

THE NASHVILLE NEWS-LEADER



Wednesday, July 16, 2025 ♦ Vol. 24, Issue 4 ♦ 14 pages, 2 sections ♦ \$1

Leader **Board**

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OPINION 4A

Love your neighbor and get your vaccination.

Farmers' Market to continue on Friday

By Melanie Schwartz The Howard County Farmers' Market is hitting its summer stride with new arrivals and returning favorites each week.

Last Friday brought a fresh selection of tomatoes, peaches, garlic, okra, fresh eggs, and a variety of baked and canned goods — along with jars of local honey and the debut of three new vendors.

If you haven't picked up your Howard County peaches yet, now's the time — only a week or two remain in the season!

And keep an eye out for local watermelons, which are expected to arrive soon.

The Glory 2 God Café food truck will be back again this Friday, July 18, serving up breakfast, lunch, and cold drinks to enjoy while you shop.

We're also proud to recognize Farmers Bank & Trust as this week's Market Sponsor. Their support helps make the market possible —

Come see what's new, visit with local farmers and makers, and support your community!

The market is open every Friday from 7 a.m. to noon at 110 S. Washington St. in Nashville.

Ebenezer encampment session ends Thursday

The 204th Ebenezer encampment will conclude Thursday, July 17.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. July 16 and 17, with an afternoon service at 3 o'clock Wednesday, July

Rev. Carlton Cross of First Methodist Church of Pine Bluff is the evangelist.

Rev. Rusty Jones, pastor of Trinity Methodist Church and Center Grove Methodist Church near Gurdon, is host pastor.

Carolyn Carter of Junction City is the pianist.

Morgan Lee Bailey of Butterfield, Ark., is song leader.

Kim Kohut of Las Vegas is the children's director.

The Ebenezer campground is located off Highway 278, three miles north of Center



Do what's best for the kids'

It's a word that means different things to different people.

To some, "lead" means being in charge; to others, it means setting the course for a group or organization; and to others, it means being at the forefront.

To Eric Perez, however, it means just one thing - setting a positive example for the young people at Nashville High School.

"My heart is to do what's best for the kids," said Perez, who is the assistant principal at NHS and a 2021 graduate of Southern Arkansas University. "I try to con-

them to know that I'm here to help them succeed and not just reprimand them when something goes wrong."

As a native of Nashville, Perez understands the students in the school district and some of the struggles they face.

Perez grew up in Nashville. When he was nine, Perez was adopted by his uncle and aunt, Cornelio and Meghann Perez.

He was always active in school, especially in sports. Perez played football and ran track from seventh through twelfth grade for the

Scrappers. He also played basketball for one year.

After graduating from Nashville High School in 2014, Perez continued to combine athletics with his education while attending SAU, running on both the track team and the cross-country team for two years. He said that participating in sports was a significant factor in helping him achieve success in college.

"It allowed me to immediately make friends who were going to be my teammates," said Perez, who

See Example • Page 5A



Assistant Principal Eric Perez,

Nashville High School

The Nashville School Board accepted two resignations and employed or transferred five staff members during a brief special meeting earlier this

Resignations included junior high band director Valeria Cordero and high school secretary Kristi Thornton.

Employment of staff included the following:

Macy Brecheisen, elementary science

Sandra Pinkstaff, visually impaired

Hadley Lewis, junior high band

Kaylee Marshall, elementary computer lab (transferred from primary school)

See School • Page 5A

Church sets one-day VBS for Saturday

By Don Hall

News-Leader staff

For those of us who grew up in the Deep (evangelical, Protestant) South, we have wonderful memories of Vacation Bible School in the sum-

The world has changed over the years; and much to the chagrin of children and the relief of the leaders, people don't do two-week VBS's any more. In fact, First United Methodist Church in Nashville will be trying something different: a one-day Vacation Bible School this Saturday, July 19, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"I've never done a one-day," Pastor Pam Estes said. "There are a lot of other people that do," she added, "and this was a date that fit a lot of folks."

Another way this VBS is a little different is that it's what she calls "multigenerational." That's right. Even if you're a senior adult, you can go to VBS again, just like when you were a kid.

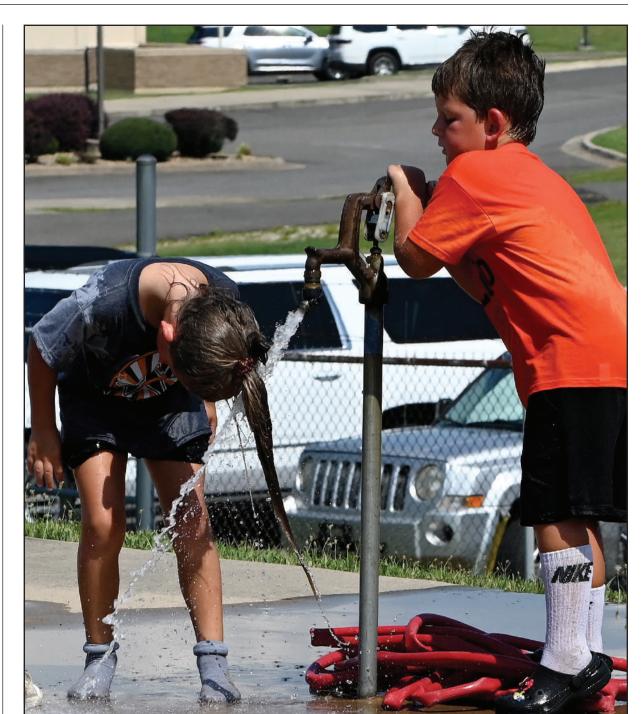
"It's for all ages," she explained. "Everybody seems to have a little challenge understanding that 'all ages' means ALL AGES."

Rev. Estes describes it this way. "There will NOT be a separate nursery because we

See VBS • Page 5A



Rev. Pam Estes



TRYING TO COOL OFF. Parker Chesshir (right) sprays his sister Bailey with water while their dad, Coach Brad Chesshir, led the Nashville Scrappers during a 7-on-7 football tournament Thursday, July 10, at Lake Hamilton. (Tournament pictures, page 8A)

Scrappers show improvement in 7-on-7, coach says following tournament at Lake Hamilton

By John R. Schirmer News-Leader staff

The Nashville Scrappers were "much improved from Ashdown two days before" during the Live Like Bryce 7-on-7 tournament Thursday, July 10, at Lake Ham-

ilton, according to Coach Brad

Chesshir.

'We did not play very well at Ashdown"July 8, Chesshir said. "We were much improved" for the second 7-on-7 competition of the summer. "I liked the way we

competed." The Scrappers were 3-2 on a hot day at Lake Hamilton. "We were there from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. The kids handled the heat

well," Chesshir said. Quarterback DJ Jefferson "did a better job of releasing the ball. Coach [Todd] Ledford is doing a great job with him and our receiv-

ers," according to Chesshir. The Scrapper defense improved as well, Chesshir said, forcing five interceptions during

the tournament. The exception came against White Hall. "We were not very good defensively and gave up four deep balls.'

The Scrappers have "new faces in the secondary," Chesshir said. On offense, there are also

players in different positions. In

See Football • Page 5A



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

SEARCHING. DJ Jefferson looks for a receiver in Nashville's win over Mena at the Live Like Bryce 7-on-7 tournament July 10 at Lake Hamilton.

OBITUARIES



<u>Shelba Jeyne</u> **Staggs Stapp**

Shelba Jeyne Staggs Stapp, age 86, a resident of Dierks, Ark., passed away on Thursday, July 10, 2025, at Hospice of Texarkana in Texarkana, Texas.

Mrs. Stapp was born on July 29, 1938, in Lockesburg, Ark. She was a member of the Holly Creek Missionary Baptist Church. She loved her dogs. She was a clerk for Wards Total.

Mrs. Stapp was preceded in death by her parents, Steve Q. and Mattie Goad Staggs; Cleve Staggs, Gladys Vanderbilt, Cora Collins, Raymond Staggs, James Winfred Staggs, Patsy Halter, infant brother, Clifford Staggs, and grandchildren, Brian Stapp and Brylee

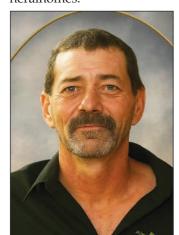
husband, Donald Stapp of Dierks; two sons and daughter-in-law, Randy Stapp of Dierks, Scott and daughter and son-in-law,

dren, Steven Stapp, Trey Shelton, Brittany Ĥatridge, Ryne Shelton, Cody Stapp, Jon Stapp, Kaitlyn Stapp; 11 great-grandchildren, one number of nieces and neph-

Memorial services are pending and will be announced at a later time.

Cremation arrangements by Wilkerson Funeral Home in De Oueen.

You may leave a condolence online at wilkersonfuneralhomes



Johnnie Ray Reich

Johnnie Ray Reich, 53, of Nashville, Ark., finally decided to stop working on July 10, 2025. After 30+ years of roofing and fixing iust about everything, we figure he earned the break. Born March 16, 1972, in Mur-She is survived by her freesboro, Ark., Johnnie was a proud father, grandfather, son, brother, and full-time character.

He was a true Jack of all Karen Stapp of Dierks; one trades -- though some might argue master of at least a the hearts of everyone who Terri and David Shelton of few. Whether it was roof- knew him.

Dierks; seven grandchil- ing, wrenching, or rigging up something nobody else could quite figure out, Johnnie tackled it all with grit, creativity, and usually a few words we can't print here. great-great-grandchild and a His hands were rarely clean, and his jokes were rarely filtered -- but his heart was always in the right place.

Johnnie had a deep love for music, a sense of humor that could catch you off guard, and a wild streak that made life with him anything but boring. He lived by the motto "Can't is a cuss word," and passed down to his kids not only life lessons but an unshakable belief that anything could be fixed with enough duct tape, WD-40, and stubbornness.

He is survived by his daughter, Melissa Ray, and son-in-law, Kadem Ray, of Wake Village; son, Weslie Reich, and daughter-in-law, Natalia Reich, of San Antonio; and son, Jonathan Reich, of Nashville. He was the proud and occasionally outnumbered grandfather of four: Piper, Peyton, Parker-Kate, and Lydia.

