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Cheer camp announced

Attendees to be instructed by MHS cheerleaders

MURFREESBORO -- The “Pack the Pit” cheer camp will be held Friday, August 1 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Murfreesboro High School. The camp is open to female students in grades kindergarten-sixth grades and will cost \$25 per camper to attend. The students will learn the MHS cheerleaders’ pep rally cheers and the basics of cheerleading in a session instructed by the MHS cheerleaders. Students may be registered at osp.osmsinc.com/p/yr015-6. For more information about the camp, please e-mail melissa.jones@rattlers.org or melissa.cornish@rattlers.org.

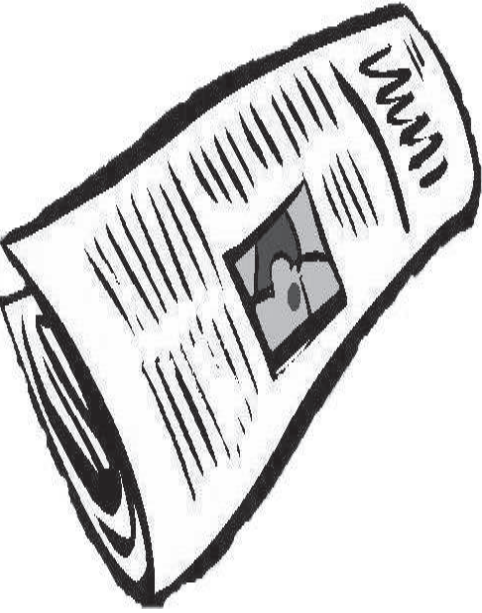


Group seeks to get more animals adopted

NASHVILLE -- Southwest Arkansas Paws (SWA PAWS) is a new organization in Nashville that came together after concerned citizens learned that over 82 percent of the dogs and cats that came through the local animal control service had been euthanized during 2024. Nashville Animal Control serves Nashville as well as five other cities including Washington, Murfreesboro, Mineral Springs, Dierks and Prescott. Though not affiliated with Nashville Animal Control, SWA PAWS is working closely with Animal Control Officer Seborn Gregory and Nashville Mayor Larry Dunaway to make a difference for these homeless and unwanted animals. The group’s 20+ members want to encourage people to “adopt rather than shop” for their next pet. The group started with a Facebook page with pictures and descriptions of the animals available for adoption at Nashville Animal Control. The page has more than 1,200 followers now, though it only started a little over a month ago. SWA PAWS is currently working to obtain a 501(c) (3) nonprofit status for tax-deductible donations. The organization has been sponsoring adoptions at the Nashville service for two pets a month. SWA PAWS will pay the spay and neuter fee so that those who adopt will only have to pay a \$20 adoption fee. During the month of July, SWA PAWS is sponsoring all adults animals who are adopted. One of the goals of SWA PAWS is to sponsor a low-cost spay and neuter clinic in the near future. Spaying and neutering pets is key to avoid overpopulation of unwanted animals. The ultimate goal is to one day have a no-kill shelter in Nashville, but the group is taking this process one step at a time. SWA PAWS had been overwhelmed with the generosity of people in the community. A large fundraiser is planned for the month of October and all of the public will be invited. SWA PAWS T-shirts will be available soon for purchase for \$25. Persons interested in supporting SWA PAWS with a donation can send donations to: SWA PAWS 1007 North 15th Street Nashville, AR 71852



INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATION ... Murfreesboro celebrated July 4 with a band -- Silver Smoke (above) -- followed by fireworks provided by the Murfreesboro Rehab and Nursing Center.



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Local man arrested and charged with litany of crimes

MURFREESBORO -- A Murfreesboro man who has twice been the target of the U.S. Marshal Service has been arrested and charged in Pike County with aggravated assault and false imprisonment. Neftali Lugo, 33, was charged July 2 with felony false imprisonment and aggravated assault as well as a misdemeanor charges of third-degree battery and fleeing. He remains in county custody on \$50,000 bond, as of Tuesday morning, awaiting a court date. Lugo was arrested on June 25 following a physical altercation at 423 W. Dixon Street. The victim and property owner, Christie Nance, 58, showed signs of a physical assault and law enforcement stated she was attacked in the home by Lugo, who allegedly choked her until she began losing consciousness. The victim’s daughter, Jaymie Nance, is Lugo’s girlfriend and she lives at the home owned by her mother. The victim also stated Lugo accused her of ruining his life and then

blocked her exit with a dresser before attempting to drag her into a bedroom, according to case information. Lugo allegedly said, “I cannot go back to prison ... I will take care of you” before instructing the daughter to gather the victim’s keys, vehicle and cell phone to make it appear as though she had never been at the residence. The victim was eventually able to escape after claiming she had already called the police before she came the residence. Lugo fled on foot from the scene, and soon after, calls were received about a shirtless man running through backyards and hiding in a shed. When officers located Lugo, he fled again and was eventually caught on South Second Street. Earlier this year, Lugo was arrested twice this year by the U.S. Marshal Service on charges out of Texas and Connecticut, according to Murfreesboro Police Chief Randy Lamb.

