# The Murfreesboro Diamond

USPC 103-230

Serving South Pike County, Arkansas Since 1975

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BAKE SALE SUCCESS ... Pike County 4-H'er and reigning Junior Miss Pike County Carsyn Ballard aided in the efforts for the 4-H Shop With A Cop bake sale at KMB Nanny's Kitchen last Sunday. The sale raised \$130 to go toward the 2025 program that allows local youth in need to shop for Christmas gifts with local officers.

# **Senior center taking** holiday orders

MURFREESBORO -- The Murfreesboro Senior Adult Center will be offering their annual fall fundraiser of homemade dressing and

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.

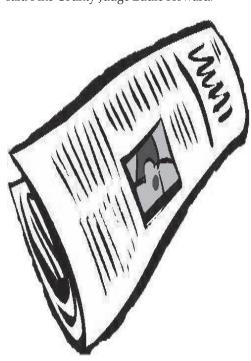
The dressing will be offered in 5 pound pan for \$15 and 10 pounds for \$30, while rolls will be by the dozen for \$6.

#### Changes made to materials taken at landfill

PIKE COUNTY -- Per The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, The Pike County Landfill will no longer be able to take Class 1 Garbage, Class 1 materials include household trash, cardboard, paper, plastic, hazardous waste (no non-putrescible waste), etc.

Upon entering the landfill, residents will need to stop at the gate and speak to the operator before dumping from this point on.

"We are sorry for the inconvenience this may cause, but ADEQ requires that we follow state law to provide this service to our community," said Pike County Judge Eddie Howard.



## **DO YOU KNOW SOMETHING WORTH TELLING? Submit Your Local News to the Diamond!**

mdiamond@windstream.net

**Call (870) 285-2723 for More Information** 

# Missing child search ends with success, now under investigation

BY JOHN BALCH Nashville News-Leader

MURFREESBORO -- The case of a child reported missing last week in Murfreesboro and found just steps from her home is now under investigation, according to Murfreesboro Police Chief Randy Lamb.

The child, an eight-year-old girl who was described as "small for her age" at 3'2" tall and 38 pounds, was reported missing from her home on Third Avenue by one of her parents on Thursday, Dec. 4 at approximately 7:30-7:40 a.m. Initial reports indicated the child was possible unclothed on the cold, rainy morning.

The incident touched off a massive search that involved multiple local and state law enforcement agencies and departments and a very large number of volunteers made up of county firefighters, concerned citizens and business owners. Two thermal drones were also deployed in the search, one belonging to Pike County Office of Emergency Services and another belonging to a local resident. The

Arkansas State Police helicopter was also requested at the scene, but due to the weather the copter could not fly, according to Chief Lamb. Chief Lamb said the child was reportedly

found in the pump shed connected to the home's swimming pool around 12 noon by one of her parents. He estimated the distance from the home to the pump shed to be less than 100 feet. Lamb also said the child's home, pump shed and the surrounding area had been searched multiple times.

Murfreesboro Fire Chief Ricky Branch said the search was preparing to expand when the parent approached with the child wrapped in a blanket. The child, who appeared uninjured in the incident, was rushed to an ambulance already on site and then on to the Nashville hospital where she was further evaluated.

Lamb noted that this was not the first time the child had walked away from the home.

Chief Branch said he was "thoroughly impressed" with the search effort organization and the many people who showed up to help.

"The support was overwhelming and we

couldn't be more thankful," Branch said.

"It was impressive," added Chief Lamb in offering more gratitude for the community sup-

#### **CITY OFFERS THANKS IN EFFORT**

The Murfreesboro Fire and Rescue, Murfreesboro Police Department and the City of Murfreesboro would like to extend a sincere thank you to everyone who came out to support our community in the search for a lost child on December 4.

"Your response to community members in need was greatly appreciated and overwhelming. We cannot thank you enough," said Murfreesboro Mayor Jim O'Neal.

Specific thanks in the effort by Lamb, Branch and O'Neal included the Pike County Sheriff's Department, Pike County OEM, Pike County Road Department, Arkansas State Police, Antoine Fire Department, Delight Fire Department, Kirby Fire Department, Murfreesboro Methodist Church, and the Citizens who volunteered during the search.







Submitted photos/Jane Fugitt **BIKE WINNERS** ... In Murfreesboro





last Saturday, some 80 children made a stop to see Santa Claus on the Pike County Square. All attending youth received bags of fruit and candy that had been donated by Diamond Bank and First State Bank after being sacked/prepared by City of Murfreesboro employees and elected officials. After visiting with Santa, the kids were treated to getting their pictures made on the big red City of Murfreesboro firetruck. Bicycles were given away at the end of the event were donated by Harvill and Associates, Branch Construction, Creekside Vacation Rentals, Mayor Jim O'Neal and the Murfreesboro Chamber of Commerce. Winners of the bicycles included (ages 0-5) Walker Turner and Altheina Rickman, (ages 6-8) Nora Kosters and Monte Mason, and (ages 9-12) Jameson Motley and Gracie Hill.

# Ballot draw sets placements for upcoming election

MURFREESBORO -- The Pike County Election Commission held their ballot draw on Tuesday, Dec. 2 for placement on the preferential primary ballots this upcoming March 3,

New to the process this year is a semi-closed primary by the state Republican party. This means that those that have declared themselves as Democrats on their voter registration form cannot choose a Republican ballot, which will hold several key county races.

However, the less than 100 Pike County registered Democats may, according to County Clerk Randee Edwards, change their party registration to "optional" at her office prior to the election or at any of the Pike County voting centers on election day. This would allow for voting in the Republican primary. That status may be changed back after the primary elections should a voter desire.