He also leaves behind his mother, Bonnie Reich; his brother, Jeff Reich; and his sister, Gina Coleman -- who all agree life will be quieter, but never better, without him. He was preceded in death by his father, Leslie

Johnnie may have left the job site, but his stories, his sayings, and that one project he swore he'd finish next week will live on in



ALMOST GONE. Tony Fatherree and his heavy equipment began bringing down the old Sunset Grocery building on Thursday evening and finished the job Friday. The building has sat empty for more than a decade since it was used by an out-oftown medical practice. For decades it was a neighborhood grocery market named for the intersection where it sat.

FINANCIAL FOCUS by Josh Tice, Edward Jones Investments Should you trust a 'finfluencer?'

In the age of social media, it's easy to find advice on just about anything — including how to manage your money. Content creators known as "finfluencers" — short for financial influencers use platforms like TikTok, YouTube and Instagram to share their takes on investing, budgeting and building wealth. Many of them are charismatic and relatable, and they often speak from personal experience. But while their content may be engaging, taking financial advice from a finfluencer without digging deeper can come with significant risks.

While some finfluencers may have formal training or credentials, many do not. Instead, their influence stems from their popularity rather than professional experience. But popular advice may not necessarily be good advice. A 2025 study by the Swiss Finance Institute even found that unskilled finfluencers typically have larger followings than skilled ones.

Why be cautious?

For young or new investors, social media can make finance feel accessible. In fact, a 2022 FINRA study says that more than 60% of Americans younger than 35 get investing information from these platforms. But social media isn't regulated the same way traditional financial advising is, so anyone, qualified or not, can offer financial tips

Unlike traditional financial advisors, finfluencers don't know your unique goals, financial situation or risk tolerance. And likely, they're not licensed (you can check here: Check Out Your Investment Professional | Investor.gov). Even wellmeaning guidance might lead you down a risky path if it's not tailored to your needs. And unfortunately, some finfluencers have exploited the trust they build with followers to promote questionable investments or

outright frauds. Watch for warnings

Here are a few signs that a finfluencer's advice may be worth avoiding:

Unrealistic "get-rich"

\$500 into \$50,000 in a year," are highly improbable and may indicate a scam.

Hurry, **hurry**: Be wary of advice that pressures you to act fast or plays on fear of missing out. Important financial decisions shouldn't come with a countdown clock.

Flashy displays of wealth: Images of luxury cars, watches or cash can be more about generating views than offering sound advice. If a finfluencer is trying that hard to convince you to take an action, it often means they will profit — perhaps they'll get paid to promote a product or service, or earn a fee for referring you, or are trying to boost clicks and followers to earn more.

What you can do Do your own homework. Don't take finfluencers' advice at face value. Crosscheck it with reliable sources. The finfluencer may even be under investigation by a federal or state securities regu-

promises: Claims like, "Turn lator. Talking to a licensed financial advisor you trust can help you discern good advice from the bad.

Recognize conflicts of interest. If a finfluencer promotes a product or service, find out if they're being paid to do so. And remember, online personalities make money by generating high viewership, not because their advice has a track record of success.

Use common sense. When something sounds too good to be true, it usually is. And of course, never disclose your bank or brokerage account numbers to a finfluencer, and never send

Finfluencers can make financial topics more engaging and accessible. But when it comes to your money, a social media video from someone who doesn't know you is no substitute for informed, personalized guidance. Take the time to verify, research and, when in doubt, seek advice from a professional.



AT THE FARMERS' MARKET IN NASHVILLE. Friday morning Cam Hames brought tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers and jars of sweet pickles, all from her garden and kitchen at Horatio.

Seventh Day Adventists will conduct four-week 'Sanctuary Study' here

A four week 'Sanctuary Study' sponsored by the Seventh-day Adventist Church and seminar host Cesar Garcia will start Thursday, July 17, in Nashville.

The event will be nightly at 7 p.m. all evenings except Sunday and Wednesday at the First Christian Church, N. Main St., Nashville. The public is invited.

Homecoming, cemetery meetings are set for Green's Chapel Church

Homecoming at Green's Chapel Church will be Sunday, July 20. Worship service will be at 10:30 and the speaker will be Jerry Cox. The service will be

followed at noon by lunch in the fellowship hall.

On the preceding Saturday the cemetery association's annual meeting will be at 1 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

Cemetery committee members include Don Hogg, Glenda Allen, La Quita Cox, Anita Mays and Marty Cox. Cemetery donations may be mailed to 149 Firehouse Lane, Lockes-

The church is located about six miles west of Dierks. The pastor is Chris Megee. The public is invited.

Operation Christmas Child to hold semi-annual garage sale fund-raiser

Operation Christmas Child's semi-annual garage sale will be held Friday, Aug. 1 from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 2, from 8 a.m. until 12 noon in the Family Activities Building of First Baptist Church in Nashville.

Organizers ask for donations of no longer wanted but still usable furniture, tools, dishes, lamps, decorations, art, collectables, electronics, toys, jewelry, books, clothing, etc. OCC volunteers will accept donations at the activities building July 28-31.

Annual summer art camp will be July 21-25 at Elberta Arts Center in Nashville

The annual summer art camp hosted by the Elberta Art Center will be Monday-Friday, July 21-25.

The activity for children will be 10 a.m. until noon each day. Children will complete a painting and a craft item or another painting to take home after conclusion of the camp. Supplies will be furnished. The participation fee is \$40.

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> > Nashville News-Leader Start by calling 870-845-0600

907 Ash St. (behind old hospital) Follow signs

ONE DAY ONLY Friday, July 18

7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Lots of name brand clothes and shoes Hallmark Ornaments, decorator items

Card of Thanks

Words can not adequately express our deep appreciation for the many kind and sympathetic acts during the illness and loss of our loved one.

The family of Clarence Mobbs

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

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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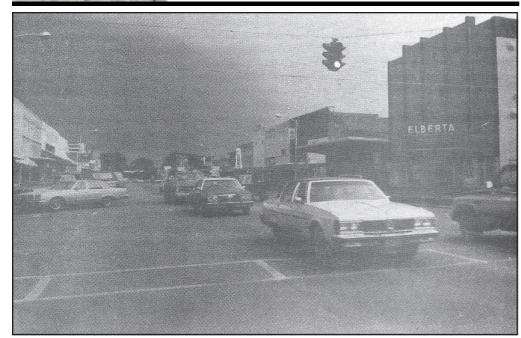
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THE CECIL "BIRDDOG", HARRIS MEMORIAL

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

Compiled by Patsy Young



Nashville got a new stoplight at the corner of Main and Hempstead in October 1984.

123 years ago: July 1902 Dee Nolin and Tom Sims were hanged at Washington early yesterday morning,

both for the crime of murder. of new clothes the evening before the execution and told to dress early the next morning. They were up by daylight and dressed, and each drank some coffee and ate some eggs for breakfast. The ministers were allowed to go inside the jail and talk to them and both claimed to be ready to die.

A few minutes before six o'clock Sheriff J. L. White, assisted by Mr. T. Y. Williams, went in and tied the hands of the condemned men and led them out to the scaffold. Both men walked bravely up the steps and took their places on the trap door.

79 years ago: July 1946 Chief and Mrs. Wendell

Washington, to make their flags on Main Street and a home. Chief Wendell will be stationed there the rest of his time in the Navy.

Lost: Tan billfold contain-Each one was given a suit ing ration books, driver's license, etc. Finder, please return it to Mrs. Redding or News office.

> For sale: Registered milk goat, with twin registered billies. Mrs. Ida W. Beene.

(Adv.) High Pompadour, sweeping back into a graceful chignon is just one of the many enchanting hair styles you may wear. The Vogue phone 58.

63 years ago: July 1962

The Fourth of July and maybe our own sense of patriotic loyalty has lost something special and that is respect and dedication for the Stars and Stripes. The lack of a long row of flags on the national celebration day did not go unnoticed.

few more by noon.

Thundershowers to the north and west, thundershowers to the south, but no relief in rains for the Nashville area Sunday and Sunday night.

There was still hope Monday for the winds to blow up a shower for the area and break a string of 95-plus

42 years ago: July 1983

Myron Starr of Nashville has been chosen as a recipient of the NACA (National Association for Campus Activities) Minority Scholarship.

He will participate in Programming East, which is a workshop scheduled August 7-12 at William Paterson College in Wayne, N.J.

Starr attends the University of Central Arkansas at Conway, where he majors in public administration with

Tolleson and son, Wendell About 9 a.m. this editor R., have gone to Bremerton, could count fewer than six emphasis on public policy.

Five defendants sentenced down for five defendants who gave guilty pleas during the regular July 9 criminal court session for Howard County. On the bench was

Judge Bryan Chesshir. Among the guilty pleas was one by Hansford Allan Ray, 71, white male, Ozan, who was charged in August of 2023 with aggravated assault, class D felony, and first degree criminal mischief,

also a class D felony. The state declined to pursue the assault charge, and Ray pleaded guilty to the criminal mischief charge. He was sentenced to three years of probation, a fine of \$2,500 and must make restitution of \$4,798.73 to the owner of a pickup truck he damaged with a baseball bat, according to the case file. The trial had been continued multiple times and was also delayed by a change of attorney.

Four others pleaded

guilty to felony charges: Josue Turcious, 31, white male, Nashville, pleaded guilty to a charge amended down to reckless driving. He was sentenced to nine days in the county jail. He was originally charged with a class D felony, duty to remain at the scene of an accident, give information and render aid.

Michael Watkins, 53, white male, Conway, was charged with possession of controlled substance. He will return Aug. 13 for formal sentencing which is expected to be two years in the Arkansas Department of Correction (ADC) with a further four years suspended imposition of sentence.

Gerald Burson, 54,

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Sentences were handed white male, Nashville, was to 32 counts second degree charged in January of 2025 with possession of controlled substance, felony and misdemeanor, possession of drug paraphernalia, and resisting arrest, misdemeanor. Misdemeanor charges were not pursued, and on the felony charges he was sentenced to eight years in the ADC with a further 12 years suspended imposition

of sentence. Jessica Jackson, 40, white female, Nashville, was charged with fraudulent use of a credit card. She must make restitution of \$1,245.39 within 90 days; has five years of probation; and was fined \$1,500.

Samara Griffin, 21, black female, Texarkana, returned to court for formal sentencing on her June 25 guilty plea

battery of a certain person, plus two misdemeanors. She was sentenced to two years in the ADC but may remain at large until called to report.

