiftly, and with it, the push for statehood gained momentum. By the 1830s, Arkansas’ population had surpassed the threshold required for statehood, setting the stage for its admission to the Union. On June 15, 1836, Arkansas was officially recognized as the 25th state of the United States under

President Andrew Jackson’s administration.

Arkansas was broken into five counties when it entered the United States as a territory in 1819. They were Arkansas Clark, Hempstead, Lawerance, and Pulaski Counties. Pike County was created from parts of Clark and Hempstead County on November 1, 1833, and was a one of the counties when Arkansas received statehood in 1836. Montgomery County was originally part of Clark County and then Hot Spring County before it was formed into a county December 9, 1842.

Statehood brought with it numerous challenges as Arkansas sought to establish itself within the Union. The state was initially characterized by a largely agrarian economy, with cotton as its primary cash crop. Plantations flourished in the Delta region, driven by enslaved labor, while smaller independent farms dotted the uplands.

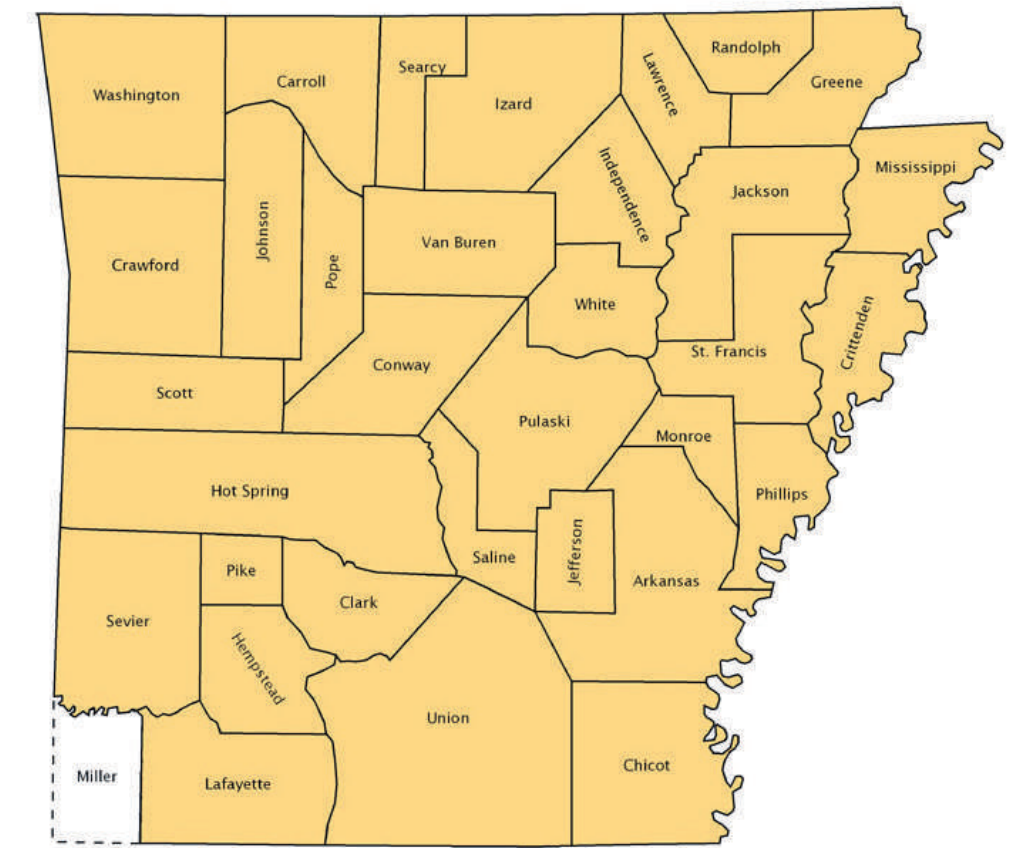
However, the state’s economy and infrastructure were still in their infancy. Roads were scarce, education was limited, and social services were virtually non-existent. Additionally, the rising tensions over slavery in America cast a shadow over Arkansas’ early years as a state. The state’s reliance on enslaved labor tied it closely to the Southern economy

and foreshadowed its eventual role in the Civil War.

