

The

Murfreesboro Diamond

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

Issue 17 • 1 Section • 6 Pages

\$1.00
USPC 103-230

Serving South Pike County, Arkansas Since 1975
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FINAL WEEKEND

Murfreesboro Chamber of Commerce Haunted House

Friday, Oct. 31 and Saturday, Nov. 1
at former Pike County Hospital
6-7 p.m. Kid's Hour • 7:30-11 p.m.
\$10 Adults • \$5 Kids 9 years and younger

Angel Tree applications
now available locally

MURFREESBORO -- Angel Tree applications are now available for families that need some extra help this holiday season. The applications are available at Murfreesboro City Hall, Murfreesboro Library and Murfreesboro Elementary School. Applications must be returned by Monday, November 10. Please call Kelsi at (870) 582-3882 or Angie at (870) 285-5269 for further information. Dates for angel placements and gift drop off times will be announced soon.

Howard County man
dies in wreck near Kirby

PIKE COUNTY -- A Howard County man was killed last week in a two-vehicle crash on Highway 70 in Pike County, according to the Arkansas State Police. Alex Dean Faulkner, 27, of Dierks was killed in the wreck. Faulkner was traveling east on Highway 70 near Kirby around 9:15 a.m. on Oct. 22 when the crash occurred. Faulkner was driving a 2008 Chevrolet Impala when he entered the westbound lane in an attempt to pass another vehicle and collided head-on with a westbound 2014 Kenworth tractor-trailer. No other injuries were listed in the report. Weather conditions were clear and the road was dry at the time of the accident, according to the ASP.

Senior center taking
rolls and dressing
orders for holidays

MURFREESBORO -- The Murfreesboro Senior Adult Center will be offering their annual fall fundraiser of homemade dressing and fresh rolls. The fundraiser will run from November 3 to December 19. "This is the perfect way to add something special to your holiday table while supporting your local senior activity center," said center director Vickie Hutson. The dressing will be offered in 5 pound pan for \$15 and 10 pounds for \$30, while rolls will be by the dozen for \$6.

Shop with a cop program
seeking donations

MURFREESBORO -- Pike County 4-H "Shop with a Cop" program is still seeking funds for the holiday season. The purpose of the event is to foster positive relationships between youth and officers. K-6th grade students are selected each year during the holiday season to shop at local area stores with a Pike County officer. An account has been established at First State Bank of Pike County if anyone would like to contribute.

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WORTH TELLING?

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News to the Diamond!

mdiamond@windstream.net
Call (870) 285-2723 for More Information



Submitted photos/PCUAEX

HAY BALE WINNERS ANNOUNCED ... Pike County 4-H has announced the winners in its recent decorated hay bale contest, which was conducted in front of the former Pike County Hospital. (L to R) First place was First State Bank, second place was Murfreesboro High School FFA, and third place was Haney's Truck & Auto. First State Bank was also named to the people's choice award.

Rattlers fall to Dragons, face big game against Spring Hill this week

MURFREESBORO -- The Murfreesboro Rattlers received their Halloween "trick" a week early, falling to the Junction City Dragons 59-6 at home last Friday night. The Rattlers now sit at 5-3 overall and 3-2 in conference play. Junction City now has the inside track to a conference championship at 7-1 overall and a 5-0 mark in conference. "They are really good," said head coach Jay Turley of the Dragons. "They just lined up and manhandled us ... if they aren't the best team in Class 2A, I don't want to see who is." While few positives can be taken from such a loss, Turley said he was proud of a number of kids who had to come in to play from a backup role after several starters exited the game with injuries. "We had the next man-up mentality, and had several play hard in a difficult situation." Turley said he suspected Junction City had that game circled since Murfreesboro was able to defeat them on the road last year en route to

winning the conference championship. "They gave us their best shot." The Dragons rushed for 359 yards in the effort. Murfreesboro's lone touchdown came in the fourth quarter on a Caleb Terrell reception. Turley said the team wouldn't watch the game film, "there's no need," and would simply attempt to move ahead to the next chapter -- at Spring Hill this Friday night. "I think the kids understand we have to turn the page and get refocused on what we need to do." While injuries will play a part of the game this week for MHS -- "we will be a bit of a MASH unit" -- Turley said kids will simply have to play next man up and play their role in an important game for both teams. On the line is the district's third seed with Spring Hill also holding a 3-2 record in conference (4-4 overall), with both Dierks and Mineral Springs luring just behind with 2-3 marks (and will face each other this week) as the sea-

son dwindles down to the final two games. "Spring Hill is a good football team that's gotten better as the season has gone along. This is a big game for both of us, as far as playoff seeding. It will be their senior night, so I expect they will play hard with intensity." Turley added emphasis to the importance of a win this week. "It's the next game up, and it's important to get the third seed headed into the playoffs." Regardless, the Rattlers will now almost definitely be traveling in week one of the playoffs. "We just have to move along [from Friday night] and get ready for this week -- it's just as important a game as last week." Turley said Spring Hill was similar offensively to Foreman. They will be ready, so we have to be as well, to play the game Friday night. He added that the team planned to move up some ninth graders, some of which would play in spots and on special teams to help give some rest to upperclassmen.