Not guilty or not true

A trial date of Nov. 14 was set for John Paul Garate, 23, Hispanic male, Nashville, who is charged with furnishing prohibited articles; to wit, had contraband hidden on his person when admitted to jail after an arrest here

on Sevier County charges. A probation revocation trial was set for July 30 for Brandon Williams, 38, white male, Nashville, who was on probation on a Jan. 2025 conviction for controlled

substances. Eight other defendant court dates were continued

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Public Record of Howard County

were filed, issued or recorded at the Howard County, Ark., courthouse during the period July 3-9, 2025, unless noted otherwise:

Marriage Licenses

(Marriage licenses cost \$60 *at the County Clerk's office)* July 09. Teaghan Mae Andrews, 21, Nashville, and Kayla Ann Gail Moore, 19, Nashville.

Civil Court

lio Recovery Associates, LLC vs. Steve Reed. Debt.

CV25-81, July 09. BCG Cox. Contract. **Domestic**

Relations Court No new Domestic Rela-

tions cases filed since DR25-60, July 02. **Criminal Court**

(NOTE: POCS = possession)of controlled substance; PODP = possession of drug paraphernalia; DOCS = delivery of controlled substance)

CR25-63, July 08. State of Arkansas vs. John Paul

Items or documents that Garate, 23, Hispanic male, 103 N. 11th, Nashville; fur- Jr., and Rebecca T. Steel, a nishing prohibited articles, class B felony.

CR25-64, July 08. State of Arkansas vs. Kartavious Eason, 27, black male, 911 Carver Circle, Apt. 32, Nashville; 1st degree criminal mischief, class D.

> Land/Property <u>Transactions</u> **Quitclaim Deeds**

July 03. Ashley Arnold; to CV25-80, July 05. Portfo- Joshua N. Arnold; aggregate 42 ac., no land description. Heir's Deeds

July 08. Mike Aylett, et al; Equities, LLC vs. William to Michael Kinkade and wife Deborah Kinkade; 1.37 ac in S23 T9S R27W. \$60,000.

July 08. Mike Aylett, et al; to Michael Kinkade and wife Deborah Kinkade; 0.34 ac in S23 T9S R27W. \$0.00.

Redemption Deed

July 03. State of Arkansas; to Sheldon Smith, Mineral Springs; 407 North St., Original Town of Mineral Springs; delinquent taxes and penalties of \$6,146.48.

Beneficiary's Deed

July 07. George E. Steel, married couple; to George Nathan Steel and Ashley Rebecca Steel, tenants in common; 4.09 ac. in S24 T9S R27W.

Warranty Deeds

July 03. (Special) Nashville Nursing and Rehab, LLC; to North 8th Street Property, LLC; property in S23 T9S R27W with exceptions. \$6,658,744.

Juy 03. Dustin Shaun Stone and wife Tara Stone; to Rucker Investments, LLC; property in S4 T10S R27W; and aggregate 70 ac. in S4 T10S R27W. \$400,000.

July 03. Joshua N. Arnold; to Recoe Miesha Haney and wife Shakonda LaShawn Haney; 42 ac. in S17 T9S R27W. \$1,220,000.

July 09. David Binkley and wife Charlotte Binkley; to Diana Elizabeth Abelino Lagunas and husband Erick Lagunas Romero; 23.51 ac. in Š167 T9S R27W, plus access road easement of 0.6 ac. \$90,000.

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From the Nashville Chamber of Commerce

Point of view

Crossword Q&A

Wool 'Reb' uniform must really be itchy by now!

A YES, I AM STILL HERE peeking out my window on Main Street, and I want to tell you about crossword puzzle I recently defeated.

The puzzle's clue and answer recently had a Howard County connection.

Crossword clue: Young lads.

Crossword answer: Shavers.

It's been awhile since I heard a young boy referred to as a 'Little Shaver.'

Here's the connection: When Howard County was formed from bits of surrounding counties in 1873, the first sheriff was not Mine Creek Revelations



He was "General" R.G. Shaver appointed

by his ole buddy the governor. Sheriff Shaver is buried in his itchy wool Confederate uniform in the big cemetery at Center Point. At some point after the Civil War, Gen. Shaver had to flee to South America to escape an indictment for being an organizer of the Ku Klux Klan in Arkansas. That's rumor, of course. But with the election of the new governor all was forgiven and he came back to Arkansas and a ready-made job in a brand new county (Howard County is the state's second-youngest).

The general had two talented granddaughters who made and sold

clever little boy dolls which were called 'Little Shavers.'

The dolls became fashionable and a whole bunch were sold. The name became a part of our culture and crossword puzzles for awhile. One of the granddaughters took the dolls to a fancy New York City department store. And she eventually became CEO of Lord & Taylor.

SEMANTICS. Women for the first time can legally drive automobiles in the kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Women CAN drive? Women MAY drive? I'll let you decide. I think it should be MAY.

Saudi Arabia was the last country on the face of the earth that prohibited women from driving

Let me just say another thing I admire about Saudi Arabia: Com-

mitting a J-Turn will get you beheaded by the Good Manners Police. That's right, driving rules in Saudi Arabia give new meaning to the phrase, "Off with his head!"

Since the first violator was 'punished' in the town square, there have $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left($ been no J-Turns noticed. Saudi Arabs learn quick.

I'm about to give up ever being sworn as a lawful J-Turn Enforcement Officer, and I'm thinking about becoming an undercover J-Turn Deputy. Still, that might require the mayor to swear me in. For the life of me I cannot understand why he is dragging his feet so!

Guess who's coming to dinner. Is it just my imagination, or have there been a lot of news stories

lately about animals eating humans?

Maybe you'll remember that mountain lion out west. It killed, then ate, some honor student from some college. Or maybe it was a remedial

Then a gator pulled a kid into the pond at Disney World and promptly took him to lunch. Soon after that I saw a news story where a croc somewhere got ahold of a woman with similar results.

The latest story was out of Indonesia where a 23-foot boa constrictor ate a woman. Whole. Slurp. Wait a minute. That wasn't even the newest story. The newest story is that some guy caught an alligator snapping turtle and found a whole human finger in its tummy. Don't ask me why he was looking into the beast's tummy. I said don't ask. Maybe he was gutting the animal in preparation of making turtle soup.

I have one question about all of these deaths: What was the intelligence level of the person who got within grabbing distance of the dangerous animal?

The same for those guys that handle poisonous snakes.

TEXAS FLOODING. Lord, spare us.

As of this writing June 2025 was more than an inch-and-a-half above

normal rainfall, and July is more than double normal.

Thank goodness the National Weather Service hasn't been 'Elon Musked' yet.

What are these articles I see about Cloud Seeding?

We've had our own experience with Cloud Seeding here.

Who remembers when that retired Air Force colonel was hired to end a drought by local peach growers? He drove his pickup truck around the area SEEDING CLOUDS.

My memory says it sorta worked. Didn't deliver all the rain he promised; then the peachmen didn't deliver all of the money they promised.

MORE THINGS I LEARNED from opening email: All those who believe in psychokinesis, raise my hand.

WORD GAMES. I love oxymorons. Usually they are two opposing words, but sometimes one word can do.

HE SAID: "The liberties of a people never were, nor ever will be, secure, when the transactions of their rulers may be concealed from them." Patrick Henry, Founding Father

Okay, Mr. Henry, what do you know about Epstein's list?

SHE SAID: "We have the oldest written constitution still in force in the world, and it starts out with three words, 'We, the people.' Ruth Bader Ginsburg, U.S. Supreme Court Justice

SWEET DREAMS, Baby

Like: bittersweet.

Nashville News-Leader

Louie Graves and Jane Graves (2007), co-publishers John Balch, associate editor Tracy Denny-Bailey, advertising manager Pam McAnelly, office manager John R. Schirmer, editor

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The Nashville News-Leader is published weekly by Nashville Leader, Inc., 418 North Main, Nashville, AR 71852.

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Even in summer, the coronavirus threat isn't over. Keep yourself and those

around you safe -- please get your free Covid-19 vaccination. If you're already fully immunized, remember to get the booster shot. Presented in the public interest by the Nashville News-Leader

Summer meal program part of effort to cope with childhood hunger in state

By State Sen. Jimmy Hickey Jr. ple to apply, even if they have Summer EBT program is part of a

About 325,000 Arkansas children have qualified for Summer EBT, which provides them with \$120 for food purchases during the months when they do not receive free or reduced priced meals at

Last summer 293,000 children qualified. The program was new and didn't start until the middle of the summer. This year announcements were made before school let out for the summer, so more families were aware of the program.

The state Department of Human Services administers Summer EBT, which is one of three summer food programs funded by the United States Department of Agriculture.

The state Education Department helps by providing lists of eligible children. Also, non-profits like the Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance are helping families enroll their children.

Children are eligible if their family's household income meets the criteria for school lunch and breakfast programs, or if the household qualifies for food stamps or welfare benefits.

questions about whether or not they qualify.

Children qualify if at any time during the past school year they attended a Head Start or Early Head Start school.

An EBT card will be sent to every child in the family who qualifies. If you have three children, you'll receive three separate cards in three separate envelopes. There is a telephone number to call to activate the card. You'll need to enter your child's birthday and Social Security number and you'll be asked to set a four-digit PIN

Benefits expire 122 days after they become available. If your child still has a card from last summer, it will be reloaded. The deadline for applications is August 25.

To access the DHS web site, go to ar.gov/SummerEBT. If you received benefits last year but lost your children's cards you can call (800) 997-9999 to request a replacement. To ask general questions about Summer EBT, call 1-833-316-2421.

About 64 percent of Arkansas children are eligible for free or Officials are encouraging peo- reduced-price meals at school. The

broader effort to eliminate hunger in Arkansas. Earlier this year the governor made it a priority and the legislature approved Act 123 to provide a free breakfast to every student, beginning in the 2025-2026 school year.

The state will pay \$14.7 million to reimburse the cost of an estimated 7.7 million free breakfasts.

Both the Summer EBT and the free breakfast programs are being paid for with revenue from a tax on medical marijuana.

The state also provides free lunches and breakfasts to students who qualify for reduced-price meals, making them totally free of charge. Under Act 656 of 2023, families no longer have to make copayments for reduced-price meals, which averaged 40 cents for lunch and 30 cents for breakfast. Eliminating the copay cost the state about \$6 million.