Beyond its early struggles, Arkansas developed a rich and diverse cultural identity that continues to thrive today. The state became home to an array of Indigenous peoples, including the Quapaw, Caddo, and Osage tribes, whose legacies remain deeply woven into Arkansas’ history. European settlers, predominantly of British, French, and Spanish descent, added their customs and traditions, creating a cultural blend that is uniquely Arkansan.

The state’s landscape played a profound role in shaping its identity. From the lush Delta to the rugged Ozark and Ouachita Mountains, Arkansas earned the nickname “The Natural State” for its breathtaking beauty. These geographical features not only provided sustenance and resources for its inhabitants but also inspired a wealth of art, music, and literature over the years.

Today, Arkansas is a vibrant state that balances its rich history with modern growth and innovation. Its economy has diversified to include agriculture, manufacturing, healthcare, and technology. The state is home to world-renowned companies like Walmart, Tyson Foods, and J.B. Hunt, whose origins underscore



ARKANSAS COUNTY MAP POST-1836

the entrepreneurial spirit of Arkansans.

Educational institutions such as the University of Arkansas and Arkansas State University contribute to the state’s intellectual and cultural growth. Meanwhile, the arts flourish in venues like Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, reflecting a continued commitment to creativity and innovation.

As Arkansas celebrates another anniversary of its statehood, it also looks to the future. The state continues to grapple with challenges such as education reform, economic disparities, and environmental conservation. However, the resilience and determination of its people promise a bright path ahead.

Through its history, Arkansas has shown a remarkable ability to adapt and grow. Whether through boom or bust, conflict or peace, the spirit of Arkansas remains steadfast, rooted in the values of community, perseverance, and hope.

The anniversary of Arkansas gaining statehood on June 15, 1836, is more than just a historical date. It is a celebration of the enduring legacy of a state that has grown and evolved over

nearly two centuries. From its beginnings as a frontier territory to its place today as a cornerstone of the American South, Arkansas’ story is a testament to the strength and resilience of its people.

As Arkansans gather to commemorate this occasion, they honor not just their past but also their future, carrying forward the rich heritage and indomitable spirit that make Arkansas truly unique. In doing so, they reaffirm their place in the larger narrative of the United States, ensuring that the lessons and values of the past continue to inspire generations to come.

# Murfreesboro sending out clean-up letters this week to property owners

The Murfreesboro City Council was informed during its June meeting that certain property owners with unsightly yards should expect a letter from the city sometime this week.

Zoning Inspector Ricky Branch reported during the meeting that the letters instructing property owners to clean up will be the first step, followed by possible misdemeanor charges and fines, if the issues are not addressed.

In other business during the 31-minute meeting, the council approved a resolution for the city to apply for a Fun Park Grant and adopted a lengthy ordinance entitled, “An Ordinance for Fair Housing” for the city. The entire ordinance appears in this week’s Diamond.

Mayor Jim O’Neal said the ordinance was adopted on the advice of the West Central Arkansas Planning Development District as part of the ongoing attempt to appeal the city’s lower to moderate income ratio. The high ratio is affecting the city’s ability to obtain substantial grants. The mayor added that fair housing is already state and federal law but the ordinance is a required part of the LMI appeal procedure.

The council also approved Recorder/Treasurer Penny Lamb’s financial report, which included the following beginning and ending balances for May:

- General Funds \$329,057 / \$347,916
- Street Funds \$313,697 / \$311,384
- Park Funds \$23,739 / \$25,435
- Waterworks \$507,471 / \$510,975
- Advertising & Tourism \$76,481 / \$77,806
- Special Funds \$318,159 / \$322,053

# Memorial car show set for Sept. 12-13 in M’boro

The fourth annual Keith Stone Memorial Car Show is set for Friday and Saturday, Sept. 12-13 in Murfreesboro.

On Friday night, a “show and shine,” cruise and poker run is planned starting at 6 p.m. on the Pike County Courthouse square.

Then, on Saturday morning from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. the show will be held around the square.

There is a \$20 entry for the vehicles to be judged in a number of categories, including a participant’s choice award.

After the awards, a \$500 drawing will be held along with door prizes and a 50/50 pot.

Matt Gunter will serve as a D.J. at the event.

Contact Kirk Stone at (870) 703-1860 for more information.

### Central Baptist Church

### Vacation Bible School

**Sunday, June 22 - Thursday, June 26**  
**6:00 p.m - 8:00 p.m.**  
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Sailors see some sea creatures ...

...when they sail the seven salty seas.

Kids: color stuff in!