The county's voting centers will be located in

Kirby, Delight, Glenwood and Murfreesboro.

Additionally, the only way a voter can participate in a runoff election is limited to either their previous choice of Republican or Democratic tickets on March 3. A runoff election would be conducted on March 31.

The deadline for residents who are not currently registered to vote is February 2.

Those who are registered in-state -- but not Pike County -- may switch their registration at the polls this year. That is a change from previous elections in which it had to be done a week in advance of the election.

LNA testing of the voting machines will begin on January 28 at the Pike County Clerk's

Sample ballots for Pike County residents may be viewed on voterview.com after they are

uploaded to the Secretary of State's website on February 13. Residents desiring an absentee ballot must

fill out an application at Edward's office by

January 26.

Hallie Shoffner

draw on December 2.

runoff beginning March 24.

285-2743.

**DEMOCRATIC BALLOT** U.S. Senate -- 1. Mayor Ethan N. Dunbar, 2.

Early voting will begin on Tuesday, Feb. 17

following the President's Day holiday on Mon-

day, with early voting in any races requiring a

For any further election questions, please

The following candidates in contested races

were assigned ballot placement during the

contact the Pike County Clerk's office at (870)

U.S. Congress District 4 -- 1. James "Rus" Russell III, 2. Steven Layne O'Donnell

Governor -- 1. State Senator Fred Love, 2. Su-**BALLOT** Continued on Page 2

#### **BALLOT** Continued from Page 1

pha Xayprasith-Mays

#### REPUBLICAN BALLOT

U.S Senate -- 1. Micah Ashby, 2. Senator Tom Cotton, 3. Jeb Little

Commissioner of State Lands -- 1. Secretary of State Cole Jester, 2. Christian Olson

Pike County Judge -- 1. Eddie Howard Pike County Judge, 2. Wade Stewart, 3. Keith Couch, 4. Robert Shelby

Pike County Sheriff/Collector -- 1. Sheriff Travis Hill, 2. Randy H. Lamb

Justice of the Peace, District 1 -- 1. Roger D. Floyd, 2. Payton Eckert

Justice of the Peace, District 6 -- 1. Ron Park-

er, 2. Kip Holbrook

Justice of the Peace, District 7 -- 1. Robert Mac Irvin, 2. Richard Mohlenhoff

#### **NONPARTISAN**

State Supreme Court Associate Judge Position 3 -- 1. John Adams, Arkansas Supreme Court Justice Nick Bronni

Prosecuting Attorney, District 9-West -- 1. Clayton Tinkes, 2. Prosecuting Attorney Jana Bradford, 3. City Attorney Erin Hunter

#### **SCHOOL BOARD**

South Pike County School District, Zone 7 --1. Alyssa Duggan, 2. Carrie Tidwell Centerpoint School District, Zone 4 -- 1. Pake

Sutton, 2. Larry Harvey

# **Murfreesboro Christmas parade set for** Thursday, still time to enter drawing

MURFREESBORO -- The Murfreesboro Chamber will then host the annual Christmas parade this Thursday, Dec. 11 under the theme "Winter Wonderland." This allows for the decorating of floats in such things as icicles, snowflakes and winter animals.

Lineup for the parade will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the former Pike County Hospital with the procession beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The Chamber is requesting pre-registration to participate in the parade, so all interested persons – be it cars, floats, walkers, or ATVs -- can call (870) 285-3131 or email lisa@ harvillandassociates.com to get qualified.

Horses will not be allowed in this year's procession due to the ongoing quarantine for equine herpes.

The Murfreesboro High School marching band is scheduled to be a part of the parade.

**CHAMBER BUCKS** 

The Murfreesboro Cham-

LITTLE ROCK -- The Ar-

kansas Department of Trans-

portation (ARDOT) is install-

ing new anti-litter displays in

two locations along Arkansas

highways beginning the week

The displays will be in place

for approximately one month,

then rotate to new locations

Travelers along Arkansas

highways will see a series of

blue highway signs with anti-

litter messaging. The first sign

will read, "ARDOT spends

over \$8 million per year com-

you part of the problem or the

A second one will say, "Are

of December 8.

around the state.

batting litter."

ber is conducingt a Chamber Bucks Giveaway campaign in the weeks leading up to the Christmas parade on Thursday, Dec. 11.

The event is be ongoing and the Chamber reminds all residents to support Murfreesboro businesses by shopping locally.

All purchases at a participating chamber member business, starting on Friday, Nov. 28 through the afternoon of Thursday, Dec. 11, will allow for an entry in the drawing the night of the parade for three prizes -- \$500, \$250 and \$100 in Chamber Bucks that can be spent with any Chamber of Commerce member.

The drawing will be conducted after the parade. Participants must not be present at the drawing to win.

Businesses that will be participating in the entry process with a purchase include:

ARDOT starts traveling anti-litter displays

solution?" The third sign will

read, "Please help us keep Arkansas natural." At the end of

the three signs, the public will

see five-foot-tall wire mesh

letters spelling out "NATU-

The wire letters are hollow

and will be filled with litter

that has been picked up by

not know how much ARDOT

spends each year picking up

litter from our highways. Our

goal is to raise awareness for

all Arkansans and travelers in

our state," said Steve Frisbee,

ARDOT Assistant Chief Engi-

neer for Maintenance.

"The average taxpayer may

crews in the area.