The governor, legislators and state education officials emphasize the importance of breakfast and lunch not only for their nutritional benefits, but also for academic benefits. Students do better in the classroom when they are not

_egislative committees continue their work in three major areas

By State Rep. Dolly Henley

Arkansas legislative committees continued their interim work last week, focusing on public health, judicial reform, and correc- Circuit ruling on legislation passed tions oversight.

On Monday, the House and Senate Public Health, Welfare, and Labor Committees convened to review interim study proposals aimed at improving the health and safety of Arkansans.

The committees adopted a proposal to explore requiring pediatricians to screen for type 1 diabetes, as well as a proposal to study expanding mental health resources for first responders.

Committee members met again on Wednesday for a tour of the Arkansas State Hospital, continuing their efforts to better understand the state's behavioral health infrastructure.

Also on Wednesday, the House Rules Committee held a meeting to examine the impact of a recent U.S. Court of Appeals for the 8th in 2023.

Act 629 prohibits the growth, processing, sale, transfer, or possession of industrial hemp containing certain delta tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) substances, including Delta-8 and Delta-9. Although the ban has been tied up in legal challenges and remained unenforced, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit recently upheld the law.

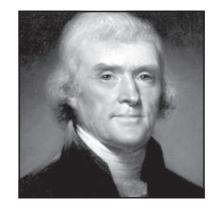
The Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration informed the committee that it anticipates an additional court order that will clear the way for enforcement. In the meantime, the agency has begun notifying smoke shops

and convenience stores across the state that enforcement efforts are expected to begin soon.

The House Judiciary Committee met Thursday to consider an interim study on potential amendments to the Domestic Abuse Act of 1991.

Meanwhile, the Charitable, Penal, and Correctional Institutions Subcommittee of the Arkansas Legislative Council also met Thursday to review the Department of Corrections' response to a May 25 prisoner escape from the Calico Rock facility. Officials reported that two employees were terminated for violating security

protocols. As the interim session continues, House members remain focused on oversight, policy review, and long-term planning to better serve the people of Arkansas.



"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

Letters policy

The News-Leader welcomes letters to the editor. Please include your name, address with ZIP code and a daytime phone number for verification. Letters become the property of the News-Leader and will not be printed if they appear in other papers.

Mail: Nashville News-Leader, Box 205, Nashville, AR 71852.

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All letters must be signed and must not be libelous, superfluous or obscene. Letters may be edited to conform to newspaper style and to fit space requirements.

Example

Continued

from page 1A

also found being an athlete

at SAU was more than just

participating on the field.

'We would do outreach in

the community, events like

the Blossom Festival. They

would send athletes from

every sports program. We

would meet kids from the

community, and we would

go to the animal shelter in

Magnolia and volunteer

a coach once after finishing

that he met his adviser, Dr.

Jingyang Huang, associate

professor of human perfor-

mance and sports sciences.

was like a father figure to

me. He will still text me from

time to time. He is not the

only professor to do that. It's

the connections you make

from one person to another

that makes SAU special,'

He later changed his ma-

jor to education and planned

"My adviser, Dr. Huang,

Perez intended to become

It was through his major

there as well."

his degree.

said Perez.

choice.

and soccer.

wide receivers.

program.

He hopes to continue his

education at SAU in the fu-

ture by pursuing the Ed.D.

the Ed.D. program, I got really excited," said Perez.

and career. However, two

of the biggest are both edu-

cators at Nashville High

School - Brian and Amy

Bearden. Both have been

"When they introduced

Perez has had many mentors during his education

"When I started majoring

After a brief break from

in education, I felt more of

a passion for my assign-

SAU, Perez returned in the

spring of 2019. Two years

later, he completed his de-

gree. He began his teaching

career at De Queen, where

ments," added Perez.

influential in Perez's career,

as he has pursued roles in

teaching and now admin-

Bearden," laughed Perez.

"They were big influences

on me. I enjoyed coach-

ing with him [Brian], and

Amy is one of my favorite

"I literally have Brian listed in my phone as Dad

istration.

Coach Brad Chesshir (center) talks to the Scrappers after their win over Mena July 10 at the Lake Hemilton 7-on-7 tournament.

Football

Continued from page 1A

7-on-7, "We have only one receiver who scored a touchdown last year. We have running backs who scored then," but they don't participate in 7-on-7.

"We're inexperienced now. We'll coach those kids up," Chesshir said.

After the Ashdown 7-on-7, the team watched film the next day. "We had a good film session," according to Chesshir.

Monday, players watched the film from Lake Ham-

The Scrappers stayed in the tournament into the afternoon rounds, where they eventually fell to Sheridan

Nashville's schedule for

the remainder of this week includes a team camp Thursday at 10 a.m. at Prescott.

The Scrappers will wrap up 7-on-7 Tuesday, July 22, at Hope. They will face the host Bobcats at 8:30 a.m. and Murfreesboro at 9:30 a.m. in varsity games.

Nashville and Hope JVs will meet at 11:30 a.m., followed by Nashville and Murfreesboro in another JV game at 12 noon.

to teach in the public schools. Perez knew immediately that he had made the right

want even smaller children to participate in the rotation from one activity to an-

Continued

from page 1A

From the youngest to the oldest, they'll all be together.

"There'll be music, games including bean bag toss, and fishing led by Dr. [Don] Sitzes. He's designed games for children of all ages. We'll have a waterslide and a blow-up bouncy house. We'll have art projects, we'll make drums and maracas,

we'll learn songs, and of course, because it's Vacation Bible School, we'll have 'Our theme is, God Loves

the Whole World. We'll start with creation and go to Jesus. The people from Bingen United Methodist are coming to participate, as well as folks from First United Methodist Church."

"And we're going to paint rocks," Pastor Pam added. "You can't NOT paint rocks. We live in a rocky place. You may have noticed? Our plan is to let everybody paint a rock to take home and a rock to leave at church. We'll place them in the courtyard

he taught middle school teachers from when I was in school." science and served as an assistant coach in both football Perez loved his time in the classroom. For him, Perez returned to his moving from teaching to alma mater in Nashville in administration was not an the fall of 2022, where he easy decision. But, just as taught 11th-grade U.S. Hishe did with his career choice tory, served as head coach of

in college, he let his passion the boys' soccer team, and lead him. "For me, the biggest dewas an assistant football coach, working with the ciding factor was not only being able to influence more He earned his master's students but also being able degree in educational leadto do that for the teachers and staff," said Perez, who ership from SAU in 2023.

> principal someday. "I think you're able to have a broader impact on your community. However, my heart, as always, is to do what is best for the students."

hopes to become a building

Perez is married to Suri Perez.

The couple has two children - a son, Arlo, who is two, and a daughter, Remi, who is almost one year old.

around the carillon tower as a way of remembering the Bible story when they told Jesus to tell those people to shut up. And Jesus said, 'Even if I could get them to be quiet, the very rocks would cry out."" Once again, it's for all

ages, young to old, and it'll be this coming Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at First United Methodist

Lunch will be provided, and rumor has it that Dr. Sitzes will be bringing his home-made ice cream, so grab the kids and the grandparents and come check it out.

Graham said the LED light-Graham said.

The damage occurred before the state's new school insurance program went into effect.

Under the new policy, there is a \$50,000 deductible

News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

Coach Brad Chesshir and Coach Tyler Clift instruct the Scrapper defense July 10 at Lake Hamilton.

Football camp set July 21, 22, 24 at stadium

The Future Scrapper cluding a T-shirt. Football Camp will be July 21, 22 and 24 from 6:30-8:30

p.m. at Scrapper Stadium.

ers grades K-5.

The camp will be for play-

The camp will be led by the Scrapper football coaching staff and players.

There will be an emphasis on the development of Registration is \$50, in-technique and form in every

aspect of the game. Campers will also participate in sessions that include form running, agility and change of direction.

For more information, contact Coach Brad Chesshir.

Continued from page 1A

Jessi Dugger, elementary

Superintendent Doug

ing system at Scrapper Stadium was damaged by lightning. GeoSurfaces, which installed the lights, will repair the system.

The school's insurance policy will pay for the repair,

swarkansasnews.com

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Applications may be picked up at the Howard County Housing Authority office located at

1010 S. Pope Street, Nashville, Arkansas (off of Hope Hwy).

Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily, Monday -Friday, closed on Wednesday afternoons.

For questions, you may call the **Housing Authority Office** at (870) 845-1080.





Congratulations, Jamie Trinidad! Last week we celebrated Jamie

Trinidad on reaching an incredible milestone.

10 years of dedicated service at Weyerhaeuser! Jamie, your hard work, commitment,

and contributions over the past decade have made a lasting impact. Thank you for everything you've done over the past 10 years.

Here's to many more milestones ahead!

First United Methodist Church

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9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

God loves the whole world! You are invited to come join the celebration!

For all ages Crafts, Music, Bible Stories, Games, Gardening, Food, Waterslide, Fishing

Newhope native announces for 9th West prosecuting attorney position

DE QUEEN — Longannounced her candidacy nouncement press release Monday morning.

The office is currently Glenwood. The non-partisan election is set for March 3, 2026.

campaign announcement:

A career prosecutor with deep roots in the commuher commitment to keeping families safe and restoring public confidence in the

criminal justice system. 'Our communities deserve a prosecutor who is tough on crime and guided by a strong sense of justice," said Hunter. "The current lack of trust in the Prosecuting Attorney's office is not only unacceptable, it puts public safety at risk. Law enforcement must be able to cases forward and hold violent offenders accountable. It's time to restore trust and integrity to the Prosecuting Attorney's Office."

"There can be no favortime prosecutor and City itism and no conflicts of Attorney Erin Hunter has interest in a prosecutor's office," Hunter said. "Victims for prosecuting attorney in deserve to be heard. Law enthe 9th West Judicial District, forcement deserves strong, with a message to restore consistent legal support. "trust and integrity" to the And our families deserve office," according to her an- to know that justice is being pursued for the right reasons, not for political gain."

Hunter brings nearly 15 held by Jana Bradford of years of prosecutorial experience. She currently serves as the elected City Attorney for De Queen and prosecutes The following is Hunter's felony cases as a deputy prosecuting attorney in the 18th Judicial District.

She began her career in nity, Hunter emphasized 2011 handling sexual assault crimes across a four-county district and later served as Deputy Prosecutor for Sevier County.

In 2021, then-Governor Asa Hutchinson appointed her as prosecuting attorney for the 9th West District to fill out two years of an unexpired term. She later served as Chief Deputy Prosecutor for the district before accepting her current role.