## Newspaper Fun!

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### Creatures of Our Seas!

Do you think a "new," giant creature will be found during your lifetime?

If it is, how do **you** think it will look and live?

There are so many fascinating creatures that live in our seas and oceans. Scientists today are diving to the deepest parts of the oceans to explore and photograph sea life that no humans have ever seen before.

Almost everything in the sea is food for something else.

This is a giant...

In some parts of the world, people consider me (a puffer fish) a special and rare treat. But, my poisonous parts and spines keep almost everything else from eating me.

Can you read the clues and fill in the names of these 10 sea creatures?

Oops...I did it again!

#### This Sea Creature...

1. is really a fish that grows up to six feet long; it can be a shocking experience to meet it (2 words)
2. "gallops" through warm waters; when tired, it can use its tail to cling to seaweed (2 words)
3. has an arm, arm, arm, arm, arm, arm, arm, arm; can squirt black ink to trick an enemy
4. comes in many sizes; a giant one can have eyes up to 15 inches wide, the largest in the world; it has eight arms with suction cups and two tentacles for catching dinner
5. uses its "double-edged sword" to slash through a school of fish for, or to fight
6. is a mammal; it is easy to spot when it "blows off steam"
7. is loved by sailors for its friendliness and intelligence
8. swallows water to blow up into a large ball; its sharp spines discourage other fish from trying to eat it (2 words)
9. has no bones, looks like umbrella; may have tentacles with poison in them to kill fish or harm enemies
10. usually has five arms; sometimes, if one is lost, it can grow back (2 words)

### Ocean Harvest

All around the world (China, Japan, Canada, Iceland) people collect seaweed from the ocean and use it as a vegetable or make it into snacks. In coastal areas of the U.S. like Maine you can find Dulse, a reddish-brown seaweed that is popular to eat.

Can you find and circle these sea items people eat or drink?

swordfish  
tuna fish  
lobster  
mussels  
oysters  
salt  
clams  
fish  
crab  
water

N	C	S	R	E	T	S	Y	O
C	A	A	O	U	W	E	R	
L	R	O	B	H	A	O	P	G
O	A	G	F	T	Y	R	T	I
B	B	N	E	I	Y	D	R	T
S	U	R	K	J	H	F	J	M
T	O	J	H	F	R	I	U	E
E	R	F	I	S	H	S	M	V
R	U	G	C	D	S	H	K	H
H	G	C	R	E	J	H	U	S
P	O	I	L	K	A	T	A	I
G	F	S	K	O	U	M	G	F
T	M	I	M	J	S	A		
I	L	A	I	A	C	N		
H	U	J	L	G	F	U		
N	G	T	Y	C	I	T		

### Ocean Friends

Stingray wants to go to visit his friends today.

Start

Help Stingray visit **Sea Star** first, **Seal** next and then the **Banded Box Jelly**.

Finish

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**NASHVILLE 14U ALL-STARS TOPS IN TOURNAMENT.** The Nashville 14U All-Stars brought home the first place at the state All-Star tournament held in Conway. Team members include Braiden Friend, Parker Webb, Wyatt Chesshir, Hudson Harrison, Andrew Reese, Karson Pack, Bo Young, Danny Young, Jacob Shaw and Charles Morrow. The team is coached by Chase Friend, Will Webb and James Ruffaner and was sponsored by Hometown Poultry, Reliable Poultry, Farms Bank & Trust, Apex, Kay Jones and Charles Morrow.

## Pike County District Court

May 6, 2025  
BF=Bond Forfeited  
Pike County  
Anderson, Cheryl Denise, \$135 BF, speeding  
Bonazzi, Dominck C., guilty of failure to register tags/expired, fined \$25; guilty of driving with suspended license, fined \$325  
Borger, Ashley Marylynn, \$135 BF, speeding  
Brantley, Mary Jo, \$125 BF, speeding  
Cagle, Austin Ryan, guilty of passing stopped school bus, fined \$635  
Cavanaugh, Donald Blake, \$185 BF, speeding  
Cogburn, Kalista Belle, guilty of speeding, f fined \$135; guilty of no driver's license, fined \$125  
Cotten, Caleb Mitchell, \$445 BF, reckless driving; \$185 BF, speeding  
Dvorak, Kent Alan, \$185 Bf, speeding  
Ewin, Rebekah A., \$125 BF, failure to register tags/expired; \$205 BF, failure to appear  
Halley, Jacob Adrain, \$135 BF, speeding  
Haney, Britney R., guilty