- Foshee Equipment
- J&S Auto
- CEBA Gas
- Harvill Insurance
- Chicken N More
- Ace of Diamonds

- Town Square Gallery
- The Old Store
- Murfreesboro Hardware
- Caddo Antiques
- Hawkins Variety • Diamond State İnsurance
- Telinga's Restaurant
- Pawn Kings
- Branch Oil
- C-Stop
- People's Pharmacy Gypsy Underground

Following the drawing, winning participants can spend their Chamber Bucks at any of the above businesses, as well as the following other Chamber business members including:

- Swaha Lodge and Marina • The Feed Bin Cafe
- Doz Bros Arcade
- Ceramics by Telinga's
- Sonic
- Tannergy • Dino Dig
- Murfreesboro Mini Mall • Flowers Done Wright
- Kadoha Indian Village
- Diamond City Fitness
- Lovejoy's Diamond



AIDING THE CAUSE ... Murfreesboro Chamber of Commerce President Lisa Harvill (left) presented local Angel Tree Director Angie Strawn a \$1,500 check for use in the 2025 program. As of Tuesday morning only a few of the more than 100 angels were left uncollected for the annual drive to help local children have a merrier Christmas. Strawn reiterated that all gifts must be returned to the Pike County Sheriff's Office by Tuesday, Dec. 16.

#### PIKE COUNTY PUBLIC RECORD

### **DOMESTIC RELATIONS**

DR-25-59 -- Cole Hammock, vs. Deborah Hammock, divorce, Oct. 1

DR-25-60 -- Amanda Bailey, vs. Brian Bailey, divorce, Oct.

DR-25-61-- OCSE, vs. Adam Harding, support-OCSE, Oct.

DR-25-62 -- Emma Manning, vs. William Coleman, order of protection, Nov. 14

CV-25- 84 -- Credit Acceptance Corp., vs. Jason Jarrell, contract-other, Oct. 7

CV-25-85 -- Velocity Investments LLC., vs. Catrina Flemens, debt collection, Oct. 10 CV-25-86 -- Capital One, vs.

CV-25-87 -- Capital One, vs. Tony Pipkins, debt collection, CV-25-88 -- Capital One, vs.

PUBLIC RECORD Continued on Page 5

#### **Latimer Funeral Home** in Nashville

is offering personalized ornaments to families who have lost loved ones during this past year. Stop by this Christmas season, and take an ornament from our Remembrance Tree, which is

Each ornament was hand made by our staff and has been personalized with your loved one's name, date of birth and date of death.

located in our foyer.

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Stan Chupp (918) 638-1157 | Jonathan Miller (918) 237-7582

# Murfreesboro Diamond

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• P.J. Tracy IV, Editor

• Christy Coccarelli, Office Manager/Photographer

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Any erroneous statement published in the newspaper

will be gladly and promptly corrected if called to the attention of the management.

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along Interstate 555 (Exit 42) in Ionesboro and Interstate 49 (Exit 91) in Bentonville.

change."

ARDOT employees.

tation, have a unique responsibility to help preserve the beauty that surrounds our infrastructure," said ARDOT Director Jared Wiley. "In addition to the money we spend on litter pickup each year, we are always exploring new ways to combat the litter problem. We hope these litter letters resonate with the traveling public and spur positive The signage and litter letters were made in-house by

"Arkansas is 'The Natural

State,' and we, as the Arkan-

sas Department of Transpor-

# They will first be installed Linda Wisner, debt collection,

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# PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PIKE COUNTY, ARKNASAS DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVISION

MARIA G. ZAMORANO PLAINTIFF VS. NO. 55 DR-25-57 JOHNNY ZAMORANO DEFENDANT

GENERAC

**WARNING ORDER** 

TO: ALL CONCERNED

You are hereby notified that MARIA ZAMORANO, Plaintiff, whose Attorney is DUSTIN BISSELL, whose address is 306 E Broadway Glenwood, AR 71943, has filed a COM-PLAINT FOR DIVORCE against you, a copy of which Petition and Summons shall be delivered to you, or to your attorney upon request. You are also notified that you must appear and defend by filing your answer or other responsive pleading within thirty (30) days of the date of the first publication of this Warning Order; in the event of your failure to do so, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Petition as circumscribed by the laws of this State. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and

seal as Clerk of the Court on this 1st. day of December, 2025. Sabrina Williams

CIRCUIT CLERK Pike County

(d.b., 173w., 22,23)

#### Preparing early for winter: simple steps to keep your family safe

As colder weather approaches in Arkansas, now is a great time to start planning ahead to keep your family, home, and property safe. Winter can bring surprises like sudden power outages, icy roads, or frozen pipes but a little preparation now can save a lot of stress later.

A good place to start is by talking with your family about your winter weather plan. Discuss how you'll stay in touch during an outage, where you'll gather in the home to stay warm, and what to do if the heat goes out. It's also helpful to think about the specific needs of each person in your household, including pets, young children, older relatives, and anyone who relies on medication or medical devices. Writing down important phone numbers, addresses, and contacts and keeping copies in easy-to-find places can make things much smoother if an emergency pops up.

Practicing your plan together can also make a big difference. Even a quick runthrough helps everyone remember where supplies are kept and what they're responsible for doing. Building a winter-ready emergency kit is an important step to do ahead of time. Stock up on warm blankets, flashlights, batteries, non-perishable food, water, and basic first-aid items. Storing them somewhere you can reach quickly even in the dark - gives you peace of mind. Keeping a smaller kit in your car is also a smart idea for those unexpected icy days.

Another helpful thing you can do ahead of a deep freeze is protect your water supply by insulating exposed pipes and disconnecting outdoor hoses. When temperatures really plunge, letting faucets drip and knowing how to shut off your water can prevent frozen pipes from turning into a messy and expensive problem. By planning early and tackling these simple steps now, you can head into the winter season feeling confident and ready.