School prepares for upcoming year minus cell phones

MURFREESBORO -- As stated on the school’s website, rattlers.org, the “Bell to Bell, No Cell” state law act will go into effect for the 2025-2026 school year. Students will not be allowed to use personal devices such as cell phones, smartwatches or tablets during the school day. Exceptions for the rule include: medical needs, extracurricular activities, Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) accommodations and emergencies. The school states that the law is designed to “help students stay focused on learning, build stronger relationships and limit distractions

from personal devices during school hours.” It was also noted that a detailed device policy will be released by South Pike County School District to families before the start of the upcoming school year. That information will include how exceptions will be handled. The nearby Kirby School District, which will also implement the policy, as will all public schools across the state, suggests that you “start the conversation now with your child to help them get ready.” To see the full wording of the bill, please visit arkleg.state.ar.us and search for SB142.

Legislators tout state benefits from national spending bill passage

WASHINGTON - Last week, the House of Representatives passed the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, sending the final version of the reconciliation package to the President’s desk to be signed into law. Congressman Bruce Westerman (AR-04) released the following statement:

“In November, the American people voted to put America first. Today, Congress delivered on that promise. After months of tireless work, bicameral conversations, and late-night committee markups, House and Senate Republicans have passed a reconciliation package that unleashes American energy, provides lower tax rates for all Americans, secures our borders, strengthens our nation’s military capabilities, and roots out government waste, fraud, and abuse.”

“Effective policymaking focuses on real dinner-table issues that concern everyday Americans: gas prices, grocery bills, job opportunities, and children’s futures. In the Natural State, workers, family farms, and small businesses are critical for our state’s economic prosperity. This reconciliation package delivers historic tax breaks to ensure that these individuals and families can afford to keep food on their table, invest in their children’s future, and keep the legacy of their family alive for years to come. House and Senate Republicans have secured a monumental win and delivered on their promise to the American people. I look forward to seeing this piece of legislation make its way to the President’s desk to be signed into law.”

Background on the One Big Beautiful Bill Act:

- Provides tax relief and economic growth:
- Saves taxpayers billions by eliminating waste, fraud, and abuse, eradicating wasteful programs, and cutting obstructive federal red tape that has held back building American progress.
- Makes the 2017 Trump tax cuts permanent – protecting the average taxpayer from a 22 percent tax hike.
- Saves the average Arkansas family \$1,280 – the equivalent of seven weeks of groceries.
- Delivers on President Trump’s priorities of no tax on tips, overtime pay, and car loan interest, and provides additional tax relief for seniors.
- Expands and makes permanent the 199A small business deduction to 20 percent– creating over one million new Main Street small business jobs and generating billions in economic growth for American small businesses.
- Ends Biden-era tax breaks and special interest giveaways to the wealthy, big corporations, and China.

UNLEASHES AMERICAN ENERGY:

- Unleashes American energy dominance by ensuring affordable energy and creating jobs in energy sectors across the country.
- Increases domestic mining activities and decreases American dependence on China for critical minerals and rare earth elements.
- Saves the American taxpayer billions of dollars in future wildfire suppression, disaster response, and deferred maintenance costs by stewarding our public lands and water.
- Reverses policies that stifled economic development, locked up American resources, and granted unprecedented power to federal bureaucrats.
- Prevents federal waste, fraud, and abuse:
- Strengthens taxpayer-funded programs to enforce work requirements and eliminates access to these programs for non-citizens.
- Creates Medicaid accountability by requiring able-bodied adults to work and requires cost-sharing for those above the federal poverty line.

- Protects Medicaid for vulnerable Americans for whom the program was designed.

INVESTS IN OUR MILITARY:

- Allocates funds to enhance U.S. munitions production and replenish stocks.
- Allocates funds for upgrading and modernizing military aircraft.
- Allocates funds to enhance U.S. military readiness and infrastructure.
- Allocates for funding which is aimed at improving service-member quality of life.

SECURES THE BORDER:

- Expands border security through completion of the primary wall across the southern border and river barriers.
- Allocates funds to hire additional Border Patrol agents.
- Modernizes border security technology heavily relied upon by Border Patrol agents.

Learn more about the One Big Beautiful Bill Act at <https://www.speaker.gov/one-big-beautiful-bill>.

U.S. Senator John Boozman (R-AR) released the following statement after Senate passage of budget reconciliation legislation that advances President Trump and Congressional Republicans’ agenda:

“This bill delivers the largest tax cut ever for working and middle-class Americans in addition to letting tipped and hourly workers, seniors and families keep more of their hard-earned income. It also eliminates waste, fraud and abuse so assistance programs can continue to serve the vulnerable, and provides transformational funding for border security, national security and energy security. These policies will help responsibly steward taxpayer dollars and make our nation stronger, safer and more prosperous.”

Boozman, who serves as Chairman of the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee, also weighed in specifically on the committee-led provisions to deliver permanent tax relief to America’s farmers and invest in rural communities:

“We make commonsense reforms to SNAP to ensure the program operates efficiently, is accountable to the taxpayers and helps those who truly need it. There is also good news for hard-working farmers, ranchers and producers who for too long were forced to operate under outdated policies. Our investments in farm country will support the long-term success of family farms and America’s agriculture industry, providing desperately needed and improved risk management tools as well as a modernized farm safety net.”