Submitted photo/PCUAEX

PUMPKIN WINNERS ANNOUNCED ... Pike County 4-H has announced the winners in its recent decorated pumpkin contest. The pumpkins are on display in the lobby of the Pike County Courthouse. Winners include (* -- unnamed per parent's request) after the contest was judged by Pike County Quorum Court members: Cloverbud: first place Abigail Henderson -- Large Pink Pumpkin, second place -- *Small Painted Pumpkin; Intermediate: first place Graham Dickson -- Cow Pumpkin, second place Tobias Doyle -- Pink Angry Bird; Juniors: first place Larkin Haney -- Pink Elephant, second place lace Jessacait Humphry -- Hedgehog, third place Adeline Haney -- Cactus; other junior entries included: Sebastian Doyle -- Sunburned Beach Pumpkin, Riley James -- Mama Pig with Piglets, and a *Football Field pumpkin.

REMEMBER TO FALL BACK!

This Sunday, Nov. 2 at 2 A.M.
Clocks are set back 1 hour ("fall back"),
gaining an hour. Sunrise and sunset will be
about 1 hour earlier than the day before.
There will be more light in the morning.



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Any erroneous statement published in the newspaper
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to the attention of the management.

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE
FRIDAYS AT 3:00 P.M.**

HELP WANTED

The Town of Delight is accepting applications for a
Secretary for the Water Department.

This position will begin part-time and transition to full-time. Duties include general office and clerical work, customer service, data entry, processing payments, maintaining records, and assisting with water billing and reports.

Applicants should have good communication and computer skills, be dependable, and able to handle confidential information. Previous office or utility experience preferred.

Minimum requirement: High School diploma or GED. Applications must be picked up at the Water Department. Applications accepted until Friday, November 7th.

The Town of Delight is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

(c.o.d. 100w. 17,18)

HELP WANTED

City of Murfreesboro, Arkansas
Street/Sanitation Department Employee

The City of Murfreesboro is seeking a dependable and hard-working individual to join our Street/Sanitation Department. Position: Full-Time Street/Sanitation Department Employee Location: Murfreesboro, AR Salary: Based on experience Hours: Monday-Friday, after hours and weekends as needed Minimum Qualifications:

- High School Diploma or GED
- Must be 18 years of age
- Must have a current valid Arkansas Driver's License

Preferred Qualifications:

- Valid Commercial Driver's License (CDL)
- Apply in person at Murfreesboro City Hall,
805 N Washington Ave, Murfreesboro, AR
Deadline to apply: November 5, 2025
For more information, call (870) 285-3732

(c.o.m., 104w. 16,17)

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Sale Days: Thurs., Oct. 30 - Sat., Nov. 1
Watch our **FACEBOOK LIVE**
Each Tuesday at 5:45 p.m.

School board hears importance of fundraising

MURFREESBORO – During the South Pike County School Board meeting’s public comment section to open the meeting, Danny Eckart told board members of the weekly staff devotional meetings being held.

Stating that the year had “started shaky” for several employees with hardships, including himself, the “Lord had worked on me to do something.”

He said it was a “room of refuge” in which they prayed for students and staff.

“I’ve seen the transformation and God is working on campus ... we had 16-18 attendees [last week] and it’s a blessing to me.” Eckart said he planned on using old sermons, but had found that each week be a completely new one.

“God really put this in place,” he concluded.

In their report to the public, Superintendent Tanya Wilcher said the attendance of the school was right at 671 students this year, versus 674 last year, with 72 certified employees and 27 classified employees.

The slideshow of the report to the public can be seen at rat-tlers.org under the “state required information” tab.

The report also included what federal funds the district receives and how it is being spent.

She said the school was complying with the child internet protection act in the school’s 8th year of 1:1 iPad use, and the school would soon reapply to continue being an Apple Distinguished School.

For campus security, the district has the services of school resource officer Justin Hughes, a Pike County Deputy, who is on campus daily.

Wilcher commended the job Hughes was doing -- assisting with training, drills, and any other aspect of school pertaining to safety.

The district qualifies to be a “Provision 2” school, allowing all our student to eat for free in the cafeteria. The qualification is based on the percentage of eligible free/reduced students in the district.

Wilcher added again that “Rooms” would be the tool for communication from the school to parents, allowing messages to be pushed to cell phones and allowing for conversation between parents and educators.

High school principal Davey Jones highlighted several grants obtained by the school:

- A \$113,215.50 high-impact tutoring grant obtained by Melissa Jones (up from \$79,914 last year) that allows for qualified tutors to be paid to instruct 3-4 students at a time after school.
- Grants for \$50,590 in equipment upgrades and a \$15,297 Girl Power Grant that went toward a laser purchase from agriculture instructor Blake Simmons, who Jones called “a breath of fresh air” for the school.
- Grants for \$3,650 East upgrades including computers, charge cart, 3-D printer and a camera for streaming obtained by Brittany Harris.

LETTER TO EDITOR POLICY

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

Send letters to P.O. Box 550, Murfreesboro, AR 71958 or email to mdiamond.editor@windstream.net

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

UAMS

HOUSE CALL



Dr. Amber Norris is an assistant professor in the UAMS Department of Family and Preventive Medicine who treats patients at UAMS East Regional Campus in Helena.

Q: How is sleep apnea diagnosed?