# PIKE COUNTY EXTENSION

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

It's also wise to stock your pantry with canned, boxed, or bottled foods, dry mixes, and other staples that don't require refrigeration. To make planning easier, the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture offers a free Preparedness and Resiliency Guide that helps families plan for 14 days of meals and snacks. The guide provides 21 meals and 5 snacks to feed a family of 4 for 7 days. Most of the ingredients in the book are non-perishable items, except some fresh fruits and vegetables

This resource can be modified and customized to fit your family's needs. Shopping for your family during financial hardships can be overwhelming if you try to do it all at once. Take it one step at a time. Adapt the quantity of recipes and only select recipes that your family will eat and enjoy. Make one night a week a family preparedness night and try out one of the recipes in this cookbook to find what your family likes.

The guide also includes a list of kitchen tools and supplies and information on food safety. When shopping, avoid items that require special preparation, long cooking times, lots of ingredients, or large amounts of water. Periodically check expiration dates of food and rotate items in

your pantry
You can download the guide at uaex.
uada.edu/life-skills-wellness/emergency-preparedness.aspx or stop by the Pike
County Extension Office at 100 Court
Street Suite A in Murfreesboro for a printed copy. A link can also be found on the
"Pike County FCS" Facebook page. Like

and Follow to stay current on all Family and Consumer Sciences classes and

Extension's Emergency Preparedness Guide can be a huge support as you get ready for whatever winter may bring. Taking a few simple steps early on helps ensure everyone stays warm, safe, and comfortable when temperatures take a dip. This week's recipe is one featured in the guide and the perfect main dish on a cold, cold day. Enjoy!

# RECIPE OF THE WEEK: WHITE CHICKEN CHILLI Ingredients:

- 1 medium onion, finely chopped OR 1/4 cup dried minced onion OR 1/4 cup onion powdor.
  - 3 tablespoons olive oil
  - 3 tablespoons flour
- 1 can chopped green chilies, drained 2 teaspoons ground cumin
- 2 (15-ounce) cans northern beans or navy beans
  - 1 (14.5-ounce) can chicken broth
  - 2 (8-ounce) cans cooked chicken
  - 1 (8-ounce) can carrots

#### **Instructions:**

1. In a large skillet, cook onion in oil until transparent, about 4 minutes; 2. Add flour, chilies and cumin; cook while stirring for 2 minutes; 3. Add beans, carrots and broth; bring to a boil; 4. Reduce heat and simmer for about 10 minutes until thickened; 5. Add chicken and heat thoroughly; 6. Top with crumbled tortilla chips or salsa if desired.

# PIKE COUNTY SKYWATCHERS BY RICK FLOYD

# Take in the A-List stars on a chilly evening this week

Those who don't mind a chill in the air the night sky this week hosts many of the "A-lister" named star groups, and you don't even have to stay up late because it gets dark early these days.

Stargazing does not have to be a regimented check-listing of constellations and stars. It can start as a relaxed, leaned back in a chair, slow discovery. Find a familiar constellation first and go from there. This week, if you are out at 8 or 9 pm you will see almost overhead the big W of Cassiopeia. Just south of the W is Pegasus the winged horse. Its most recognizable part is the large square formed by four bright stars. The larger part of Cassiopeia's W points to a faint smudge of light (best to have an un light polluted sky to see it). That smudge is actually the only object we can see with the naked eye from our part of the world that is not in our galaxy. It is in fact a galaxy called Andromeda and it is 2.5million light years from our galaxy, but many (billions) years from now our galaxy and Andromeda will collide and eventually become one.

Around Cassiopeia are several well-known constellations. Perseus which is noted as the place where the Perseid meteor shower happens, and Auriga that has the 3rd brightest star viewable in our hemisphere, Capella. Capella is actually four stars in a complex gravitational relationship.

Orion the hunter could be called the Christmas constellation. It is now rising in the east about two hours after sunset and by Christmas Eve it rises just after darkness falls. To ancient people the rising of Orion was a significant event and part of the celebration of solstice, as was the setting in the west of Cygnus the swan constellation (or northern cross). Early risers will see two prominent (and also important to ancient people) constellations, Leo the lion and Ursa Major, the big bear, of which the Big Dipper is a part. They both are now rising about mid-night, and overhead by 5 am. These are a few highlights of the night sky now, and there are many more things to see.

The Geminid meteor shower peaks during the evening of the 13th and into the wee hours of the 14th. It is predicted to be a good showing, maybe up to 150 meteors per hour. The constellation Gemini, near Orion, where the meteors will radiate from will be 30 or so degrees above the eastern horizon by 9 pm, so find a dark sky location and get out early.

## 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

## Save those shanks: slow-cook your way to deer-hunting's delicacies

LITTLE ROCK — With more than 150,000 deer already harvested this season in The Natural State, many hunters have a deer in the freezer. Most of those hunters have likely skipped out on one of the most delicious cuts of meat when they processed those deer or took them to the local butcher. The shanks, essentially the calf muscles of white-tailed deer, cause plenty of confusion for home chefs because of their tendency to come out tougher than shoe leather with the steel toe still inside.

Steven Rinella of "MeatEater" TV fame has even made it a personal challenge to figure out some way to promote and prepare these portions of venison that are often relegated to the grind pile or reserved for pets because of the amount of silverskin and tendons that weave their way throughout the muscle fibers.

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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.