BACKGROUND

The pro-growth legislation extends the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, preventing the largest tax hike in history and providing additional tax relief to working families and small businesses. Expiration of these cuts would mean a \$4 trillion tax increase, including a \$2.6 trillion-plus tax hike on households earning less than \$400,000 per year. The average Arkansan would avoid paying \$2,325 more in taxes under the Senate-passed bill.

- Provisions addressing important tax priorities permanently include:
 - Lowering tax rates and removing taxes on tips as well as overtime for millions of workers in addition to a sizable deduction for millions of low- and middle-income seniors;
 - Increasing and enhancing the child tax credit and standard deduction claimed by over 90 percent of taxpayers;
 - Extending the 20 percent small business deduction and enabling full expensing on capital investment as well as research and development; and
 - Keeping the death tax from doubling for farm families and small business owners so they can be passed on to the next generation.
- “Our country was at a crossroads last November when the American people headed to the polls to weigh in on which direction we should take. The competing visions represented a clear contrast for voters to consider,” Boozman said to open his column which follows.
- Thankfully they were decisive about which path to take — the pursuit of pro-growth policies, security at our nation’s borders, energy dominance and independence, and revitalized leadership on the global stage that starts with a powerful, lethal military. Those goals were front and center for President Trump and Republicans up and down the ballot.

I’m pleased the Senate took a significant step to deliver on these aims and provide a once-in-a-generation investment that makes Arkansas and our nation more strong, safe and prosper-

ous.

The One Big Beautiful Bill Act was approved by the Senate, with my support, specifically because it takes concrete steps to bring our key promises and policies to fruition.

There is perhaps no more important aspect of this legislation than extending the 2017 tax cuts to prevent the largest tax hike in history and offer additional tax relief to working families and small businesses. This bill stops an estimated \$4 trillion tax increase on Americans, to include saving the average Arkansan \$2,325 next tax season.

Not only are we keeping lower tax rates in place, but we also remove taxes on tips as well as overtime for millions of workers and offer a sizable deduction for low- and middle-income seniors. Additionally, we increase and enhance the child tax credit and standard deduction – claimed by over 90 percent of taxpayers – while also extending the 20 percent small business deduction and enabling full expensing on capital investment as well as research and development. Finally, we are keeping the death tax from doubling for farm families and small business owners to help with passing their livelihoods on to the next generation.

This package also has reforms to eliminate waste, fraud and abuse so assistance programs can continue to serve the truly vulnerable. As Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, I crafted the commonsense adjustments in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to ensure it operates efficiently, is accountable to the taxpayers and helps those who truly need it. Our provisions motivate states to administer benefits with more precision and vigilance while empowering individuals to pursue work, education, training and volunteer opportunities.

The Republican agenda to achieve border security, revitalize national security and usher in energy security also sees great advances under this legislation.

We are delivering transformational investments and updates that supply essential personnel and resources. That includes maintaining the newly recovered operational control of our border into the future and detaining more illegal immigrants while also funding vital initiatives to modernize and enhance our armed forces and spurring more rapid development of an affordable energy supply.

And that is not all. I am especially proud of the work we did to support America’s farmers, who for too long were forced to operate under outdated policies, and invest in rural communities. Our measure aids the long-term success of family farms and America’s agriculture industry by providing desperately needed and improved risk management tools as well as a modernized farm safety net.

The policies we are adopting will help responsibly steward taxpayer dollars and prioritize our nation’s safety, strength and success. I am pleased to be working with the White House and my colleagues to secure these important wins that will benefit Arkansans and communities across the nation.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

JULY 14-17 -- The Antoine Baptist Church will be hosting their “Magnificent” VBS starting July 14- 17, from 6 to 8 p.m.

This summer’s theme is Discovering the Bigness of God in the smallest of things. Family night will be held on July 18 at 6 p.m.

morial Car Show has changed their dates to Friday and Saturday, Sept. 19-20 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. Contact Kirk Stone at (870) 703-1860 for more information.

JULY 29 -- The Call in Pike and Montgomery counties will be holding a prayer meeting on Tuesday, July 29 at 6 p.m. at the First Baptist Church (MAC building) in Glenwood. Join our team, and help us pray for foster and adoptive families in our communities.

SEPTEMBER 19-20 -- The fourth annual Keith Stone Me-

SEND YOUR COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS TO mdiamond@windstream.net

LETTER TO EDITOR POLICY

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

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

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Staff photos

MHS ALUMNI GRADUATE FROM OBU ... Five former Murfreesboro High School graduates were among the 442 total graduates from Ouachita Baptist University this spring. Grady Thomas Jones of Murfreesboro graduated with a degree in Kinesiology and Education/Teaching and was Summa Cum Laude with a 3.95-4.0 GPA; Mary Hannah Mcknight of Mufreesboro earned a degree in Elementary Education; Mckenzie Leanne (May) Fatheree of Delight graduated with a degree in Middle School Education/Math & Social Studies and was Summa Cum Laude with a 3.95-4.0 GPA as well as a member of the Alpha Chi National Honor Society; Christopher Adam Lott of Murfreesboro earned a degree in Nursing and was Magna Cum Laude with a 3.750-3.949 GPA; while Malaya Danille Graham of Murfreesboro graduated with a degree in Communications & Media/Strategic Communications.