of guilty of failure to pay, fined \$20-5  
Harrison, Ellen Renee, \$135 BF, speeding  
Hernandez, Yessica, \$\$125 BF, no driver's license  
Hicks, Charles Anthony, \$135 BF, speeding  
Houser, Dylan, guilty of failure to pay, fined \$205  
Howell, Olen Richard, guilty of failure to pay, fined \$205  
Hudson, Larry N., guilty of driving with suspended license, fined \$325; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$315; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$205; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$205  
James Ross Daniel, \$185 BF, speeding  
Johnson, Timothy J., \$185 BF, speeding  
Kemp, Allison K., guilty of failure to pay, fined \$205  
Kitamura, Yuki, \$185 BF, speeding  
Martin, Larry L., guilty of failure to pay, fined \$205; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$205  
McNeil, Justin Michael, guilty of failure to register

tags/expired, fined \$125; guilty of driving with suspended license, fined \$325; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$315  
Miller, Leaoriea D., \$125 BF, speeding  
Miller, Wesley P., \$315 BF, no proof of liability insurance  
Muniz, Robert, \$135 BF, speeding  
Parker, David A., guilty of failure to pay, fined \$205; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$205  
Pipkins, Donna R., \$185 BF, speeding  
Rya, Kylie C., \$135 BF, speeding  
Rice, Michele Marie, \$135 BF, speeding  
Roberts, Rebecca Lynn, \$135 BF, speeding  
Ryan, Dave Thomas, \$135 BF, speeding  
Simpson, Susan Bramlet, \$185 BF, speeding  
Sims, Lee Andres, \$135 BF, speeding  
Smith, Erik S., \$135 BF, speeding  
Stone, Matthew, \$185 BF, speeding  
Thapa, Prabin, \$135 Bf,

speeding  
Vicente, Mauritania, \$125 BF, no child restraint device  
With, Ryan Allan, guilty of driving with suspended license, fined \$325; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$315  
Yocum, Dauntel I., \$125 BF, speeding;  
Zuniga, Victoriano, \$125 BF, no driver's license; \$135 BF, speeding  
City of Murfreesboro  
Crews, Mindy Kay, guilty of possession of drug paraphernalia, fined \$620; guilty of failure to register tags/expired, fined \$145  
Gwynne, Will Garrett, \$165 BF, violation of city animal ordinance  
Harris, Laci D., guilty of violation of city animal ordnance, fined \$250  
Lucas, Braedon Lee, guilty of driving with suspended license, fined \$345  
McKinnon, Judy L., guilty of failure to present liability insurance, fined \$90; guilty of defective lights, fined \$145  
Mooring, Crystal Dawn, guilty of failure to register

tags/expired, fined \$145; guilty of no child restraint device, fined \$145  
Richter, Josph Dewayne, guilty of DWI, fined \$1,090, credited for time served, license suspended and must compete DWI educational course; guilty of fictitious tags, fined \$145; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$335; guilty of driving with suspended license, fined \$345; guilty of defective/improper headlights  
Rodriguez, Javier, \$145 BF, no driver's license  
Teague, Joey Dalton, guilty of theft of property, fined \$405; guilty of criminal trespass, fined \$210  
Zacarias, Jose, \$145 BF, no driver's license  
Arkansas Game & Fish Commission  
McMurtrie, George N III, \$220 BF, littering watersbanks  
City of Glenwood  
Clift, Matthew Daniel, guilty of failure to register tags/expired, fined \$145  
Downer, Khamon, Taylor, \$145 BF, failure to register tags/expired, fined

\$145; \$345 BF, driving with suspended license  
Drye, Matthew Edward, \$145 Bf, failure to stop or yield  
Gilbert, Zackary Wayne, \$155 BF, speeding  
Hassen, Randy Thomas, \$145 BF, speeding  
Hernandez, Apolonio E., \$145 Bf, no driver's license  
Houser, Dylan, guilty of failure to pay, fined \$205  
Jenkins, Avery Thomas, \$145 BF, failure to register tags/expired  
Moss, Addyson Kalynn, \$145 BF, no proof of liability insurance  
Martinez, Martin, guilty of failure to pay, fined \$205  
Nagera, Gabriel, guilty of no driver's license, fined \$145  
Phillips, Sarah Mechelle, \$145 BF, speeding; guilty oof leaving scene of accident, fined \$220; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$205  
Ramirez, Jose Julian, \$145 Bf, no driver's license; \$145 BF, driving left of center  
Serrano, Allison, guilty of no driver's license, fined \$145