# 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: What causes appendicitis? A: Appendicitis is inflammation. Symptoms of appen

A: Appendicitis is inflammation of the appendix, which is a small tube-shaped organ attached to the lower right of the large intestine. The condition often can be a medical emergency requiring surgery to remove the appendix. A report from the National Library of Medicine states that approximately 300,000 hospital visits per year in the United States are related to appendicitis.

A blockage in the appendix due to an infection is a common cause of appendicitis. An infection can cause the appendix lining to become inflamed and swollen, raising the possibility of the appendix bursting.

Appendicitis is most common in people between the ages of 10 and 30. Men are slightly more at risk of appendicitis than women.

Symptoms of appendicitis include abdominal pain, loss of appetite and nausea. Pain that begins in the middle of the abdomen and intensifies before nausea and vomiting develops are possible early signs of the condition.

Antibiotics to treat the infection are normally the initial treatment for appendicitis and may resolve mild cases. The appendix can rupture within 36 hours of initial symptoms, so it is critical to visit a health care provider or health care facility for immediate diagnosis if symptoms are severe.

Dr. Jennifer Ballard, former state wildlife veterinarian for the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and current director of the Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, has worked out some great ways to serve those deer "stems" by taking a page from chefs who have mastered mutton.

"In general, I think any recipe that holds up to lamb or goat will hold up to venison," Ballard said.

Braising in a pot or breaking out the handy slow-cooker is key to her venison shank success.

"You really have to sear them off well at the beginning and then let them stew until the meat is pulling away from the bone," Ballard said. "It takes a lot longer for venison to cook this way than lamb, sometimes twice as long as the recipe calls for."

Ballard explains that, unlike some roasts, shank meat often contracts and becomes rock solid until the tendons have had time to dissolve under the patient effort of slow, penetrating heat. The result is tender meat surrounded by a rich, velvety broth.

"I typically serve shank recipes over rice or as a stew with bread for sopping," Ballard said. "It's not a quick and easy meal, but it's definitely worth it."

Visit www.agfc.com/education/wild-game-recipes for more great recipe ideas for venison and other wild game.

#### BALSAMIC BRAISED VENISON SHANKS (DUTCH OVEN RECIPE)

Ingredients: 4 venison shanks, 2 tablespoons olive oil, divided, 2 large yellow onions, cut into wedges, ¼ cup balsamic vinegar, ½ cup dry white wine, 2 cups chicken broth, 6 cloves garlic, minced, 1 sprig rosemary, leaves only

Preheat oven to 375°F. Rub shanks with 1 tablespoon olive oil and sear in Dutch oven on stove over high heat until browned on exterior. Set shanks aside and add onions and remaining oil to cook until onions begin to soften. In a separate bowl, combine balsamic vinegar, wine, chicken broth, garlic and rosemary. Pour over the onions and return venison to pot. Bring to a boil and allow to cook 3 minutes. Cover Dutch oven with lid and place in oven. Cook for three hours, flipping the shanks once at the halfway point. Test for tenderness. Depending on the age of the deer, it may take an additional hour or two to achieve desired tenderness. Serve over rice or mashed potatoes.

#### JAMAICAN CURRIED VENISON SHANKS (SLOW COOKER RECIPE)

Ingredients: 2 venison shanks,¼ cup canola oil, 3 tablespoons curry powder, 2 teaspoons garlic, minced, 1 teaspoon ginger, minced, 1 medium onion, 1 teaspoon white pepper, 1 teaspoon thyme, 2 Roma tomatoes, roughly chopped, 2 medium potatoes, cut and peeled, ½ pound fresh spinach, roughly chopped and washed, 1 Scotch bonnet pepper (adjust to taste)

In a cast-iron skillet, brown shanks in canola oil over medium-high heat, turning frequently. Scrape bottom to get the fond (those tasty, caramelized bits of protein). Add curry powder, garlic, ginger, onion, white pepper, thyme, Scotch bonnet pepper and tomatoes and stir for 2 minutes. Transfer to slow cooker and add water to barely cover the meat. Cook on medium setting for 4 hours. Add potatoes and spinach and cook another 2 hours, or until potatoes are fork tender.



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9787 10/20

# **BID NOTICE**

Pike County will be accepting bids on culvert pipe for the 2026 calendar year. Bids are requested on galvanized, bituminous coated, concrete, corrugated polyethylene (smooth interior) and aluminum coated culvert pipe.

Bids will be opened on December 3, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in the County Judge's office located at 1 Courthouse Sq., Murfreesboro, AR 71958.

Bids may be mailed to the Pike County Judge, P.O. Box 239, Murfreesboro, AR or delivered to 1 Courthouse Sq., Murfreesboro, AR 71958.

Pike County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Eddie Howard Pike County Judge

This publication was paid for by the Pike County Judge Office. The amount paid for this publication is \$53.10.

(PCJ: 23-24, 115W)



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DELIGHT BRIDGE COMPLETED ... Arkansas Division of Emergency Management Public Assistance staff and Southwest Area Coordinator Cecil McGee met with Pike County Judge Eddie Howard and Pike County Office of Emergency Management Coordinator Lee Vincent to conduct the final inspection of the Wolf Creek Bridge Public Assistance Mitigation Project. The bridge, which sank 16 inches during the April flooding disaster, has since been rebuilt and reinforced to better withstand future flood events. With the project now complete, ADEM officials have signed off on the work, allowing the county to receive FEMA reimbursement. According to ADEM, mitigation projects like this play a vital role in strengthening local infrastructure, reducing the impact of future disasters, and saving counties valuable time and resources during recovery.