She is widely respected rely on prosecutors to move for her work prosecuting sexual assault, child abuse, and violent crime cases, and has earned multiple honors, including being named by Arkansas Money & Poli-



as well as being voted Best Attorney in Sevier County by its citizens in 2021 and 2024.

Hunter grew up in Newhope and graduated from father, Ronald "Red" Hunter is a retired chicken and hog farmer and her mother, Rhonda Hunter, is retired from a distinguished career at Weyerhaeuser.

Growing up, her parents taught her the value of hard work, grit, and determina-

Hunter earned her under- Counties.

tics as a 2024 Power Woman graduate degree in political science from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville and later her Juris Doctor from the University of Arkansas School of Law.

She and her husband Ste-Dierks High School. Her phen, a high school baseball coach and athletic director, are raising their two children in De Queen. The family is active in local school and sports communities and attends the Newhope Church

> The 9th West Judicial District covers all of Howard, Little River, Pike, and Sevier



Discount pet adoption offer good through July 31

There is still time to take advantage of the discount adoption offer by Southwest Arkansas Paws (SWA PAŴS) to adopt a new best friend from Nashville Animal Control.

For the rest of July, SWA PAWS will cover all spay and neuter costs for every dog and cat adopted. The end result is adopters will only pay \$20. (Animals that are not old enough for surgery are not included for covering sterilization costs.)

The adoption will include the free spay/neuter surgery, a vaccine and veterinarian check and "a lifetime of love.'

Nashville Animal Control is located on the Highway 27 bypass where there are all kinds of cats and dogs ready for their forever homes.

For more information, call (870) 845-7414.

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.

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"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors" Scott Memorial (Paraloma Community)

First & Third Sundays Monthly Sunday Worship 9:15 a.m. Pastor: Ellis Ray Floyd

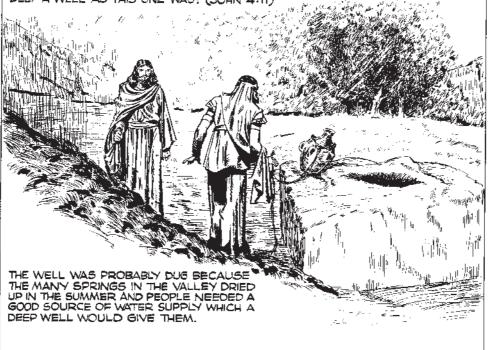
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JACOB'S WELL

ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE ANCIENT SAMARITAN CITY OF SYCHAR, IS JACOB'S WELL WHERE JESUS OF NAZARETH ASKED THE WOMAN OF SAMARIA FOR A DRINK OF WATER. IT IS SITUATED AT THE EASTERN MOUTH OF THE VALLEY BETWEEN MOUNT EBAL ON THE NORTH AND MOUNT GERIZIM ON THE SOUTH. THE WELL IS MORE THAN 75 FEET DEEP BEFORE WATER IS REACHED BUT IT IS STILL USED AND IT'S WATER IS PURE AND IS SUPERIOR TO THAT OF NEARBY SPRINGS AND STREAMS. THE DEPTH OF THE WELL CERTAINLY AGREES WITH THE STORY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN ADMONISHING JESUS THAT HE HAD NO WAY TO GET WATER FROM SO DEEP A WELL AS THIS ONE WAS! (JOHN 4:11)



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Karstyn Scrivner (left) and Ava Basiliere (right) look for a possible steal against Dierks during team camp last week at Scrapper Arena.

Lucy Hagler (22) controls the ball against Centerpoint at the Nashville team camp. The senior high Scrapperettes went undefeated July 7-8.

Nashville hosts team camp





Junior Scrapperette defenders try to stop Horatio from scoring during the Nashville team camp last week.



Scrapperette Emma Chambers goes up for a basket against Horatio at the Nash-ville High School team camp.



Angel Watson controls the ball for the Scrapperettes against Cossatot River last week at Scrapper Arena.



Karstyn Scrivner scores at the team camp hosted by the Scrapperettes.



June 29 - Rylee is 5! **July 10-Jax is 8!** Happy Birthday!

Hot day at Lake Hamilton

Scrappers compete in Live Like Bryce 7-on-7



Hayden Gray (7) stops the Mena Bearcat ball-carrier during 7-on-7 football Thursday, July 10, at Lake Hamilton High School.



Jailyn Staggers snares the ball for a touchdown reception against Poyen at the Live Like Bryce 7-on-7 tournament at Lake Hamilton.





Cortez Cooper (12) makes the catch against Poyen during 7-on-7 competition July 10 at Lake Hamilton. The Scrappers will wrap up 7-on-7 Tuesday, July 22 with games against Arkansas High and Fouke at Hope.

News-Leader every week. See our subscription offer on page 3A.

Follow the

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Jason Lenderman, CPA

SPORTS LEADERS Players of the Week as selected by

The Leader sports department

DJ Jefferson, Nashville

DJ, a Scrapper junior,

quarterbacked the team in 7-on-7 competition last week at Ashdown and Lake Hamilton. He will be the signal caller July 22 at Hope.



1420 West Leslie

Nashville



This weekly feature sponsored by McDonald's of Nashville 845-2364 South Fourth Street

Trendon Northcross runs the ball after making a reception in the Scrappers' win over Mena.

44 days remaining in the Countdown to the Scrappers' season opener Friday, Aug. 29, at Magnolia.



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Nashville News-Leader

State 4-H hosting gift card donation campaign for Texas 4-H flood relief

By Rebekah Hall U of A System Division of Agriculture

After the devastating flash floods that swept Texas Hill Country over the Fourth of July weekend, Arkansas 4-H is stepping up to help their fellow Texas 4-H members and affected communities by hosting a gift card donation drive.

"Texas has suffered immensely in the last two weeks after the flash flooding in and around Kerrville," said Breanna Wade, extension 4-H program associate for the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture. "Arkansas 4-H wants to support our friends in Texas through this difficult time."

Wade said the biggest need is for gift cards because they are easy to collect and distribute. Helpful options include Visa gift cards and those to Walmart, HEB Grocery, hardware stores such as ACE, Lowe's or Home Depot, as well as gift cards to gas stations and chain restaurants.

"As cleanup efforts continue, organizations can be overwhelmed with folks who are trying to help by bringing physical items," Wade said. "But often, this can create more work and stress for the community, rather than being benefi-

Those who wish to contribute should mail gift cards to the Cooperative Extension Service State Office at 2301 S. University Avenue, Little Rock, 72204, care of Breanna Wade. People can also drop gift cards off in person at the state office from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through



Arkansas 4-H
collecting gift cards,
will be donated to
Texas 4-H

Mail gift cards to extension Little Rock State Office by **July 25**

Flash flooding devastated parts of Texas Hill County over 4th of July weekend

Friday. All gift card donations should be mailed or dropped off by July 25.

"These donations will be sent directly to Texas 4-H, which will deliver them to the county extension offices affected by the floods so that they can be dispersed to those in need," Wade said.

Debbie Nistler, 4-H and

Debbie Nistler, 4-H and youth development assistant vice president for the Division of Agriculture, said giving back is integral to the 4-H program.

"Service is an essential part of our 4-H experience," Nistler said. "4-H'ers genuinely care about their communities and are quick to respond when others are in need. I love watching our young people step up to help each other."

"Not only is this a bordering state of ours, but also we have a lot of folks in Texas 4-H that we want to extend our support for," Wade said. "4-H'ers are impacted by disasters like this. And when things happen, we want to pull together as an organization and show our love and show that we're there to support them no matter what.

"It's important for us to be able to supply them with the things they need to recover, succeed and later thrive throughout this difficult situation," Wade said. "It's up to us to show up for our fellow 4-H programs and the communities that have been impacted."

For more information about the donation drive or to schedule a time to drop off gift cards, contact Breanna Wade at bwade@uada.edu.

To learn more about the Cooperative Extension Service's youth development program, visit 4h.uada.edu or contact your local county agent.

To learn about extension programs in Arkansas, contact your local Cooperative Extension Service agent or visit www.uaex.uada. edu. Follow us on X and Instagram at @AR_Extension. To learn more about Division of Agriculture research, visit the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station website: https://aaes. uada.edu. Follow on X at @ArkAgResearch. To learn more about the Division of Agriculture, visit https:// uada.edu/. Follow us on X at @AgInArk.



The Freitas Dash Diamond

Visitor finds 3.36-carat gem at Crater of Diamonds

By Sarah Reap Arkansas State Parks

MURFREESBORO – Scott and Jennifer Freitas of New Port Richey, Florida, visited Arkansas' Crater of Diamonds State Park on July 1 and took home the secondlargest diamond of the year.

Having first heard about the park on the Bobby Bones Show, the Freitas planned a several-week road trip through Alabama and Mississippi, with Crater of Diamonds State Park as their bucket list destination. Jennifer was particularly excited, as she holds a degree in geology.

As avid miners of rubies, sapphires, and smoky quartz, the Freitas showed up to the park Tuesday morning at 8:30 a.m., ready to dig and full of hope. Once finding a spot

to dig, the Freitas dug a few buckets, only digging about 6-8 inches deep. The couple chose to wet

sift, a method that many guests use to search for diamonds. After sifting through the first couple of buckets, Jennifer noted, "This isn't like mining for rubies; we may end up walking away empty-handed."

Luckily, Jennifer didn't

have to wait much longer because on the third bucket is when Scott pulled his screen out of the water and noticed a gorgeous glimmering stone staring back up at him.

Scott called over to Jennifer and said, "Hey, I think I have one!" Jennifer replied with "Oh yeah, right." But after inspecting the stone, Jennifer also knew they had something special.

The couple finished sifting through the bucket before bringing their find to the park's rock and mineral identification table. Park staff identified the unmistakable stone as a 3.36-carat white diamond. The beautiful diamond is crystal clear in the center with off-white edges, about the size of a blueberry.

The Freitas have chosen to name their diamond, the Dash Diamond, after their beloved family dog.

The Freitas Dash Diamond is the second-largest diamond registered at the park this year, following the 3.81-carat Duke Diamond, also named after a beloved dog.

As of this publication, 332 diamonds have been registered at Crater of Diamonds State Park in 2025.