A: Sleep apnea is when breathing starts and stops during sleep, either from blockage of the airway or the brain improperly controlling breathing muscles. The breathing interruptions affect the quality of sleep. The American Medical Association estimates that 30 million Americans are affected by the condition.

The main types of sleep apnea are central sleep apnea and obstructive sleep apnea. With central sleep apnea, the brain doesn't send signals to breathing-related muscles during sleep. Obstructive sleep apnea is when throat muscles relax during sleep, causing surrounding tissue to press on the windpipe and block air movement.

Symptoms of sleep apnea include gasping for air during sleep, fatigue, headache, snoring and waking repeatedly during sleep.

Sleep apnea risk factors include high blood pressure, family history, obesity or having large tonsils. The condition affects men more than women.

A health care provider may perform an initial evaluation based on symptoms and sleep history. A sleep study during which air flow and breathing patterns, arm and leg movements, blood oxygen level, and heart rate are monitored overnight typically is used to determine the extent of the condition. The most common treatment recommendation for sleep apnea is the use of a continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) machine.

Email your health questions to housecall@uams.edu.

In addition to the \$262,000 grant funds obtained, Jones said fundraising had raised \$774,000, giving the school more than a million extra dollars.

Acknowledging that fundraising was a sticky issue in the public, he said it was simply necessary for the school district to perform.

“Our teachers work their tails off ... but if we don’t [fundraise] like we do ... life is over at a school district our size. We can’t budget one million extra dollars to stop doing it. Everything we do gives something back, and we just have to do it, or we do not do all we do. Sports, quiz bowl, archery – if you enjoy what you see [from the school], fundraising is the only way.”

In his report from Murfreesboro Elementary School, principal James Riley showed state required Atlas test results.

“We are high on achievement, but still pushing on the on the lower end where we were struggling on growth. We know we have to improve.”

He said there were growth goals in place, noting that now students could be retained in a grade if certain marks were not reached, with certain exemptions.

He said Atlas test practice test screeners would be held in January and in the spring before the real test was conducted later this school year.

Riley said groups of three-six students were in smaller “grow groups” were necessary and that the school was one in focusing on teaching toward the standards and their assessment.

He also said there was incentives and growth and achievement, including the recognizing of “even the smallest but of growth.”

The November school board meeting is set for Thursday, Nov. 13 at 5:30 p.m.in the project room, while the December meeting was set for Thursday, Dec. 11 to avoid basketball scheduling conflicts.

Halloween in the sky

October 31st and Halloween are actually of astronomical significance. An astronomical calendar has the well known winter (December) and summer (June) solstices plus the equinoxes of autumn (September) and spring (March).

Between those four yearly occurrences are what are known as the cross-quarter days. Halloween falls somewhat near the half-way point between autumn equinox and winter solstice (the actual date is November 21, but Halloween and October 31st get the attention partly because of ancient associations).

This was an important time of the year for ancient people, and it was noted and often celebrated by cultures world-wide. Halloween of our time has its origins in the Celtic world that celebrated, with festivals, the end of harvest season and the time between the light half and the dark half of the year.

The season was called Samhain (an accepted pronunciation is “Sow Wan”). At Samhain, because it was an in-between time, the separation between the world of the living and that of spirits was believed to be at its thinnest so it was a time when people could mingle with ancestors, and if malevolent spirits intruded, a mask or a disguise was worn to escape ghostly harassment.

Christianity later incorporated this festival making it a time to acknowledge the holy (hallowed) ones of past and present calling it All Saints Day, the eve of which, on October 31, is All Hallows Eve (the Middle English word forhallow is halowen).

Amateur astronomers who want to find Halloween in the sky can find plenty of objects with a little help of astronomy equipment. Nebulae such as the Helix which looks like an eye in deep space (lately dubbed the “Eye of Sauron” from Lord of the Rings), the Witch Head, the Skull, Bat, and Ghost are good ones.

Andromeda Galaxy can be seen with the naked eye and looks like a little ghost,and there are planetary nebulae called The Ghost of Jupiter and The Owl.

Billie Wright's
Birthday Reception

90

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Obituaries

Dickey Ray Chambers

On Sunday, October 26, 2025, Dickey Ray Chambers went home to spend eternity with our Lord. Dickey was born to David Jr. and Virgie Chambers on January 13, 1959 at Pike County Memorial Hospital. He and his sister were the first twins to be born there. Shortly after birth, Dickey fell in cahoots with Dewight and Dwayne Mack, and Pike County, Arkansas was never the same. They enjoyed saying cuss words into a handheld tape recorder and having cornbread spitting contests. He was a proud graduate of Kirby High School’s Class of 1977. He enjoyed telling stories of his teenage years and he loved getting to see classmates that are still dear friends. Dickey was an incredible musician, and one of the founding members of The Bear Creek Boys. Playing music with The Mack Boys, Tee Powers, Greg Westfall, and Ronnie Whisenhunt was one of his greatest joys, but more than anything, he loved his family.

Dickey was married to Kelly Cannon, the love of his life, on July 17, 1980. They had three children: Heather, Rickey, and Hollie. He was a wonderful dad–present for everything, always telling homemade bedtime stories and helping his kids in any way he could. Then, in July 2006, God made Dickey a Pa. It would be very hard to find another man who was as wild about his six grandboys and his one granddaughter; it would also be dif-

ficult to find grandchildren who were so deeply crazy about their Pa.