# Obituaries

# Wilton L. Westfall, 88, Nashville

Wilton L. Westfall, age 88, of Nashville, Arkansas passed away surrounded by his loving family on Monday, December 8, 2025, at his home. He was born on November 16, 1937, in Nashville, Arkansas, the son of the late Ridgell and Denver Olean Green Westfall.

Mr. Westfall was a proud Elder of the Murfreesboro church of Christ and enjoyed teaching class for many years. Barton Bible Camp was very important to him, and he tirelessly worked and enjoyed his time at the camp. He was a Captain in the United States Army and played a pivotal role in the Nashville ROTC. Wilton was an avid outdoorsman and loved hunting, fishing, and farming. During his career he spent 38 years working as a supervisor at the Briar Plant.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister Gloria Dallas.

Survivors include his wife of 65 years Peggy Clark Westfall of Nashville; two sons Robbye Westfall and wife Barbara, Greg Westfall and wife Laurie; one brother Rickey Westfall and wife Ann; Tina McAllister and husband Bob; four grandchildren Andrew Westfall, Tabitha Jones and husband Justin, Justin Westfall and wife Kelsey, Alex Westfall; eight grandchildren Ella, Clark, Kora, Fisher, Fletcher, Finnick, Kimber, and Drake, as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Visitation will be 1:00 p.m., to 2:00 p.m., Thursday, December 11, at the Murfreesboro church of Christ.

Funeral services will begin at 2:00 p.m., Thursday, December 11, at the Murfreesboro church of Christ, with Buddy Ray officiating, burial will follow in Academy Cemetery, under the direction of Latimer Funeral Home in Nashville.

Memorials may be made to Barton Bible Camp, 4562 US 70, Kirby, AR. 71950

You may send an online sympathy message at www. latimerfuneralhome.com



BALLOT DRAW ... (Above left) Pike County Election chairpersons Phil Terrell, Joan Hooper and Dr. Terry Hutson with Pike County Clerk Randee Edwards (third from left) recently conducted a ballot draw for ordered placement on the March 2026 elections; (above right) Pike County Sheriff Travis Hill draws a position for one of the statewide races on the ballot.

# 'Dear Preacher'

#### By Buddy Ray, Murfreesboro Church of Christ

JOURNEY TO HEAVEN

Two of my favorite old gospel songs are "Walking Alone at Eve" and "Paradise Valley". I love these songs because they draw our thoughts away from earthly troubles to visions of Heaven, and I fondly remember my dad leading these in Murfreesboro.

As I close my eyes and think of the words to these songs about Heaven, a peace and calm comes over me and it makes everything else unimportant when compared to Heaven. As we press toward Heaven, let us meditate on other great songs such as "Heaven Holds All to Me", "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be", and "When We All Get to Heaven". These words we know that if our earthly



encourage us on the day to day journey of this life and its struggles.

The Bible gives descriptions of how great our Heavenly home will be: John 14:2 – In My Father's House are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

II Corinthians 5:1 – For

house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with

hands, eternal in the heavens. Revelation 21:4 – And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.

Scripture assures us that God shall dwell with us, that we shall be His people and He shall be our God.

Let us encourage and uplift one another through scripture and song as we continue our journey to Heaven.

I pray that each of you may have a blessed week and strive daily to be Heaven bound.

Paid Advertisement

#### SOUTH PIKE COUNTY SCHOOL MENU

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 15

Breakfast: Glazed yeast donuts or cereal, broccoli, peaches, milk

fruit, juice, milk Lunch: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes,

black eyed peas, whole grain roll, mixed berry cup, milk No line 2

#### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16**

Breakfast: Sausage biscuit or cereal, fruit, juice, milk

Lunch: Mini corn dogs, sidewinder fries, baked beans, pears, milk

No line 2

#### **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17**

Breakfast: French toast sticks or cereal, fruit, juice, milk

Lunch: Cheese french bread pizza w/mari-

nara sauce, baby carrots w/ranch, seasoned

No line 2

#### **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18**

Breakfast: Powered donut or cereal, fruit,

Lunch: Burrito w/cheese sauce, refried

beans, seasoned corn, pineapple, milk No line 2

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

Breakfast: Cereal with cheese sticks, fruit, juice, milk

Lunch: Cooks choice

\*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, DECEMBER 15**

Country fried steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, dressing of choice, roll, brownie **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16** 

Sloppy joe on bun, baked sweet potato, coleslaw, onion slices, roll, fruit crisp

#### **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17**

Tomato Basil Soup, tuna salad sandwich, sliced beets, crackers, 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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Hwy 27 N. Murfreesboro

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

Bro. Curtis Abernathy

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(870) 379-2293



## Murfreesboro church of Christ

305 S. Second Ave.

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

Bro. Buddy Ray

# Attend Church This Sunday!

OT TIME OF THE RAPINATE TO STE INCLUDED?

and wat mdfamond@windstream.net

#### **THE 1970S**

#### **ACROSS**

- 1. Come clean, with "up"
- \_-a-Soup, launched in 1972
- 8. Hefty volume
- 12. Maui party 13. Detective's assignment
- 14. One that insists
- 15. Seed covering
- 16. Dull pain 17. Waltz, in France
- 18. \*Francis Ford Coppola's "The \_
- 20. Part of an eye
- 21. H. pylori consequence
- 22. Labor org.
- 23. \*"Feathered" 1970s icon
- 26. One who delivers coal
- 30. \*1978's "Night Fever" spent 8 weeks in this Billboard slot
- 31. Fire-breathing monster, Greek mythology
- 34. Type of list
- 35. Open-mouthed
- 37. Acorn producer
- 38. Glossy fabric
- 39. Denim innovator
- 40. Enlist or talk into (2 words) 42. Golf accessory
- 43. Gracefully thin
- 45. Meat and vegetable stew 47. Stumblebum
- 48. One way to prepare an egg
- 50. Chicken pox mark
- 52. \*Type of 1970s shoes
- 56. Top dog 57. Laughing on the inside, in a text
- 58. Bye, to Sophia Lauren
- 59. \*1971's "Sooner or \_\_\_\_" by the Grass
- 60. \*"Beneath the Planet of the \_\_\_\_"
- 61. Very light brown
- 62. Research facil.
- 63. \*Progressive rock band of "Roundabout"