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Howard County District Court

July 10, 2025 BF=Bond Forfeited

Howard County Barbre, Steven Adam, 43, Dierks, guilty of non-pay-

ment of fines, \$1,815 owed Butler, Jace Anthony, 20, Waldron, guilty of providing minors with vapor products, tobacco, etc, fined \$360

Christopher, Earl A., 49, Dierks, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445

Clayton, Jacob L., 30, Nashville, \$245 BF, failure

Davis, Shawn Leslie, 44, Anna, Texas, \$250 BF, speed-

Frachiseur, Sarah Anne, 48, Dierks, guilty of speeding, fined \$240

Hendrix, Ayanna L., 20, Nashville, guilty of speeding, fined \$260

Ivey, Jake Dwayne, 39, Idabel, Okla., \$250 BF, speed-

Noguez Gonzalez, Leonel, 31, Haughton, La., \$195 BF, no driver's license/expired license

Parker, David A., 47, Dierks, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$2,283 owed, committed to jail

Parks, Brandon K., 31, non-payment of fines, \$725

Rios, Loviann, 30, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$1,800 owed; guilty of failure to appear, fined

Rojo-Ramirez, Jesus, 42, Nashville, \$195 BF, no driver's license/expired license

Seavers, Debra A., 58, Nashville, guilty of nonpayment of fines, \$2,265 owed, committed to jail

Smith, Joshua Blake, 36, Hattiesburg, Miss., \$260 BF,

Spencer, Timothy L., 36, Mineral Springs, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$730

Walls, Melissa Lynn, 58, Mineral Springs, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$345; guilty of no seat belt, fined \$45

Washington, Dorothy, 35, Nashville, guilty of nonpayment of fines, \$555 owed

Wolcott, Amy R., 31, Lockesburg, third-degree battery, under advisement no vehicle license, fined \$185 for six months to dismiss, fined \$660; third-degree do- Nashville, \$445 BF, driving mestic battery, under ad- on suspended or revoked visement for six months to license; \$245 BF, failure to dismiss, fined \$710

City of Nashville

Armstrong, Sylvester, 35, Nashville, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445

Baker, Rebecca A., 32, Texarkana, Texas, guilty of ville, guilty of driving on non-payment of fines, \$1,065

Baker, Ronald J., 39, Texarkana, Texas, guilty of nonpayment of fines, \$3,692 owed, committed to jailsuspended conditions

Carcamo, Francisco, S., 23, Gadsden, Ala., \$445 BF, driving on suspended or revoked license; \$245 BF, failure to appear

Dewees, John Scott, 64, Olivehurst, Calif., \$345 BF, leaving scene of accident

Flowers, Kathy L., 42, Hope, guilty of failure to pay registration, fined \$210; guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445

Fox, Dennis S., 54, Nashville, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$145

Garcia, Oscar, 29, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$1,525 owed

Gastelum, Rogelio, 28, Newhope, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$3,825 owed, committed to jail

Harris, Trent D., 25, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$870 owed

Hearon, Kadeia, 29, Nashville, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445; guilty of possession of marijuana, fined \$1,075 and license suspended for six months

Henry, Brian N., 24, Hope, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$600 owed

Herberts, Demetrious, Mineral Springs, guilty of 33, Jacksonville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$1,325 owed; guilty of possession of marijuana, fined \$1,075 and license suspended for six months

Hill, Meagan L., 30, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$3,210 owed, committed to jail-suspended conditions

Johnson, Ivory, 34, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$1,4265 owed

Maldonado, Brenton, 23, Nashville, guilty of possession of controlled substance, speeding; \$245 BF, failure to fined \$1,075 and license suspended for six months

Morrow, Gordon C., 36, Nashville, \$245 BF, fictitious vehicle tags/license; \$195 BF, expired vehicle tags/ no tags; \$245 BF, failure to appear

Ortiz, Randy Paul, 21, Nashville, guilty of possession of controlled substance, fined \$1,075 and license suspended for six months

Parker, David A., 47, Dierks, guilty of no vehicle license, fined \$185; guilty of

Parker, William J., 67, appear

Rhodes, Patricia M., 68, Nashville, \$445 BF, driving on suspended or revoked license; \$345 BF, no proof of liability insurance; \$245 BF,

failure to appear Rios, Loviann, 30, Nashsuspended or revoked license, fined \$345; guilty of expired vehicle tags/no tags, fined \$185

Seavers, Debra A., 58, Nashville, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined controlled substance, fined \$1,075 and license suspended for six months; guilty of possession of drug paraphernalia, fined \$560

Smith, Christian, 21, Mineral Springs, \$195 BF, no driver's license/expired

Spencer, Timothy L., 36, Mineral Springs, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445 Summer, Edward L., 64,

Nashville, \$270 BF, criminal Willams, Myles, 28, Nash-

ville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$2,605 owed

City of Dierks Gray, Richard E., 51, Di-

\$345; guilty of possession of erks, guilty of driving on Nashville, guilty of runsuspended or revoked license, fined \$445

Hobbs, Michael Edward, 33, Dierks, \$145 BF, no proof of liability insurance

City of Mineral Springs Enrique, Dilcia, 47, Mineral Springs, \$195 BF, no

driver's license/expired

Fatherree, Kevin G., 48, Lockesburg, \$1,276.71 BF,

violation of AHCL Garland, Charles L., 63, Mineral Springs, guilty of disorderly conduct, fined

ning stop sign or light, fined \$195; guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445; guilty of DWI#2, fined \$1,660, sentenced to seven days in jail, license suspended and must complete DWI educational course; guilty of posses-

fined \$1,075 and license suspended for six months Hendrix, Steven, 62, Minviolation of Arkansas Hot eral Springs, guilty of no Check Law; \$1,179.95 BF, proof of liability insurance, fined \$345; guilty of fictitious vehicle tags/no tags,

sion of controlled substance,

fined \$245 Ortiz, Monica, 41, White Hall, guilty of expired vehi-Graham, Gerry L., 43, cle tags/no tags, fined \$195

Ray, Banks Paul, 18, Nashville, \$250 BF, speeding

Renfrow, Donald Jr., 61, Nashville, \$195 BF, running stop sign or light

Scott, Willie M., 44, Ozan, guilty of DWI, fined \$1,110, credited for time served, license suspended and must complete DWI educational course; guilty of driving on suspended license, fined

Thompson, Marcus, 42, Ashdown, guilty of no driver's license/expired license, fined \$195; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$345; guilty of expired vehicle tags/no tags, fined \$195; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245

Hempstead sheriff announces retirement

After 48 years of in law stead County is in a strong enforcement, including the last 16 years as Hempstead County sheriff and collector, James A. Singleton has announced his retirement at the end of this current term, on Dec. 31, 2026.

"This decision comes with mixed emotions, as serving the people of Hempstead County has been one of the greatest honors of my life," Singleton said. "Throughout my career, I have been privileged to work alongside some of the finest law enforcement professionals, dedicated public servants, and, most importantly, the incredible citizens of this

"Throughout the years, I have had the privilege of witnessing this county grow and change, and I have always been inspired by the resilience, generosity, and strength of its people. Together, we have faced challenges and celebrated successes. I am proud of what we have accomplished and confident that Hemp- community."

position for the future."

The sheriff also thanks his colleagues, staff, and the many community partners he has worked with for their "dedication has made my job both meaningful and fulfilling. And to the citizens of this county: thank you for your continued confidence, support, and friendship."

Singleton also took an opportunity to endorse his deputy, Justin Crane, for sheriff and collector.

"As I prepare to step away from my role as Sheriff and Collector, I want to take a moment to express my full and unwavering support for Justin Crane as the next sheriff of Hempstead County. With over 48 years in law enforcement, I understand the qualities and leadership it takes to serve effectively in this position.

Without a doubt, Justin Crane possesses the experience, integrity, and dedication necessary to continue serving and protecting our



Hempstead County Sheriff James A. Singleton

Former cashier charged for theft from Cash Saver in Nashville

A former employee of the Cash Saver grocery store in Nashville has been charged with felony theft in

Howard County Circuit Court.

charged July 14 for allegedly stealing

more than \$1,000 from the store while working in her cashier position.

Store manager Tim Allen told police that he had Bailey in security footage Heather Bailey, 40, who lists an allegedly scanning products as a refrom the register. Allen said that from unsure of the dollar amount.

March 2025 until late June Bailey had reportedly taken more than \$1,000 from the store.

On July 1, Bailey admitted to Nashville Investigator 11m Bowlin that she Ozark address in court records, was fund and then pocketing the money had committed the crime but was

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When venturing outside, stay away from downed power lines and be alert to the possibility that tree limbs or debris may hide an electrical



electrical hazard. Assume any dangling wires you encounter are energized and dangerous. Warn others to stay away and contact the electric utility. • If you are driving and come upon a downed

power line, stay in your vehicle, warn others to stay away and contact emergency personnel or electric utility. Also, when driving, be careful at intersections where traffic lights may be out. Stop at all railroad crossings and treat road intersections with traffic signals as a four-way stop before proceeding with caution.



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City of Nashville Job Opening

The City of Nashville will be accepting applications for the Water Distribution Crew. Applications will be accepted until 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, July 30, 2025 at the office of the Public Works Director, 426 N. Main St., Nashville, AR 71852.

Brief descriptions of qualifications:

- This job requires a minimum education of a high school diploma or GED
- Must have or be able to obtain both a Class III Water Distribution license and a Class III Wastewater license
- Must have a valid driver's license with the ability to obtain a CDL

Brief description of duties: • Be in good physical condition, as job requires

- physical labor in all types of weather
- Knowledge and Experience on a variety of equipment Have the knowledge to service and maintain equipment

Any other duties the supervisor may assign Personal qualifications:

- Have good hand/eye coordination
- Have a good clean appearance and teamwork attitude
- Be able to respond on a 24/7 emergency basis Interested persons may obtain an application at the Nashville City Hall, 426 N. Main St.,

Nashville, AR 71852. Candidates desiring to be considered for the above position should apply in person, no phone calls please.

The City of Nashville reserves the right to reject any and all applications. The City of Nashville is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



ARKANSAS

CASA of Clark, Pike counties joins forces with Tri-Lakes CASA

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, highquality 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 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

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.

Home&Heart Happy National Cherry Day!