Dickey was a natural-born salesman. He has sold cars, campers and mobile homes to nearly everyone in the South. He had spent the past 20 years at a job he absolutely loved. He and his Razorback Camper coworkers were a family. He loved his customers and enjoyed running into them all over the place.

Dickey is preceded in death by his father, David Chambers, Jr. and his mother, Virgie Cogburn Chambers, and his brother, Kenny Chambers.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Kelly, his siblings: beloved brother Dean Chambers, and his sisters, Dolores Cowart and his twin Vickey Gray; his children; Heather and her husband, Nick Flowers, Rickey and his wife, Rylee, and Hollie and her husband Chris Henderson; six grandsons, each one lovingly known as Pa’s boy: Jack Flowers, Cannon Chambers, Hudson Henderson, Graham Henderson, Creed Chambers, and Bo Henderson, and his favorite granddaughter, Anna Kate Flowers. Dickey also had a host of nephews and great nephews, and nieces and great nieces that he loved dearly, along with all of the Bear Creek kids. He is also survived by his lifelong best friends: Dewight Mack, Dwayne Mack, Tee Powers, many other honorary Bear Creek Boys, countless friends and neighbors.

A visitation will be held Wednesday, October 29, 2025 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at Smith Family Funeral Home in Glenwood.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, October, 30, at 10:00 am at First Baptist Church of Glenwood, with his son-in-law, Bro. Nick Flowers, officiating.

Interment will be at Bear Creek Cemetery at Kirby.

SMALL ADS DO WORK ...
YOU JUST READ ONE!
CALL TO PLACE YOURS • 870-285-2723

Card of Thanks

On behalf of the **Conrad Cox Family**, we would like to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers during this time of illness and grieving. Thank you to everyone for the numerous calls, prayers, and meals. The amount of people at visitation showed just how many lives Conrad influenced. We are blessed to be a part of such a generous community.

**With sincere appreciation to all,
The family of Conrad Cox**



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Quorum Court hears update on road improvements

MURFREESBORO – The Pike County Quorum Court heard from County Judge Eddie Howard that the two mile stretch of chip and seal roadway project in Nathan had been completed and now the county’s new tractor was bushhogging in the Cowhide Cove area and heading north.

“It looks good, I’m sure the people there are tickled to death,” said Howard of the roadway project at Nathan.

In his road flooding project report to the court, Howard said the Delight Cemetery access and Rocky Hollow Road project featuring installation of 10x5 box culverts were completed with reports and time sheets yet to be submitted for FEMA approval.

Additionally, he said the newly installed bridge over Wolf Creek in Delight had been painted and the approaches would be completed last week (weather pending) would be completed, allowing for inspection of the project.

He told the court that according to the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management, the county had some 2.2 million dollars – hypothetically pending – in rebates from the federal government.

Before adjourning, the court set meetings for both the budget and handbook committees to prep their proposals for 2026.



Submitted photo

LEADS THE PLEDGE ... Oliver Wilson, grandson of Eva Langley and Pike County 4-H member, led the Pledge of Allegiance before the October Pike County Quorum Court meeting. He then enjoyed the Halloween decorations at the Pike County Courthouse.

SOUTH PIKE COUNTY SCHOOL MENU

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30 Breakfast: Chocolate donut ring or cereal, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Beef-A-Roni, green beans, seasoned corn, garlic toast, tropical fruit, milk 7-12 line 2 option- Mini deep dish pepperoni pizza	7-12 line 2 option- No line 2
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31 Breakfast: Mini blueberry waffles or cereal, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Ham & cheese croissant, baked beans, steamed broccoli, 7-12 baked chips, applesauce, milk 7-12 line 2 option-Meatball sub w/ cheese	TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4 Breakfast: Powered donuts or cereal, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Spaghetti w/meatballs, Italian vegetables, cucumbers w/ranch, garlic breadstick, pineapple, milk 7-12 line 2 option - No line 2
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3 Breakfast: Chocolate muffin or cereal, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Crunchy tacosmw/cheese, chili beans, lettuce & tomato, salsa, applesauce, milk	WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5 Breakfast: Fruit Loop waffles or cereal, fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Mesquite glazed chicken drumsticks, baked beans, corn on the cob, whole grain roll, mixed fruit, milk 7-12 line 2 option- No line 2

**Due to food item shortages menus are subject to change without notice. Any changes to the menu will be posted on the website at www.rattlers.org*

MURFREESBORO SENIOR ADULT CENTER LUNCH MENU

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 3 Chili, baked potato, salad, cornbread, peaches	WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5 Roast turkey, cornbread dressing, corn on cob, roll, green beans, fruit cobbler
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4 Crispy onion chicken, sweet potato, cauliflower, roll, angel food cake	Lunch served at 11:30 a.m. For more information (870) 285-2312. Open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 8 a.m. Carry out is now available for \$6.00



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Glenwood’s “Sew It’s Monday” still sewing strong

What began as a small community service project has grown into a popular weekly tradition at the Glenwood Bainum Library. The group celebrated its one-year anniversary in August and expressed special thanks to Mr. Bainum for making the library’s community room available. They meet every Monday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and everyone is welcome to join them.