Dukes earns promotion at Edward Jones office

HOT SPRINGS -- Kristie Dukes recently graduated from a trainee position to that of branch office administrator at the Hot Springs office of the financial services firm Edward Jones. Dukes has lived in Hot Springs for 11 years.

"For the past 6 months, Kristie has performed the duties of her job while also working to complete her training and testing requirements," Porter said. "This is a well-deserved promotion."

Edward Jones is a leading North American financial services firm with more than 20,000 financial advisors. The firm serves more than 9 million clients with a total of \$2.2 trillion in client assets under care as of March 28, 2025. Edward Jones' purpose is to partner for positive impact to improve the lives of its clients and colleagues, and together, better our communities and society. Through the dedication of the firm's approximately 55,000 associates and our branch presence in 68% of U.S. counties and most Canadian provinces and territories, the firm is committed to helping more people achieve financially what is most important to them. The Edward Jones website is at www.edwardjones.com, and its recruiting website is www.careers.edwardjones.com. Member SIPC.



KRISTIE DUKES

Staff photos

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UAMS

HOUSE CALL

Dr. Bala Simon is an associate professor in the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine in the College of Medicine at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

Q: What are some issues that affect the gallbladder?

A: The gallbladder is a small, pear-shaped organ just below the liver. Its purpose is to store and release bile produced by the liver. The gallbladder contracts and forces bile through bile ducts into the small intestine to aid in digesting fats.

Gallstones are the most common gallbladder condition. Gallstones are hard pieces of excess material in the gallbladder, and they can vary in size from small specks to as large as a golf ball. If they are large enough, they can block the flow of bile. Gallbladder inflammation (cholecystitis) and gangrene are other issues that can affect the gallbladder.

Risk factors for gallbladder problems include people over

the age of 60, those who consume a diet high in cholesterol, those who are overweight, and those with a family history of gallbladder disease. Symptoms of gallbladder problems include bloating, changes in the color of bowel movements or urine, fever, nausea, and pain in the back and chest.

Treatment for gallbladder issues depend upon the cause. Your health care provider may perform an endoscopy to examine the gallbladder for gallstones or other blockages. Removal of the gallbladder is a common treatment option and normally does not have a detrimental effect on lifestyle.

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The sky isn't falling ... but space junk is!

"The sky is falling; the sky is falling" cried Henny Penny after an acorn hit her head. She is a character from an early European folktale, but in the U.S., she is known as Chicken Little. One moral to this folktale is that one should beware of someone spreading panic about something that has not been adequately verified.

We have by now, it seems, enough "acorns" falling on and around us to conclude that not the sky itself but things up there are starting to come down with increasing frequency. Recent space junk and meteorite entries into Earth's atmosphere have made the news. A two-pound object from a NASA launch vehicle recently crashed into a family home in Florida. The homeowners are now suing, which is the first of its kind lawsuit. A meteor made a day-time fireball over some southern states a few weeks ago, and it is believed that a pebble sized piece of it survived to pierce the roof and ceiling of a family home then imbed itself into their laminate flooring.

According to Space.com, Orbital Today and other space news sites, skyrocketing insurance coverage for satellites has led to an increase in the use of cheaper lower quality satellites in low Earth orbit (LEO) that have short lifespans. They malfunction or break-up after only a few years and add to the already crowded LEO orbit level. There are many problems at hand with this, maybe for consideration in another article. In the meantime, we can just wait for the next fireball or shower of meteor-like pieces of space junk, and hope for spectacles not catastrophes.

The Moon will be full on July 10. This month it is called the Buck Moon because deer antlers are in full growth.

The Moon is full when it and the Sun are on opposite sides of the Earth, and the visible side of the Moon is fully illuminated. The Moon appears full a day or so before and after the official full time. Also, the full Moon is the only phase when the Moon is up all night. It rises at sunset, and sets at sunrise.

Venus is bright in the east in the early morning and is near the bright red star Aldebaran (the eye of Taurus the bull) on the 15th. Jupiter is on the rise just above the horizon then as well. Mars is visible in the southwest after sunset, but dim. Saturn will be visible by mid-month rising in the east.

Local CASA to merge

SW ARKANSAS -- CASA of Clark and Pike Counties is proud to announce an official partnership with Tri-Lakes CASA, uniting two passionate nonprofit organizations under one mission to serve children in foster care. The unified program will now provide Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) services across five Arkansas counties: Clark, Pike, Garland, Hot Spring, and Grant counties.

This strategy strengthens advocacy efforts for abused and neglected children in the foster care system by consolidating resources, enhancing operational efficiency, and increasing the reach of volunteer-led support. Together, the unified program aims to recruit and train more community volunteers who will serve as powerful voices for children navigating the complexities of foster care.