By Angie Freel

Howard County Family & Consumer Science

I love fresh cherries! After the birth of one of my children, a sweet friend brought me a basket of cherries with a note that said, "Life is a Bowl of Cherries" and it was love at first taste! Another sweet memory occurred when my son and I were on a jet boat tour of the Snake River in Hells Canyon in Idaho last year, we stopped at a beautiful old farmstead to explore. It was the first time I picked fresh cherries off a tree for a snack, and they were delicious!

As Americans celebrate National Cherry Day today, new attention is being paid to the small, ruby-red fruit that's making a big impact on health—especially for those living with arthritis.

Research from the University of California, Davis, has shown that Bing sweet cherries may significantly reduce inflammation markers in the body. In a study led by Dr. Darshan S. Kelley and colleagues, participants who consumed cherries daily experienced a notable drop in C-reactive protein (CRP) a key biomarker linked to inflammation and arthritis flare-ups.

The findings are particularly promising for the estimated **58.5 million Americans** living with arthritis. "Cherries are rich in anthocyanins and other polyphenols, which have powerful anti-inflammatory properties," said Dr. Kelley. "Regular consumption may help reduce joint pain and stiffness, especially in people with osteoarthritis or gout."

Another UC Davis publication titled "Fresh Cherries May Help Arthritis Sufferers" highlighted anecdotal and clinical evidence suggesting that cherries could help alleviate symptoms of arthritis and gout, thanks to their ability to lower uric acid levels and reduce oxidative stress.

Dietitians encourage clients to enjoy cherries not just for their flavor, but for their function. What better time to start than on National Cherry Day? Whether eaten fresh, dried, or juiced, cherries are a delicious and natural way to support

joint health. So today, as we celebrate the cherry harvest, it might be worth adding a handful to your plate—not just for the taste, but for your health.

Cherry Cheese Pie

Eve Green, New Horizon EHC (From the 1999 "Homemade with Love" Howard County EHC Cookbook) You can substitute as many "lighter" ingredients in

this recipe as you wish.

8 oz. cream cheese 1/3 cup Stevia

8 oz. sour cream 1 tsp. vanilla

8 oz. Cool Whip 1 can cherry pie filling

1 graham cracker crust

Let cream cheese soften, then mix cream cheese and sweetener. Beat. Add sour cream and vanilla, then mix. Very slowly fold in Cool Whip. Spread in a lite or regular graham cracker crust. Top with cool cherry pie filling.

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.

Pursuant to 7 CFR § 15.3, the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture offers all its Extension and Research programs and services (including employment) without regard to race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital or veteran status, genetic information, sexual preference, pregnancy or any other legally protected status, and is an equal opportunity institution.

Murfreesboro council gets waterworks update, amends dumpster ordinance to 'add some teeth'

By John Balch News-Leader staff

The Murfreesboro City Council got an update on the status of the city's waterworks department during its July meeting, and also dealt with "adding some teeth" to an old ordinance concerning the use the community trash dumpster.

Murfreesboro Waterworks Commissioner Jack Bennett started the update by thanking former water superintendent Randy Miller and his wife, Lisa, who worked in the water office, for their many years of employment and service.

Bennett said there have been several changes in the water office and in the field. He said new water superintendent, Jason Lowe, along with Jacob Thompson, who was trained by Miller, are currently working towards becoming fully licensed in tion and that a third field employee will be hired for the distribution side in the future.

Bennett said it is the commission's goal to eventually have all three field workers fully licensed and capable of running the city's water-

At the office, Kelly Cox is now the senior clerk and Pam Bennett is working in a temporary capacity that will be reassessed next month as a full-time position.

Commissioner Curtis Turner, Jr., who also thank Randy and Lisa Miller, added that the department "has a game plan in place now to move forward" and he feels confident with that plan.

In related business, the council accepted the resignation of waterworks commissioner Jim Cannon, who had served for six years. Mayor Jim O'Neal recommended Caleb Howell for the remainder of Cannon's term, which ends February 2027, and the council approved the appointment by 6-0 vote.

Also Monday, the council cerning the city's use of a wastewater and distribu- community dumpster. The amendment describes the only items strictly allowed in the city dumpster.

> "The dumpster provided by the city for its citizens is to be used for bagged household garbage only. There shall be no dumping of construction materials, dead

animals, tires, furniture, vegetation or any other item not considered 'household' garbage." The original ordinance,

up to \$500 and a misde-

No. 283, already outlines violators face a fine of \$100

meanor charge. Mayor O'Neal said that the dumpster issues have improved greatly with only one violator ticketed for dumping on the ground. He suggested the dumpster remain available to citizens and the council agreed. It was noted during discussion that a surveillance camera is

in place at the dumpster site.

In other business, the council also gave the Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department permission to pursue an Arkansas Community Assistance Grant for approved an amendment a remodeling project on the to a 2013 ordinance confire station. The department already has \$8,069 through "community cash and/or in-kind donations" to match with the \$32,275 grant.

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

General Fund \$85,547/\$84,560 General Operating \$252,293/\$248,029 Street Fund \$32,189/\$40,269 Street Operating \$279,195/\$280,678 Advertising & Tourism \$77,806/\$63,930 Waterworks Dept. \$510,975/\$498,329

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Church Bunco benefit July 28

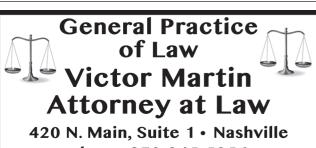
The First Baptist Church in Murfreesboro, located at 500 S. Washington, will be hosting a Bunco fundraiser on Monday, July 28 starting at 6 p.m. The fundraiser is for missions to help chil-

JULY 28 & 29

JULY 31/AUG 1

Participants are asked to bring a small stuffed animal for a free bunco. The cost is \$30 if pre-registered or \$35

at the door. For more information or to pre-register call 903-244-



phone: 870-845-5256 fax: 870-845-5899



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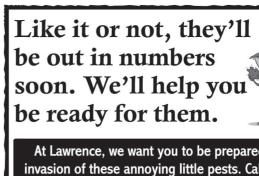
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10 a.m. - 3 p.m. each day. ADMISSION: Adults - \$10, Children under 12 - FREE with Adult SECURITY * PLENTY OF FREE PARKING

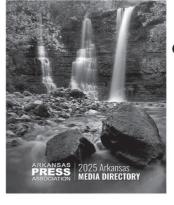
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How SW Arkansas Played the Lottery in June 2025

County	Cash 3	Cash 4	Fast Play	Instant Settlement	New Lotto	Lucky for Life	Mega Millions	Natural State	Power Ball	Total Sales
Hempstead	\$73,412	\$30,301	\$11,072	\$385,213	\$1,492	\$3,590	\$6,920	\$2,756	\$7,492	\$522,248
Howard	57,497	17,903	5,332	218,840	1,282	22,206	5,235	1,943	4,910	315,148
Little River	9,473	5,887	2,145	135,916	674	1,244	4,100	1,202	3,725	164,366
Pike	110	101	3,871	110,956	1,746	1,630	4,385	2,981	3,819	129,598
Sevier	5,402	170	1,585	199,409	1,558	1,898	5,665	2,057	4,596	222,340
State Total	\$1,029,163	\$585,983	\$1,059,031	\$36,702,602	\$408,188	\$591,216	\$1,507,340	\$792,485	\$1,372,739	\$44,048,747

Some figures are rounded up to nearest dollar/State totals are estimates

SOURCE: Arkansas Lottery Commission

Changes in deed recording takes effect next month

Pike County Circuit Clerk Sabrina Williams has reported that due to the passage of Act 752 of 2025 by the Arkansas General Assembly, effective Aug. 5, there will be changes to the deed recording process to help cut down on fraud.

Starting Aug. 5, a deed recorded with the county recorder in person or by mail must be presented for recording by a grantor named in the deed or an individual who signed the deed on behalf of a grantor.

Also, the grantor or individual who signed on behalf of the grantor must prove their identity by presenting with the deed a valid government-issued photo identification card or driver's license if recording in person, or enclose a photocopy of a valid identification card or driver's license if recording by mail.

Deeds recorded in person or by mail that are not accompanied by an identification card or driver's license proving the identity of the grantor or person who signed the deed on behalf of the grantor will be rejected.

According to information from Clerk Williams, this requirement does not apply to:

Deeds that are electronically recorded through the county's e-recording syste

- Deeds recorded by:

An attorney;

Real estate broker or agent;

Representative of a bank, mortgage company or lending institution

Title insurance agent, agency or person affiliated with a title insurance agency;

The Commissioner of State Lands;

A person representing the state or a political subdivision of the state; or

The state, an Arkansas municipality or political subdivision of the state.

For questions about Act 752 of 2025, contact the Pike County Circuit Clerk's office at (870) 285-2231.

Five defendants sentenced on July 7

In the July 7 session of Pike County Circuit Court, five defendants were sentenced after entering guilty pleas. They included:

Bobby Applegate, 33, of Bonnerdale, who pleaded guilty to an amended charge of possession of a controlled substance with purpose to deliver and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was sentenced to a total of eight years in the Arkansas Department of Corrections;

Anna Louis Davis, 41, of Glenwood, who pleaded guilty to failure to register as a sex offender and was sentenced to 10 years in the ADC with five years suspended;

Nathan Bankhead, 19, of Glenwood, who pleaded guilty to misdemeanor obstructing government operations and was sentenced to one year in the ADC with one year suspended. Bankhead's original charge was felony hindering apprehension;

Corey McHenry, 33, of Hot Springs, who pleaded guilty to furnishing, possessing, delivering prohibited article and possession of a controlled substance and drug paraphernalia. He was sentenced to a total of 12 years in the ADC; and

David Edwards, 19, of Glenwood, pleaded guilty to the criminal trespass and was placed on four years probation and fined \$1,500.

Time to get ready for Watermelon 5K

It's time to lace up those running shoes and hit the pavement for the 47th Annual Watermelon 5K and Melon Mile, taking place on Saturday, Aug. 9. This event is part of the 49th Annual Hope Watermelon Festival and promises a morning of fitness and fun for the whole family.

The 5K will begin at 7:30 a.m., followed by the Melon Mile at 8:30. Whether you're a competitive runner, a casual jogger, or a parent pushing a stroller, everyone is welcome to join the fun.