“Visitors often stop by to see what’s being worked on or to share their own quilting stories” said Karren Abshier, one of the founding members. Betty Epperson said the group’s teamwork makes a big difference. “Every project has a snag,” she laughed. “But when you’re in a group like this, someone is always there to help.”

Donna Hart has completed several quilts over the past year but continues to work on a long-term English paper-pieced quilt she’s been hand-sewing for three years. “It’s a very time-consuming process,” she explained, “but I’m up to 29 blocks — and I’ll need 48 for the finished quilt.” Charlotte Tighe has shared her technique for making the Stack and Whack quilt pattern. Several in the group are hoping to make one in the spring under her guidance. Renee Cogburn is working on a patchwork quilt and hopes to have it finished by Christmas. “Renee is our youngest quilter, and this is her first quilt. She is doing a great job!” said Abshier.

One of the members brought an unfinished quilt top that she had started years ago and finished it within the first month. Since then, she has started and completed several projects. The group

occasionally enjoys working on the same quilt pattern. Their most recent was the “Chandelier Quilt,” a pattern that each quilter personalized with her own fabric choices. “It was amazing to see how each quilt reflected the maker’s personality,” one member said. “Same pattern, completely different results.”

Beyond sewing, the members say “Sew It’s Monday” has provided something even more valuable - a sense of purpose and connection. Studies have long shown that creativity and social interaction can boost mental health, lower stress, and improve overall well-being. The Glenwood EHC members say they feel those benefits every week. “This group gives us something to look forward to,” said Marcell Knighten. “It’s good for the mind and the heart.”

To learn more or see what the group is working on, visit their Facebook page: Sew It’s Monday. Perhaps you have an unfinished project prodding your conscience to be found and finished. Here is your chance to complete it and move on to a new creation. Stop by one Monday and be inspired.

This week’s recipe is inspired by the recent rainy days with just enough spice to take away the chill. Enjoy!

RECIPE OF THE WEEK: CHICKEN PICANTE

Ingredients:
½ cup medium-hot chunky taco sauce
¼ cup Dijon Mustard
Juice of 1 medium lime
6 boneless chicken breasts (about 1 ½ pounds)
2 tablespoons butter
Sour Cream, chopped fresh cilantro and lime slices for garnish (optional)

DIRECTIONS:
Combine taco sauce, mustard and lime juice in large



Submitted photo/PCUAEX

STILL SEWING STRONG ... (above) Donna Hart shows Marcell Knighten the English Paper Piecing blocks she is working on at a recent meeting of “Sew It’s Monday” in Glenwood.

bowl. Add chicken, turning to coat with marinade. Cover; marinate in refrigerator at least 30 minutes.

Melt butter in large skillet over medium heat until foamy. Drain chicken, reserving marinade. Add chicken to skillet in single layer. Cook 10 minutes or until chicken is light brown on both sides.

Add reserved marinade to skillet; cook 5 minutes or until chicken is tender and glazed with marinade

Remove chicken to serving platter; keep warm. Boil marinade in skillet over high heat 1 minute; pour over chicken. Serve with a dallop of sour cream. Garnish, if desired.



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By Buddy Ray, Murfreesboro Church of Christ

THE CHRISTIAN CHALLENGE

As a faithful Christian, it is my duty and responsibility to live the best life that I can possibly live. We should give our very best each day to the Lord and accept the challenge given to us by the apostle Paul. He tells us in Romans 12:1-2: 1. I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. 2. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is



how to become a living sacrifice and give our reasonable service to

God:

BECOME FULLY SPIRITUAL
Galatians 6:1; Matthew 7: 3-5

USE THE WORD
Hebrews 4:12; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Timothy 2:15

CHECK YOURSELF
2 Corinthians 13:5; 1 Corinthians 9:27

SPREAD THE WORD
Matthew 28:19-20

Please look to these passages this week to strengthen us in our service and may we take the challenge to give God our very best of everything we have!

HAVE A GREAT WEEK!

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Facts About The BIBLE

BY JOHN ZEHTI

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This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of Genesis intended to show one of the customs of these ancient and traditional times

ABRAM IN EGYPT
THAT WHICH ABRAM HAS FEARED, HAS COME TO PASS—PHARAOH, HEARING OF SARAI'S BEAUTY, HAS REQUESTED THAT SHE BE BROUGHT TO HIS PALACE, AND NOW...

...SARAI IS LITTLE MORE THAN A PRISONER IN HER LUXURIOUS QUARTERS, WAITING ON PHARAOH'S PLEASURE....

...AND PHARAOH IS HIGHLY PLEASED! SOON HE WILL SEE FOR HIMSELF IF THIS BEAUTY FROM THE EAST IS WORTHY TO BECOME A QUEEN IN EGYPT....

...SURROUNDED BY THE MANY GIFTS SENT BY PHARAOH, ABRAM CAN FIND BUT LITTLE CONSOLATION IN THEM AS HE SPENDS A SORROWFUL AND LONELY NIGHT IN HIS TENT....

...WHILE SARAI, IN GUARDED PRIVACY, HULLS MISERABLY ON HER SILKEN BED!

SUDDENLY, THE DARKNESS OF THE NIGHT IS PIERCED BY A TERRIFIED SCREAM! IT IS PHARAOH, CALLING IN A HURRY FOR HIS SERVANTS WHO SCURRY AS FAST AS THEY CAN TO ANSWER THEIR RULER'S URGENT CRIES FOR HELP!