64. Fishing pole spool

- 1. Capture the
- 2. Continental capital
- 3. Aforementioned
- 4. Substance with rotten egg smell
- 5. Secret stash 6. Theater employee
- 7. Jury member
- 8. \*Olivia Newton-John's 1978 co-star
- 9. Eye amorously 10. Table hill
- 11. Before, to a bard

- 13. Can't-get-it-off-one's-mind kind 14. Throat dangler
- 19. Winged
- 22. Charge carrier
- 23. Young horses 24. \*One of three 1970s TV crime-fighting women
  - 25. Plunder
  - 26. \*"I'd like to buy the world a \_
  - 27. "Semper Fidelis" to U.S. Marines, e.g. 28. Bye, to Edith Piaf
  - 29. Group of nine singers 32. \*"Rich Man, \_\_\_\_ Man" miniseries
  - 33. As opposed to mishap
  - 36. \*Salvador Allende successor
  - 38. Chow down
  - 40. Game official, for short
  - 41. Inflammation of iris
  - 44. Capital of Senegal 46. Footstuffs merchant
  - 48. North face, e.g.
  - 49. Intensely dislikes
  - 50. Architectural drawing
  - 52. \*Neil Simon's "The Sunshine Boys," e.g.
  - 53. \*"Interview with the Vampire" author 54. Kate Winslet as \_\_\_\_ of Easttown

Cody James Arrel-Sherrill,

Allen Lane Duggan, 25,

Stephen Dewayne Tigue, 52,

Charles Dean Willis, 51,

Jonathon Tyler Gilbert, 27,

Kirby; Natalie Jo Henson, 55,

Amity; Karen Sue Garcilazo,

Murfreesboro; Anna Camille

Woolfolk, 25, Murfreesboro,

Aiden Kai Oglesby, 22, Am-

Jimmie Dale Henderson, 69,

Matthew Dale Wilder, 22,

Joshua Allen Franklin, 42,

Dallas Landen Young, 20,

Daniel Gene Chambers, 52,

David Todd Jordan, 34, De-

Kyle Brent Golden, 66, Kir-

Donald Robertson, 68, De-

Charles Brody Hignight, 24,

Murfreesboro; Sarah Dacey

Mauldin, 24, Murfreesboro,

light; Stephanie D. Bridges, 49,

light; Rachel Lauren Rather,

by; Rachel Marie Neighbors,

Delight; Cindy Watson Cobb,

Amity; Kayla Dawn Francis,

Glenwood; Myranda Leaanne

Hartwick, 31, Glenwood, Oct.

Amity; McKenzie Nicole

Tulsa; Dana Renee Gehri, 52,

Caldwell, 18, Amity, Oct. 29

64, Murfreesboro, Oct. 20

ity; Jasie Renae Miller, 22,

Glenwood; Katie Maie House,

26, Glenwood, Oct. 10

Kirby, Oct. 15

Oct. 16

52, Amity, Oct. 16

Glenwood, Oct. 17

28, Amity, Oct. 23

Tulsa, Oct. 30

31, Delight, Nov. 6

43, Kirby, Nov. 14

Delight, Nov. 14

Nov. 25

33, Glenwood; Misty Michelle

Cogburn, 32, Glenwood, Oct.

- \_ Train"
- 56. \*"Thrilla in Manila" winner





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#### PUBLIC RECORD

Continued from Page 2

Eric McBay, debt collection, Oct. 22

CV-25-89 -- Capital One, vs. Dee Hudson, debt collection,

CV-25-90 -- Bank of America, vs. Jennifer Jester, debt collection, Oct. 29 CV-25-91 -- Capital One, vs.

Eileen Sharp, debt collection, CV-25-92 -- Capital One, vs.

Denise Stuckey, debt collection, Oct. 30 CV-25-93 -- Velocity Invest-

ments, vs. Catrina Flemens, debt collection, Nov. 3 CV-25-94 -- Harper Kate Stone, name change, Nov. 7

CV-25-95 -- Capital One, vs. Denise Stuckey, debt collection, Nov. 10

CV-25-96 -- Kino Financial Co., vs. Jimmy Tolliver Cooper, debt collection, Nov. 11 CV-25-97 -- State, vs. Jessica

Smallwood, property forfeiture, Nov. 12 CV-25-98 -- Credit Accep-

Jr., contract-other, Nov. 14 CV-25-99 -- Credit Acceptance Corp., vs. Elizabeth

Sprague, contract-other, Nov.

CV-25-100 -- Dewanna House, vs. LHC Group Inc. ET AL, intentional tort, Nov. 18

CV-25-101 -- LVNV Funding LLC., vs. Susan Pate, debt collection, Nov. 19

LLC., vs. Alvin Stenerodden, debt collection, Nov. 20

collection, Nov. 20 CV-25-105 -- Credit Accep-

contract-other, Nov. 24 Allmon, debt collection, Nov.