Registration Details:

• 5K Entry – \$30 plus fees (\$35 on race day)

Discounted rates available for participants 18 and under • Melon Mile Entry – \$13 plus fees (\$15 on race day)

Open to ages 3–12

All registered participants will receive a commemorative t-shirt and a refreshing slice of watermelon at the finish line. Register now and secure your spot at: www.runsignup. com/race/ar/hope/hopewatermelon5k

MCC fundraiser **BBQ** this Thursday

The Murfreesboro Chamber of Commerce's barbecue fundraiser meal will be held this Thursday, July 17 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Murfreesboro Municipal Building. The cost of the barbecue sandwich meals is \$10 or by

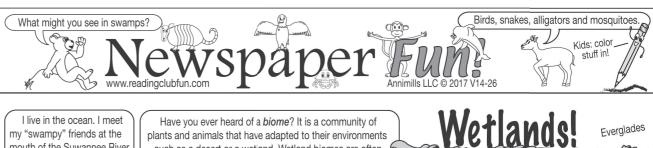
larger donations.

Proceeds will go toward the group's Hometown Christmas efforts in December.



Friday, July 19 @ Horseshoe Bend-Dierks Lake

Annual Pine Tree 5K 6:30 Fun Run for Ages 12U (free) 7:00 5K Race Starts



I live in the ocean. I meet Have you ever heard of a biome? It is a community of my "swampy" friends at the mouth of the Suwannee River, whose waters flow from the Okefenokee Swamp in southern Georgia to empty into the Gulf of Mexico! Look these up on a Read the clues to fill in the crossword puzzle:

plants and animals that have adapted to their environments - such as a desert or a wetland. Wetland biomes are often found inside of another biome such as a rainforest. A wetland is wet most of the year. It hosts plants and animals that can live in its wet soil and shallow water. Water, mud, plants and living creatures make up the wetlands. There are many fascinating things to see in swamps, bogs marshes and fens. If you explore these areas, be careful. A wetland with a boardwalk is safest

1. wetlands have above the surface of the soil at least part of the year 2. wetlands have fresh water, salt water or a mix of both called 3. wetlands have a large variety of plants and animals; of life makes wetlands important to preserve 4. about half of U.S. birds nest or in wetlands 5. as water flows through a wetland's soil, harmful

materials are out by plant life; cleaner water returns to nearby ponds, rivers, lakes, oceans and the underground 'water table 6. like a sponge, wetlands absorb and hold a lot of water; may take on millions of gallons of extra water, thereby stopping

7. some wetlands only appear in the fall or when the weather allows water to build up

8. this wetlands ecosystem becomes flooded during wet seasons or high tides; see cattails, cranes, reeds, muskrats is an ecosystem similar to a marsh, but it can support trees

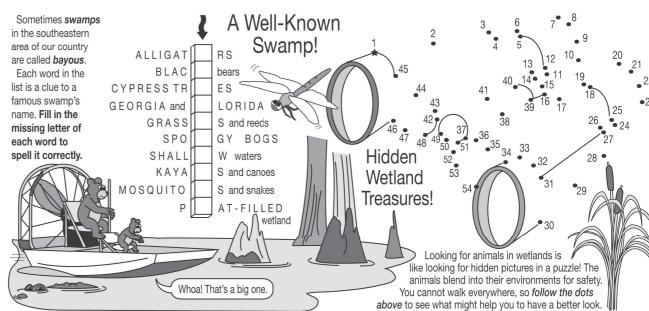
such as red maples or cottonwoods; other plants like pussy willows

bog gets its water from rain or snowfall: soil contains few nutrients, which is perfect for peat and sphagnum moss

Antarctica

gets some water from mountain streams; water picks up nutrients as it moves; supports plant life - grass, sedge, rushes 12. world's largest tropical wetland is the _ and Paraguay; 75,000 square miles in the center of South America

13. wetlands are everywhere except __ wet, but frozen; not enough plants to support a wetland most famous wetland in the U.S. is the Florida say the sawgrass there is so sharp that it can cut through clothes



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Local DAR members attend National Continental Congress in Washington

State group participates in wreath-laying at 'Tomb of the Unknown Soldier'

> By Carrie McGaha Mine Creek-Paraclifta Chapter Daugthers of the American Revolution

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Three members of the Mine Creek - Paraclifta Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) recently attended the 134th Continental Congress of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR), held in Washington, D.C. This annual event brings together DAR members from across the world to celebrate patriotism, service, and heritage and 35 women from all across

A highlight of the trip was witnessing the solemn honor of laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery. Newly inducted Arkansas State Regent, Charline Manning and Vice-Regent, Christina Twardowski represented the Arkansas Society DAR (ASDAR) in laying the wreath, along with former State Historian, Angie Dennis and State Commemorative Events Chair, Cassie Turner. Three local chapter members attended the moving ceremony, paying tribute to all unidentified service members who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. They are Elizabeth Wilson Overton, Chapter Regent and State Conservation Chair; Carrie Lewis McGaha, Chapter Treasurer and State Chaplain; and Fran Strawn, Chapter Registrar.

The weeklong Continental Congress also marked the installation of new national DAR Executive Officers who will serve for the next three years, leading the Society through the historic America 250 commemoration and beyond.

In addition to national leadership updates, the Arkansas Society DAR (ASDAR) announced its newly elected state executive officers and committee chairs, who will guide Arkansas chapters in service projects, historic preservation efforts, and educational outreach across the state.

"This year's Continental Congress was especially meaningful as we prepare to honor America's 250th anniversary," said Chapter Regent, Elizabeth Overton. "Our chapter was proud to represent Arkansas on the national stage and to participate in events that reflect our enduring mission: to promote patriotism, preserve American history, and support education.'

For more information about the Mine Creek - Paraclifta Chapter or how to become involved, please visit www.arkansas-dar.org.

About the DAR:

Founded in 1890, the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution is a non-profit, non-political women's service organization dedicated to promoting historic preservation, education, and patriotism. With over 190,000 members in 3,000 chapters worldwide, DAR members volunteer millions of hours annually to give back to their



LOCAL DAR MEMBERS. Fran Strawn, Elizabeth Overton (holding card with the name of T Lynn Cox, a local female Veteran), Carrie McGaha at the Women's Military Memorial at Arlington Cemetery.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HOWARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JERRY RICHARD MULLEN, DECEASED NO. 31PR-24-82 NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL

ADMINISTRATOR AND FILING OF CLAIMS Last known address of decedent: 402 S Arkansas Ave, Dierks, AR 71833 Date of death: September 28, 2024

The undersigned, Jerry Rondal Mullen, was appointed Special Administrator of the estate of the above-named decedent on, December 3, 2024.

All persons having claims against the estate must exhibit them, duly verified, to the undersigned within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or they shall be forever barred and precluded from any benefit in the estate.

This notice first published 16th day of July, 2025.

Jerry Rondal Mullen, Special Administrator of the Estate of Jerry Richard Mullen, deceased

Mailing Address of Special Administrator: c/o Appellate Solutions, PLLC

1501 N. University Ave., Suite 310 Little Rock, AR 72207 Attorneys for Estate:

/s/ Deborah Truby Riordan Deborah Riordan, Ark. Bar No. 93231 Appellate Solutions, PLLC d/b/a Riordan Law Firm 1501 N. University Ave., Suite 310 Little Rock, AR 72207

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305 INDUSTRIAL PARK DR.~ MURFREESBORO AR. 71958 'URDAY JULY 26~10 AM

PIKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT will be selling at public auction the following vehicles consisting of;

- (1) 2008 Chevrolet 1500 EX Cab, 4X4, 5.3L V8 Engine
- 2011 Ford F150, 4x4, Big 6.2L Engine 2014 Dodge Charger, 5.7L HEMI Engine
- 2015 Dodge Charger, 5.7L HEMI Engine
- 2016 Dodge Charger, 5.7L HEMI Engine
- 2016 Dodge Charger, 5.7L HEMI Engine
- 2019 Dodge Durango, V6FI Engine
- 2019 Dodge Durango, V6FI Engine

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PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HOWARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVISION **DARBIE HUGHES PLAINTIFF**

CASE NO. 31DR-25-44

GREGORY LYNN HUGHES DEFENDANT

WARNING ORDER

STATE OF ARKANSAS

COUNTY OF HOWARD

The defendant is hereby warned to appear in this Court within 30 days from the date of first publication of this Order and answer the Complaint for Divorce file against him by the Plaintiff.

Failure to file a written answer within 30 days may result in an entry of judgment by default against you or otherwise bar you from answering or asserting any defense you have.

WITNESS my hand and seal as Clerk of the Circuit Court of Howard County, Arkansas, this 10th day of July, 2025.

Angie R. Lewis Howard County Circuit Clerk (VM: 4, 5)

PIKE COUNTY ROAD DEPART-MENT will be selling the following items in conjunction with the PC Sheriff's Department Auction consisting of;



(1) Skid Steer Attachment, PALIDIN #105068, 415710 Sheepsfoot Roller Vibrator Packer 8' Wide "Like New"

- (2) Etnyre K-5179 Chipspreader for Chipping and Sealing Roads, 12'± wide, Pre-Def Cummins Diesel runs good 1387± Hours
- SW100 SAKIA Double Drum Roller / Packer 1437± Hours
- 2006 Chevrolet 2500 4X4 Pickup with 6.0 Gas, Automatic
- Transmission, miles will be on our website. Welding and Cutting torch Trailer with a Clean Miller Bobcat 225G 867± Hours (no bottles)These items can be seen

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DIERKS JUNIOR HIGH LADY OUTLAWS (from left) Amelia Kirby with the baseline drive; Brielle Kirby with the easy layup; and Scarlett Nuttall with the jumper.







DIERKS SENIOR HIGH LADY OUTLAWS (from left) Milee Harrison dishes the ball; Addison Hill goes up for two point; and Coach Will Stewart calling the plays.

All Photos by Nikki Fields Images & Designs

Todd Moore Joins First State Bank Board



First State Bank is
excited to announce the
appointment of Todd
Moore to their Board of
Directors. Todd is a life
long resident of Dierks
where he resides with
Kelly, his wife of 34
years. Todd has been a
Shelter Insurance Agent
for over 27 years and
owns ReaMac
Construction and Moore
Logging Supply, Inc.

Todd previously served as President of the Dierks
Chamber of Commerce, President of the Dierks
School Board, and currently serves on the Howard
County Economic Board. Todd enjoys hunting,
fishing, horses, and spending time with his children
and grandchildren. First State Bank looks forward
to Todd's contribution to our Board.

First State Bank





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