JOHN ZEHTI

Next Week
TERROR BY NIGHT!

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Sun. eve. 6 p.m. • Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.
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Bro. Buddy Ray

Attend Church This Sunday!

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mdiamond@windstream.net

IN THE WOODS

* -- Theme Related Clue

ACROSS

- 1. Flows’ partners
- 5. “When Harry ____ Sally...”
- 8. Sound of laughter
- 12. *”Hide” behind the bush
- 13. BÈbÈ’s mother
- 14. *Age units in the woods
- 15. Rum cake
- 16. Placido Domingo’s solo, e.g.
- 17. Concluded
- 18. *”Into the Woods” star Anna
- 20. Come clean, with up
- 21. Terra ____
- 22. Urge Spot to attack
- 23. One of seven gnomes
- 26. Prior to the present (3 words)
- 30. FEMA provisions, e.g.
- 31. Erratum, pl.
- 34. Int. org. in Brussels
- 35. Merge
- 37. Time frame
- 38. Right-hand page
- 39. 1920s art style
- 40. Cause of wheezing
- 42. Like The Hot Chili Peppers
- 43. ____ God we ____,” on U.S. currency
- 45. Some vipers
- 47. Clairvoyant’s gift
- 48. Source of chocolate
- 50. Form of payment
- 52. *Edible fungus
- 55. Multi-layered cake
- 56. MÈlange
- 57. Utah’s national park
- 59. Bake an egg
- 60. Plural of #22 Down
- 61. *” ____ the Woods” play and movie
- 62. Prefix for multiple
- 63. Japanese honorific

64. Barely got by

DOWN

- 1. Singular of #1 Across
- 2. *Woodpecker’s pecker
- 3. *One lost in the woods
- 4. Posture
- 5. Boy Scout’s badge
- 6. “Fear of Flying” author ____ Jong
- 7. *Furniture wood
- 8. *Conifer’s dropping
- 9. Peters out
- 10. Def Leppard’s “Rock of ____”
- 11. Psychedelic drug, acr.
- 13. St. Valentine, e.g.
- 14. Equip again
- 19. One of Seven Dwarfs
- 22. Rejuvenating spot
- 23. ____ Arabia
- 24. Wrinkle-prone fabric
- 25. Declaration of Independence, e.g.
- 26. 2002 Winter Olympics state
- 27. Mother-of-pearl
- 28. Weasel’s cousin
- 29. *Golf’s great
- 32. Catch one’s breath
- 33. A in MOMA
- 36. *Scientific study in woodlands
- 38. Meteorologist’s tool
- 40. Nile reptile
- 41. Masculine one and proud of it, pl.
- 44. Theater greeter
- 46. Something extraordinary
- 48. “Mea ____,” or “my fault”
- 49. Hailing from the East
- 50. Type of salmon
- 51. *Seed covering
- 52. *Trunk growth
- 53. Sty cry
- 54. Speck
- 55. Recipe amt.
- 58. Go-ahead

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4			5	6	7			8	9	10	11	
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62							63					64			

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NOTES FROM CITY HALL



Remember community

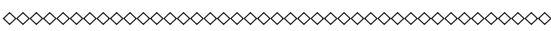
With the possibility of a continued federal government shut-down, SNAP benefits (commonly known as food stamps) will not be available effective November 1, 2025.

Hopefully our churches, food banks and pantries will help keep the elderly and children fed. Please remember to take only what you need and leave some for others who need it as much as you.

Let’s remember to take care of each other and check on our neighbors.

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

Murfreesboro Mayor Jim O’Neal



Signs not permitted on right of ways

LITTLE ROCK -- The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) reminds candidates for political office and their supporters that it is unlawful to place campaign signs on highway right of way in Arkansas.

State laws permit only official directional, informational, and regulatory highway signs on state-owned highway property; the local ARDOT Area Maintenance Office removes all other signs.

“It is important to keep highway right of ways clear for the safety of both drivers and road workers,” ARDOT Director Jared Wiley said.

ARDOT personnel will remove any yard signs placed on the right of way and will contact owners of large billboard signs to remove them. Owners can pick up the signs during normal business hours at the nearest ARDOT Area Maintenance Office.

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Week of October 27, 2025

Christmas Child collection week is fast approaching

NASHVILLE -- The Operation Christmas Child 2025 Shoebox Collection Week is November 17 – 24, 2025. Volunteers have been transforming empty shoeboxes into gifts of hope filled with toys, school supplies, hygiene items, and articles of clothing for children in need worldwide.

The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God’s love in a tangible way so that missionaries and volunteers can share the Good News of Jesus Christ. And, it all starts with the help of a shoebox filled with gifts.

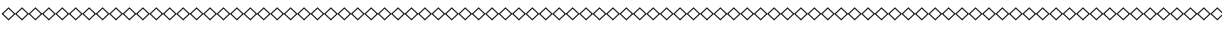
Since 1993, more than 232 million children in over 170 countries and territories have received a shoebox gift. These children as well as those who hear the Gospel at shoebox outreach events share their faith with friends and family who, in turn, disciple others.