"We're thrilled to join forces with Tri-Lakes CASA, a partnership that strengthens our shared mission of serving every child in care," said Celeste Davis, Executive Director of CASA of Clark and Pike Counties. "This collaboration opens the door to our communities through expanded expertise, enhanced services, and a broader community reach – ultimately allowing us to advocate more effectively for the children and their families who need us most. We're excited about the opportunity for growth and the incredible potential this brings to our mission and our community."

"This represents a significant milestone for both organizations," said Suzanne Herron, Executive Director of Tri-Lakes CASA. "By joining forces, we are streamlining operations and expanding our ability to provide consistent, high-quality advocacy to even more children. Every child deserves a safe, permanent home – and together, we are making that vision a reality across give counties."

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) volunteers are appointed by judges to speak up for children who have experienced abuse or neglect. These volunteers ensure that children's best interests are represented in court and within the child welfare system. CASA programs are governed by Arkansas Code § 9-27-316(g) and provide a unique, unduplicated service not replicated by any other organization in the state.

CASA of Clark and Pike Counties has a longstanding history of service for 26 years in its region, while Tri-Lakes CASA has been a trusted advocate in Garland, Hot Spring, and Grant Counties for 30 years. Uniting organizations reflects a shared commitment to ensuring that no child in the region goes without a dedicated advocate.

Tri-Lakes Board Chair Jimmy Cone added, "This collaboration strengthens our foundation and creates new opportunities to build relationships with donors, community partners, and civic leaders across all five counties. The future is bright for the children we serve."

CASA of Clark and Pike Counties and Tri-Lakes CASA invites community members to get involved by becoming CASA volunteers or supporting the mission through volunteering and donations. With over 400 children in foster care across the five-county service area, the need for advocates is greater than ever.

To learn more or to become a CASA volunteer, visit www.trilakescasa.org.

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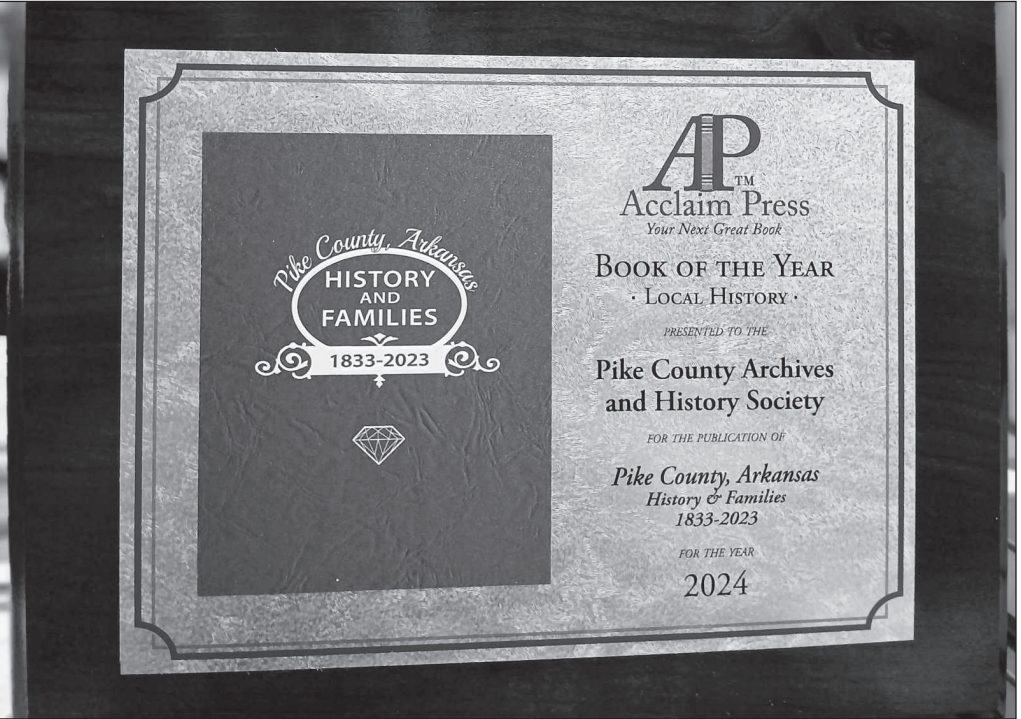
Pike County Archives and History Society receives book award

MURFREESBORO -- The Pike County Archives and History Society was recently presented with an award in the category of Local History from the book publisher, Acclaim Press, for the new book that they sponsored entitled Pike County History & Families 1833-2023. This large, hard cover, coffee-table style, 304 page book is well illustrated with hundreds of photos, drawings and maps from all eras of the two centuries it covers.

Receiving the award was the book project chairman Charlotte McCaully, who's initiative launched the book, and Darlene Watson, who served in compiling the materials for the book with the publisher for its production from beginning to end. A special plaque was presented to them for public display at the Archives Center.

The award is presented each year to one of the many books published by Acclaim Press, based in Sikeston, Missouri, for the most outstanding local history book for the previous year. "The winners are chosen by our own staff, based on aesthetic appeal, literary significance and market acceptance, in all of which Pike County, Arkansas excelled," relayed Doug Sikes, President of Acclaim Press, who presented them with the plaque commemorating the award. Sikes added, "Many great people have called Pike County home, so, it is fitting that their story will be so well preserved for future generations. All who worked on it are to be highly commended."