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## PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HOWARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS PROBATE DIVISION  
IN THE MATTER OF  
THE GUARDIANSHIP OF TO PERSON OF: CASE NO. 31PR-25-31  
Josiah Hubbard and Elizabeth Parnell, Minor  
Warning Order  
TO: Daniel Parnell, putative father, and all other possible putative fathers

Shall take notice that on May 15, 2025 a Petition for Appointment of a Guardian of the Person was filed on behalf of Brandon and Carrie Smith in the Circuit Court of Howard County, Arkansas to obtain a guardianship of the minor child Elizabeth Parnell whose date of birth is September 3, 2024.

Daniel Parnell, putative father and all other possible putative fathers shall take notice that unless you appear and defend or otherwise respond within thirty (30) days from the first date of publication of this notice, an order may be entered and granted, or you will be otherwise barred from asserting your interest in this matter.

Jessica R. Hostetler, Howard County Deputy Clerk  
DATE: June 12, 2025  
(TLF: 52, 1)

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Photos by Nikki Fields Images & Designs

Apply until July 14 for fall gator hunt

Hunting season for Arkansas’s largest reptile may be months away, but anyone looking to have a shot at a Natural State gator on public land needs to get their application in soon. Applications for the 2025 Arkansas alligator hunting season will be available at [www.agfc.com](http://www.agfc.com) from 8 a.m. June 15 through midnight July 14.

Like last year, hunters will be able to choose one of 10 public land hunting areas, all situated in the southern half of the state. Just like last year, Yellow Lake at the Pine Bluff Arsenal will allow a limited permit hunt, as will the Delta Wetland Complex (Lake Wallace, Lake Enterprise, Lake Chicot, Grand Lake and Wilson Brake Reservoir).

“Lake Grampus was originally in the Delta Wetland Complex, but due to recent issues with the dam, we’ve taken it out of the huntable area in that complex,” AGFC Herpetologist Amanda Bryant said. “We expanded our surveys this spring and have been able to include Wilson Brake to take its place. Once Grampus is restored, we’ll actually see an increase in huntable areas for this public land opportunity.”

Another notable difference to this year’s permit

hunts is a new quota system in place for hunters who draw a permit to hunt Millwood Lake in southwest Arkansas.

The following hunts are available for the 2025 hunting season:

Alligator Management Zone 1

- 12 permits for Millwood Lake (nine alligator quota)
- five permits for Dr. Lester Sitzes III Bois D’Arc WMA
- two permits for Little River
- one permit for Lake Erling

Alligator Management Zone 2

- one permit for Bragg Lake
- two permits for Lake Columbia

Alligator Management Zone 3

- 11 permits for the Lower Arkansas River Wetland Complex (Arkansas River backwaters near Arkansas Post)
- two permits for Yellow Lake (Pine Bluff Arsenal)
- five permits for The Delta Wetland Complex

Each permit authorizes the harvest of one alligator, which must be at least 4 feet long. Alligator hunting is allowed 30 minutes after sunset until 30 minutes before sunrise during the

approved alligator hunting season dates – Sept. 19-22 and Sept. 26-29. Each permit holder may have up to three assistants with them on the hunt, but only the permit holder is allowed to snare, harpoon and dispatch the alligator.

Applicants must be at least 16 years of age the day the hunt begins, and only Arkansas residents may apply. Applicants with 18 or more AGFC violation points are ineligible to apply. Alligator hunt applicants must pay a \$5 nonrefundable processing fee at the time of their application.

Anyone who has access to private land in Alligator Zones 1, 2 or 3 may purchase a private land alligator tag in addition to their big-game hunting license and be able to hunt during alligator season until the quota is met for their zone.

All alligator hunters must go through an online hunt orientation before going to the field. The orientation lays out the most important details and frequently asked questions about the hunt. The orientation and additional information about the hunt are available at [www.agfc.com/alligator](http://www.agfc.com/alligator).

Visit [www.agfc.com](http://www.agfc.com) to apply for an alligator hunting permit.

# Art at the Arena

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