Collection Week – November 17–24
Local Drop-off Site: First Baptist Church, 415 N. Main Street, Nashville

- Mon, Nov. 17: 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- Tue, Nov. 18: 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
- Wed, Nov. 19: 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

- Thu, Nov. 20: 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
- Fri, Nov. 21: 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
- Sat, Nov. 22: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
- Sun, Nov. 23: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
- Mon, Nov. 24: 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

For additional drop-off sites, collection dates and hours, and directions to the drop-off sites, go to samaritanspurse.org/occ and select Drop-off Locations. For area questions, contact Jim Herman at ocjim.herman@yahoo.com. Please deliver your shoebox gifts to a drop-off site as soon as possible during collection week.



The shape of Crater diamonds -- a frequently asked question

BY EMMA O’NEAL
Crater of Diamonds State Park

MURFREESBORO -- Greetings from Crater of Diamonds State Park! Most guests aren’t sure what to look for in a diamond the first time they visit the park. Learning to recognize uncut diamonds is the first step to a successful search.

The majority of diamonds unearthed at the Crater of Diamonds have a smooth surface due to high resorption, making them appear more rounded than other natural diamonds. Resorption is the dissolving of a diamond by magma during movement toward earth’s surface. The speed at which magma erupted here created tremendous heat, triggering a chemical reaction that began dissolving the diamonds it contained, so much so that most diamonds are believed to

have disappeared completely. This also explains why the park’s crater yields mostly smaller—and fewer—diamonds than commercially-viable diamond mines. Though resorption rounded the edges of all Crater diamonds, some larger diamonds may still have visible trigons (triangular etch pits formed early in the resorption process), due to partial shielding by the surrounding host rock.

Due to resorption, most Crater diamonds are modified from octahedrons (eight-sided crystals) to either dodecahedrons (12-sided) or tetrahexahedrons (24-sided). Another interesting diamond shape occasionally found at the park is called macle, a flattened, triangular gem formed when two diamonds share part of the same crystal lattice during formation.

Most diamonds found at Crater of Diamonds State Park weigh around one-quarter of a carat. That’s about the size of a matchhead. An average of 15 diamonds found each year weigh more than one carat; of these, only four or five usually weigh two carats or more.

Thousands of people visit the Crater of Diamonds every year in search of diamonds. Diamonds are rarer here than in most commercial mines, making the challenge of finding one greater and the reward much sweeter. When you find a diamond here, you’re likely the first person to have ever held it. Since most commercial

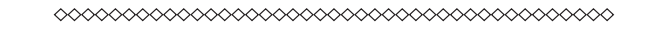
mines don’t allow individuals to search, the adventure and opportunity for discovery are as much a reward as the gem itself. Come visit us and see if you can find your own Crater of Diamonds gem!

Search area last plowed: October 18, 2025

Most recent significant rain: October 28, 2025

Recent diamond finds (100 points = 1 carat):

- October 22 – Sue Burgman, Marquette, MI, 2 pt. white; David Saunders, Grandville, MI, 46 pt. white
- October 25 – Jeff Messenger, Alma, AR, 3 pt. white



Cossatot basketball squads ranked in preseason poll

DE QUEEN -- UA Cossatot men’s basketball team received 35 points and one first-place vote to sit 7th in the 2025 NJCAA Region 2 DII Coaches Poll, the league office announced. Defending champions North Arkansas College were picked as the preseason favorite with 65 points and nine first-place votes, followed closely by Arkansas State Mid-South With 59 points and three first-place votes.

- The rest of the results were:
- 3. SAU Tech (52)
 - 4. National Park (48)
 - 5. Southeast Arkansas (47)
 - 6. Arkansas State Newport (37)
 - 7. UA Cossatot (35) (1)
 - 8. Phillips C.C.-UA (25)
 - 9. South Arkansas (19)
 - 10. Shorter (18)

UA Cossatot’s season begins at home against Southern University-Shreveport on Oct. 31 at 6 p.m.

UA Cossatot women’s basketball team received 26 points to sit fourth put of eight team sin the 2025 NJCAA Region 2 DII Coaches Poll, the league office announced.

Defending champions National Park College were picked as the preseason favorite with 49 points and seven first-place votes, followed by North Arkansas with 39 points and one first-place vote.

- The rest of the results were:
- 3. SAU Tech 39
 - 4. UA Cossatot 26
 - 5. Southeast Arkansas 22
 - 6. Arkansas State Mid-South 19
 - 7. South Arkansas 17
 - 8. Phillips C.C.-UA 13

Cossatot’s season begins at home against Eastern Oklahoma State College on Nov. 3 at 5:30 p.m.

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Pike County 4-Hers embark on enriching field trips through history, culture, and nature

BY SHANNON BALLARD,
Pike County 4-H Program Assistant

PIKE COUNTY -- Over the summer, Pike County 4-H members took learning beyond the classroom by embarking on a series of hands-on field trips that highlighted the rich history, cultural landmarks, and natural beauty of Arkansas. From historic towns and museums to waterfalls and archaeological sites, the educational tours offered students a unique way to connect with their heritage and environment.

The adventure began at Old Washington Historic State Park, where 4-Hers were transported back to the 1800s through interactive exhibits and guided tours. They explored antebellum homes, watched traditional blacksmithing demonstrations, and learned how early Arkansians lived, worked, and shaped the state's early development.