The book is being sold by the Pike County Archives and History Center in Murfreesboro.



Tomatoes not a fan of the refrigerator

BY MARY HIGHTOWER
U of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture

LITTLE ROCK — Beefsteaks. Bradley pinks. Cherokee purples. No matter what variety, all tomatoes have one thing in common: Don't put them in the fridge.

Tomatoes are among the most-eaten produce item, with per capita consumption in the United States estimated at 19.2 pounds in 2023, according to Statista.

What happens between the time they're picked or purchased and then sliced into a salad or BLT can make a big difference in flavor and texture, according to Lida Araghi, as-

sistant professor and extension nutrition and food specialist for the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture.

"Cold temperatures can damage the texture and flavor of tomatoes," she said.

"When stored below about 55 degrees Fahrenheit, the enzymes responsible for developing their flavor are inhibited, and the cell membranes can break down, leading to a mealy texture and reduced taste quality," Araghi said.

There is an exception though, for tomatoes that are "very ripe and you need to keep them from spoiling for a short time," she said.

"If you need to refrigerate very ripe tomatoes to keep them from spoiling, it's best to let them

come back to room temperature before eating to improve flavor," Araghi said.

In addition to being flavorful, tomatoes are high in potassium, vitamin C and antioxidants such as lycopene. They're also low in sodium, fat and calories.

Find more information about selecting, storing, prepping and cooking tomatoes with

our online fact sheet at www.uaex.uada.edu/life-skills-wellness/food-nutrition/eating-well/Tomatoes.pdf.


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

‘Dear Preacher’

By Buddy Ray, Murfreesboro Church of Christ

GOD’S GOODNESS

“Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?” A Christian who does not appreciate the great patience of Jehovah is in dire danger. The problem with human nature is that we tend to think we are not as weak as those around us. If we are not careful, we attribute sinful things to others. The difficulty with this is that we cannot know why people act and talk as they do. Only God can judge the motivation of the individuals of our acquaintance. On occasion, we will think a family member is angry because of an expression



on the face or in the tone of voice. The truth many times is a result of a family emergency or an upsetting situation. It is evident that we cannot know what is going on in the lives of our peers. God wants us to understand that He has a perfect grasp of what is happening in our heart. God blesses us every day to show how

much He loves us. Satan will tempt us, and we will sin. “If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.” I John 1:8. He goes further to tell us. “If we say we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and the truth is not in us.” I John 1:10. Paul says God’s goodness is the motivation for us to repent and turn away from sin. God is always ready to forgive us if we will repent with all our heart. The inspired writer tells us, “Glory, honor and peace to everyone who works what is good; to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile. For there is no partiality with God.” Romans 2:10,11.

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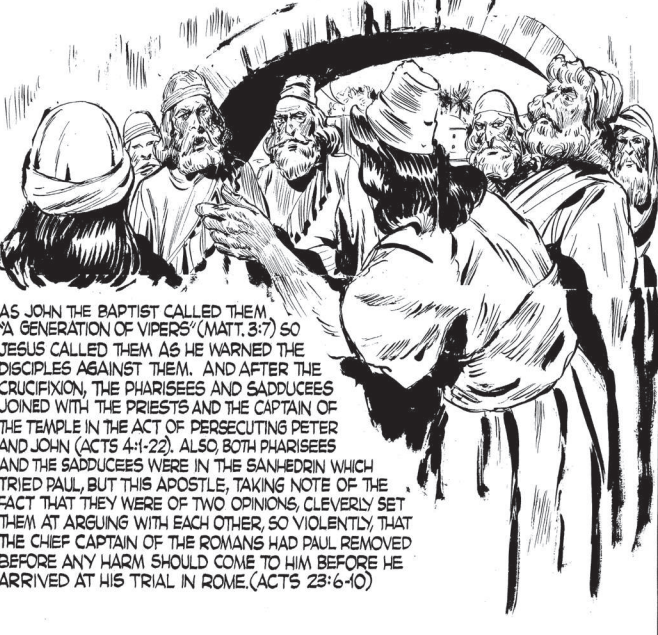
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Facts About The BIBLE

BY JOHN LEHTI

PHARISEES AND SADDUCEES...

THE TWO MOST IMPORTANT POLITICAL PARTIES IN ANCIENT JERUSALEM, THEY WERE DIRECTLY OPPOSED TO ONE ANOTHER IN MATTERS OF SPIRITUAL FAITH—THE PHARISEES BELIEVED IN THE IMMORTALITY OF THE SOUL AND IN THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY—IN OPPOSITION, THE SADDUCEES DENIED ANY LIFE AFTER DEATH OR RESURRECTION, ASSERTING THAT THE SOUL DIED WITH THE BODY—ALTHOUGH OPPOSING EACH OTHER IN MOST MATTERS, THE PHARISEES AND THE SADDUCEES CAME TOGETHER ON THE MATTER OF JESUS OF NAZARETH AND PLOTTED TOGETHER TO BRING ABOUT HIS DOWNFALL!