CV-25-107 -- Credit Acceptance Corp., vs. Taylor Lamb, contract-other, Nov. 25

tance Corp., vs. Stacy Eoff, civil-other, Nov. 26

#### **MARRIAGE LICENSES**

49, Many, LA., Sept. 29

Amity; Emmery Rose Boyd, 26, Amity, Oct. 3

# December forage tips for cattle producers

4 to 6 inches down. Mix the

1-888-416-7103

#### BY CODIE MCALISTER

*Pike County Extension* Agent- Agriculture

December 2025 is already here. It doesn't feel like that long ago we were just in January and remembering to write 2025 instead of 2024 when jotting down the date. Here in Pike County, we have already seen some cold weather with a few freezing temperatures almost to the first day of winter. Although there were some pretty warm days in Novem-

Despite being winter weather, there are a few things producers can do to get ready for the next forage growing sea-

#### **PASTURE** MANAGEMENT:

Fall and Winter are great times to correct imbalances in soil pH. The fertility and pH of soil should be monitored regularly. The pH in pasture soil can drop relatively fast because of leaching in calcium carbonates and lack of soil mixing, like in a cropping system that uses frequent tillage. Correcting soil pH will take a few months, so it is wise to check the lime requirements with a soil test before next year's growing season.

To take a soil test, collect at least 15 subsamples per pasture using a zig-zag pattern. The University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service recommends collecting soil that's

2161, and I would be more subsamples, then submit as one composite sample to the than happy to come out and county. A plastic sandwich size bag full per sample is plenty. The test is free of charge for property in Arkansas.

You can also contact the Continued on Page 6

take soil samples for you **FORAGETIPS** 

Extension Office at (870) 285-

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Jason Porter (870) 703-1039 Johnny Porter (870) 703-1628

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Week of December 8, 2025

CV-25-102 -- LVNV Funding LLC., vs. Morgan Ewing, debt collection, Nov. 20 CV-25-103 -- LVNV Funding

CV-25-104 -- LVNV Funding LLC., vs. Kendra Glover, debt

tance Corp., vs. Apryl Falcon, CV-25-106 -- Crown Asset Management LLC., vs. Jody

Cv-25-108 -- Credit Accep-

Angela Leann Carmack, 39, Sims, AR; Amie Lynn Brown,

Colton Lee Johnson, 24,

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tance Corp., vs. Cecil White,

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P HA L 0 T С Α Ρ Е T E R Ε S C R E R



SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN ... The City of Delight invites area residents to join in their Christmas celebration this Saturday. Following a pancake breakfast at the Delight School Cafeteria, Santa will arrive by helicopter at 9 a.m.to visit with children and take photos. The day will continue with Christmas open houses at the city's businesses and a lighted Christmas parade

# **Magical Christmas celebration** this Saturday in Delight

**SUBMITTED ARTICLE** 

DELIGHT -- Come celebrate the magic of the holiday season in Delight! Join us on Saturday, December 13th for a day packed with Christmas cheer and community fun that's sure to make your heart grow three sizes. We have something special planned for everyone, so bring your family and friends and experience the spirit of Christmas together!

Pancake Breakfast:

Start your day with a delicious pancake breakfast at the Delight School Cafeteria. Doors open at 7:15 AM, and breakfast will be served until 8:45 AM. The breakfast is free; however, donations are appreciated. The event is sponsored

by Bank of Delight. Santa's Arrival:

At 9:00 AM, Santa will make a grand entrance by helicopter! He'll be available for photos and visits with children in

Don't forget to decorate your floats and vehicles with festive

Parade Lineup:

Christmas Open House:

Support our local business-

es and enjoy holiday treats

and specials during the Open

House from 11:00 AM to 2:00

Those participating in the

parade should start lining up

behind Littlefield's at 4:00 PM.

*Lighted Christmas Parade:* The parade will begin

#### FORAGE TIPS Continued from Page 5

whether it's for a pasture, hay meadow, yard, flower beds, or a garden.

#### **HAY MANAGEMENT:**

To reduce waste of hay, protect it when feeding. Use hay rings to reduce hay waste. Unrolling hay can increase hay waste unless it is done on a limited feeding basis.

Consider using a temporary electric wire to reduce waste from trampling and increase utilization of hay. This is done by unrolling the bale, then stringing up an electrified polywire down the length of the hay. Place the wire 30 inches high over the hay. Cattle will line up as if eating at a feed bunk.

Despite some waste, unrolled hay can help with muddy areas and can provide a dry place for young calves to lay when the temperatures start dropping.

Hay testing can provide you a peak into the TDN of your hay and help determine what supplements you may need for your herd. For more information and prices of hay testing, contact the Pike County Extension office.

#### **UPCOMING:**

Upcoming next week will be two Private Pesticide Applicator Trainings. Check your license now to see if you need to renew your license! Upcoming Trainings:

- Dec. 16, 6 p.m. Murfreesboro, Pike County Extension Office 100 Court St. Murfreesboro,
- December 17, 10 a.m. Glenwood, AR Community Room at Bainum Library
- February 24, 2026 6 p.m. Murfreesboro, Pike County Extension Office 100 Court St.

To sign up for one of these trainings or for

more information contact the Pike County Extension Office at 870-285-2161.

If you have questions regarding agriculture and natural resources, contact the Pike County Extension Office at 870-285-2161 or reach out to your local county extension office.



SOIL TESTING ... Pike County University of Arkansas Exension Agricultural Agent Codie McAlister is pictured taking a soil sample from a local pasture. McAlister said by contacting the Extension Office at (870) 285-2161, she would be "more than happy to come out and take soil samples for you whether it's for a pasture, hay meadow, yard, flower beds, or a garden.'



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