Next, the group made a meaningful stop at the Arkansas Walk of Fame in Hot Springs, where bronze plaques honor notable Arkansians who have made lasting contributions to the state and beyond. It was a proud moment of inspiration as youth walked among the names of artists, inventors, athletes, and community

leaders, many of whom started their journeys in small towns just like theirs.

Nearby, the 4-Hers visited Bathhouse Row in Hot Springs National Park. Touring the historic bathhouses gave members insight into the healing traditions and architectural beauty that have drawn visitors to the area for over a century. The visit included discussions about geothermal springs, public health, and the town's unique blend of natural and cultural history.

Another highlight was the group's visit to Kadoha Indian Village, one of Arkansas's oldest known Native American settlements. Students explored ancient mounds, examined preserved artifacts, and participated in interactive demonstrations that brought indigenous history to life. The experience deepened their understanding of the original stewards of the land and the legacy they left behind.

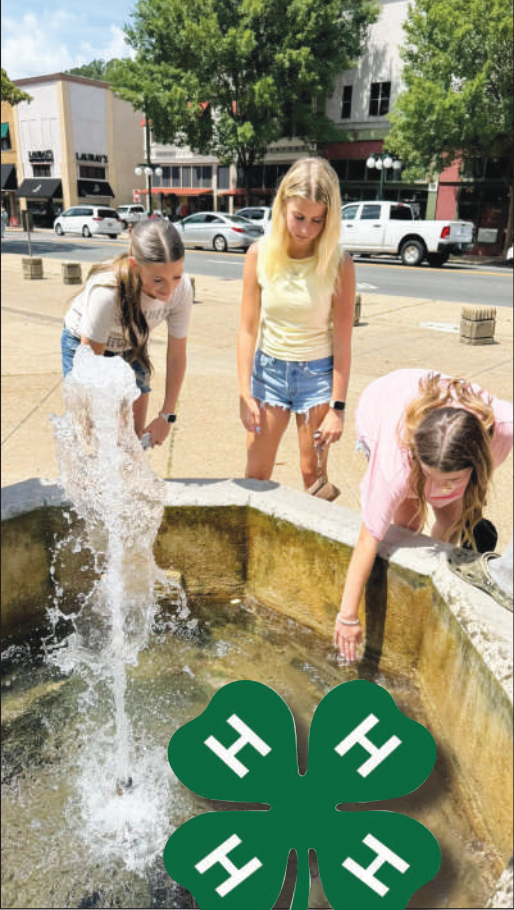
To connect the past with the present, the 4-Hers also spent time at the Pike County Archives, where they examined old photographs, land records, and family histories. The hands-on experience allowed youth to explore their own local roots and understand how historical preservation keeps community stories alive.

The tour continued at the Mauney House, a beautifully preserved early 20th-century residence in Murfreesboro. The home offered a personal look at domestic life in the region, sparking conversations about craftsmanship, tradition, and how life has evolved over the past century.

Capping off the season of exploration, the group hiked to the scenic Little Missouri Falls, where they enjoyed the crisp fall air and the sound of cascading water. Along the way, they learned about native plants, local wildlife, and environmental conservation. The hike was both educational and invigorating, reinforcing 4-H's commitment to physical wellness and appreciation for the natural world.

This series of field trips was designed to educate and inspire. Our goal is to help youth see the value in history, understand the importance of stewardship, and feel connected to their heritage while having fun and making memories.

Through each stop, Pike County 4-Hers grew not just in knowledge, but in appreciation for the diverse stories that make Arkansas special. From historic halls to hidden trails, these experiences are sure to leave a lasting impact on the next generation of leaders.



Alford Family Estate Auction

1617 Hwy. 26 East, Delight, AR 71940
Saturday, November 8th at 10:00 a.m.

Todd Morris Auction Co. has been commissioned to sell at public auction the estate of J.W., Norene, and Larry, Jr Alford. This is an auction you do not want to miss!

1986 Dodge Power Ram 250 gas engine - dual gas tanks, 57,177 original miles, with title (not running - stored in barn), 2008 Chrysler Town & Country - 149,686 miles, 4.0 Liter - runs, 2013 Dodge Grand Caravan - 136,098 miles, runs and drives, 1968 Honda P50 MC w/title - gas powered dirt bike, Dolly, Fishing Poles, Hand Tools, Hobart Electric Portable Welder, John Deere M Series Tractor Serial #M-55245, Flower Pots, Queen Bed and Night Stand, Dresser, Armoire, Chair, Queen Bed & Dresser, Antique Chest, Dresser and Cedar Chest, Antique Full Size Bed, Knick Knacks, Antique Record Player, Vac Cleaner, Dining Table& 4 Chairs w/Leaf, 8 Track Console, Bar Stools, Chair, Kerosene Heater, Couch, Records, Decor, Sewing Machine, Handicap Equipment, End Tables, Kitchen Items, Gas Dryer & Washer, Hobart Welder, Old Bell, Misc. Tools, DeWalt Chop Saw, Metal Shelves, Table Saw, Ridgid Nail Gun, Craftsman Belt Sander, Log Bed Frame, Tool Box, Snapper Mower, Live Trap, Briggs and Stratton Chipper/Shredder Gas Powered, Chicken Wire, Antique Push Plow, Generator, Push Mower, Dolly, Gas Cans, Plus, Many More Items!

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