AS JOHN THE BAPTIST CALLED THEM, "A GENERATION OF VIPERS" (MATT. 3:7) SO JESUS CALLED THEM AS HE WARNED THE DISCIPLES AGAINST THEM. AND AFTER THE CRUCIFIXION, THE PHARISEES AND SADDUCEES JOINED WITH THE PRIESTS AND THE CAPTAIN OF THE TEMPLE IN THE ACT OF PERSECUTING PETER AND JOHN (ACTS 4:1-22). ALSO BOTH PHARISEES AND THE SADDUCEES WERE IN THE SAN-EDRIN WHICH TRIED PAUL, BUT THIS APOSTLE, TAKING NOTE OF THE FACT THAT THEY WERE OF TWO OPINIONS, CLEVERLY SET THEM AT ARGUING WITH EACH OTHER, SO VIOLENTLY THAT THE CHIEF CAPTAIN OF THE ROMANS HAD PAUL REMOVED BEFORE ANY HARM SHOULD COME TO HIM BEFORE HE ARRIVED AT HIS TRIAL IN ROME.(ACTS 23:6-10)

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Budget-friendly summer fun activities

By Rebekah Hall
U of A System Division of Agriculture

LITTLE ROCK — Between summer camps and family vacations, finding fun activities to fill summer’s long weeks can frustrate both children and parents. To combat boredom and keep costs low, experts with the Cooperative Extension Service suggest taking advantage of local opportunities and getting creative with indoor play.

“Summer activities can help build independence and self-confidence for kids — if grown-ups are willing to allow them to explore,” said Brittney Schrick, extension associate professor and family life specialist for the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture. “This is a great time to check out seasonal events happening in your community, like festivals or farmers markets.”

Schrack suggests that families consider the following outdoor activities:

Cool off. Visit local splash pads, such as those at Rotary Centennial Park in Jonesboro or the four splash pads in Little Rock.

Go local. Take a day trip to a nearby community you’ve never visited. Plan your itinerary around any cool museums, local playgrounds or scenic overlooks.

Gather friends and family for a minor league baseball game with either the Arkansas Travelers in North Little Rock or the Northwest Arkansas Naturals in Springdale.

Spin your wheels. “Kids are less likely than ever to know how to ride a bike, so learning to ride a bike, scooter or skateboard would be a great way to spend a few afternoons this summer,” Schrick said. “Remember to always wear a helmet and knee or elbow protection if necessary.”

Get to know your community. “Take family walks — either in the morning or in the early evening after dinner — so that kids know how to get places,” Schrick said. “Most kids don’t know how to get places because they travel there in a car, and many are on screens during the ride, or just otherwise don’t pay attention because they don’t ever go anywhere alone.”

Take a dip. Plan an outing to one of Arkansas’ many swimming holes, such as those on the Buffalo National River or along North Syl-

amore Creek in Mountain View.

Fun at your feet. Break out the sidewalk chalk for games of hopscotch, tic-tac-toe or four square.

For any time spent outdoors, it’s important to practice sun safety by wearing sunscreen and lightweight, loose-fitting clothes and to apply bug spray when necessary.

Stuck inside? Get creative

During the hottest part of the day — typically in the late afternoon, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. — spending time outside can be especially difficult and potentially dangerous. It’s important to avoid heat-related illness by staying indoors during the hottest hours.

But summer fun is not limited to outdoor adventures. Schrick suggests the following indoor activities to spark imagination and fight boredom:

Build a fort using blankets, bedding and other household items.

Get crafty by making friendship bracelets, beaded necklaces or keychains.

Take on a simple project such as building a birdhouse or a flower box. Building kits for these and similar crafts are available online or at craft stores.

Make a simple recipe together. “Cooking together is a great way to help kids learn their way around the kitchen and understand the food preparation process,” Schrick said. “Start by making a list together and checking your pantry to see if you have any of the ingredients. Shop together and have fun crossing your items off the list. The recipe should be one that involves your kids in most steps.”

Summer can be an enriching time for children and their families, but parents should also not be afraid of letting their kids “get a little bored,” Schrick said.

“Boredom is not necessarily a bad thing,” Schrick said. “A bit of boredom can help challenge kids to make their own fun and come up with their own things to do. If parents create a dynamic where they are constantly providing their children with a ‘solution’ to their boredom, that sets everyone up for failure.”

For more information and resources for low-cost summer fun activities, visit Schrick’s At Home Summer Camp page on the Cooperative Extension Service website.



Robert (Bobby) Lambert Estate Auction
171 Nevada 270, Emmet, AR 71835
Saturday, July 12th at 9:00 a.m.
****Concessions and restrooms available****

Directions to auction: From I-30 take exit 36, take Hwy 299 S. toward Emmet at stop sign, go straight over railroad tracks and turn left, take right on S. Main Street (by Prince Patterns) go 4.7 miles go straight on Nevada 14 .8 miles take left on Nevada 270 go .4 miles. Auction site at shop on right side of road. Watch for Signs!

Due to the untimely passing of Robert (Bobby) Lambert, Todd Morris Auction Co. has been commissioned to sell welding shop equipment, tools and a lifetime of welding and farming equipment.

Kubota M6080 w/Kubota LA1162 Loader, 4642 hours w/pallet forks & bucket hay spear, Remington 742 Woodmaster 30-06, automatic w/scope - nice, Remington 742 Woodmaster 270 automatic w/scope - nice, JD DX6 3 pt. cutter, 2020 19 Ft. Puma camper “nice” ultralight camper, misc. tires, fish cleaning table, Lincoln SA200 gas welder, Quincy air compressor 60 gal. 3.5HP, JD Loader w/bucket, 14 Ft. trailer frame, fuel tank on stand 500 gal overhead, (2) Miller Trailblazer welder/generator 325 gas - 550 hours - 840 hours, JD riding mower, old ice boxes, antique Philco w/old wrenches, ‘98 Chevrolet Ext. Cab 4x4 - 198,533 miles - runs, ‘09 Ram 3500 Diesel 4x4 Crew Cab flat bed w/welding boxes - automatic, 239,268 miles, Cake feeder - Bar 6, Bush Hog 3 pt post hole digger 6 & 9, Deer Stand - Tripod, 7 Ft. Woods 3 pt. cutter new PTO shaft, Adams ground drive ss/fertilizer buggy, 12 Ft. box deer stand, 16 Ft. pipe top HD, 15 Ft. modern batwing bush hog, welding trailer w/boxes & racks, 25 Ft. GN duel tandem w/ramps, WWV squeeze chute like new, (2) 15 Ft. flat bottom boat, roll of rubber, HD grates, 7 Ft. Taylor Way 962 3 pt. tiller, (3) 3pt. hyd. hay unroller, misc. bottles, misc. 3 pt. hay spear, 3 pt cone seeder, Mineral feeders, Approx. 1/2 pallet stock salt, salt & mineral feeder, misc. electric fence supplies, tubs of sweet potatoes, empty tubs, food plot mix in tubs, misc. metal - new angle iron, new 2x6 tubing, flat steel, sucker rod, pipe racks, used rake wheels, new rake wheel, Blade HD metal tool boxes with tools, Miller AC/DC Dialarc HF electric welder, lots of misc hand tools, welding leads, oxy hoses, metal cutting Chop Saw, electric fence supplies, 5 rolls of silage wrap, several misc. ton feed bags, new Champion 10K wench (in box), 420CC Predator engine, ladder, Snap On Tool Box w/tools, Norpole ice maker (electric), chest type freezer, refrigerator, Aquila AS912TI tire machine, Coats 700 Direct Drive Balancer, Continental HD drill press, 3 saddles, Earthway seed planter push, misc. chains & binders, insulated storage on wheels, Schmaker battery charger, transit stand, cattle dehorners, cse of aluminum cans, 500 gal. poly tank, oxy cart w/hoses, (3) creek feeder, (2) 4 wheel hay wagon, rack for welder, ‘84 Toyota pick up - no title (doesn’t run), ‘80’s Chevy pickup 2500 parts only - no title (doesn’t run), galvanized walk through gates, new cattle & hog panels, 4 Shank 3 pt ripper, (2) approx. 1,000 gal fuel tank w/pump, approx. 500 gall fuel tank w/pump, plastic water tank, WWV squeeze chute trailer, misc. 2 7/8 pipe, 1/2 stics of sucker rod, misc. hay feeders, 12 ft alley way, approx. 30 6’x10’ HD cattle panels, misc. gates, (4) concrete troughs, 16 Ft. bumper pull w/solid sides - steel floor, JD hay spear, (3) licktubs new cattle 4 row hipper, HD 3 pc 16-18 steel pipe, misc sheet metal, I beams, bundle new panels, sucker rods, (3) T post, concrete wire - 2 rolls, metal ladder, trusses, misc. plastic piep - 18 , cutter for parts, pile of scrap metal, (2) feed binds, pull behind roller, (2) lick tubs, pipe - 2 7/8, 100+ bales of hay, hay rings new & used, 16 Ft. fold up disk, salt tubs, electrical boxes, John Deere double hay spear, 7 Shark tiller, 9 tooth tiller, 3 pt. middle buster, 3 Pt. sprayer, 3 Pt. stump grinder, dirt pan, JD Tractor 2030, (2) totes on trailer, Kuhn speed rake SR113G11, Krone easy cut 3200 cv single pt - works, Krone easy cut 3200 cv 2 pt -works, horse drawn plows, 200 gal fuel tank, trusses, International flat bed - doesn’t run, wrought iron gate, go -cart, Milwaukee Deep Throat band saw, Bosch hammer drill, Hugen Mag Drill, Stihl MS311 chainsaw, Milwaukee metl cutting circular saw, DeWalt electric circular saw, Case 13A freon, Milwaukee cordless grease gun, lots of misc. tools, socket sets, battery tester Milwaukee cordless impact, new gloves, Johnson digital level, Honda Blackmax 7000watt gas generator, misc. new welding supplies, and many more items!!

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