

Leader Board

www.swarkansasnews.com

OPINION | 4A

Love your neighbor and get your vaccination.

Scrapperette soccer team taco meal set Feb. 12

The Scrapperette soccer team will hold a Valentine's fund-raiser Thursday, Feb. 12, at the First Baptist Church Family Activities Building from 12 noon until 3 p.m. or until sold out.

Three al-pastor tacos with rice will be \$10 with no need to pre-order.

Desserts include brownie, \$2; three cookies for \$2; fresas con cremo, \$3; fruit salad, \$3; and three chocolate strawberries, \$5.

Drinks will be sold for \$1 each. They include Coke, Sprite, Dr Pepper and water. They will be available at pick-up.

Cash, checks or online payments will be accepted.

For more information, contact Coach Clarissa Brizo at Nashville High School or email clarissa.brizo@nashvillesd.com

Hospital Foundation fund-raiser Saturday

A night of Bingo, food, music and more will be in a fund-raiser for the Howard Memorial Hospital Foundation Valentine's Day at Midtown Social in Nashville.

The event will feature entertainment by Chris Gunn, plus prizes, a live and silent auction. Food will be provided by Tyson and Chef Walline Williams.

Doors will open at 5:30 p.m., with bingo to begin at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$60 and may be purchased by calling Sandy Webb, 870-845-8006 at HMH, or Sandyw@howard-memorial.com. Tickets include appetizers, refreshments and 10 rounds of bingo with prizes.

Pike County Democrats to meet March 16

The Democratic Party of Pike County will hold its convention Monday, March 16, at 5 p.m. at Telingas Mexican Restaurant in Murfreesboro.

During the meeting, Pike County Democrats will elect delegates to the state convention June 13.

The county convention also will elect representatives to the state committee, which will meet several times in 2026-2028. Any Pike County Democrat may attend and vote at the county convention.



Southwest Arkansas Radio photo/SHAWNIRIKA THURMAN

SIGNING DAY. Three NHS seniors sign college letters Feb. 4 in the school cafeteria. They include Jamison McIntosh, football, Texas A&M Texarkana; Karstyn Scrivner, basketball, Harding University; and Brayden Erby, football, McPherson College in McPherson, Kan.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

COLLEGE SIGNEES. Athletic Director James "Bunch" Nichols (right) watches as three Nashville seniors sign college letters Feb. 5. They include Karson Chambers, baseball, Southern Arkansas University; Landyn Tompkins, softball, Ouachita Baptist University; and Manning Goff, golf, University of Arkansas at Monticello. (More pictures, page 8A.)

NHS athletes ink college letters

By John R. Schirmer
News-Leader staff

Six Nashville High School seniors signed letters-of-intent last week to play at the collegiate level.

Three students signed Wednesday, Feb. 4, including Karstyn Scrivner, basketball, Harding University; Jamison McIntosh, football, Texas A&M Texarkana; and Brayden Erby, football, McPherson College, McPherson, Kan.

Three more seniors signed the next day, including Landyn Tompkins, softball, Ouachita Baptist University; Karson Chambers, baseball, Southern Arkansas University; and Manning Goff, golf, University of Arkansas at Monticello.

Athletic Director James "Bunch" Nichols welcomed the players' teammates, families and friends to the signing day events.

"It's a great day to be a Scrapper," he said. "We like to celebrate when some of our own go on to the next level. They've worked hard."

Each signee received a pen with "Once a Scrapper" on the case and "Always a Scrapper" on the pen.

"Remember where you came from," Nichols told the students.

Coaches introduced their athletes and congratulated them on their accomplishments.

Scrivner is "a great player. She's one of the top players in her classification in Arkansas," Coach Paul Dean said.

"She's a great student-athlete and a great person - high character, high morals and integrity," Dean said.

The Lady Bisons "are getting a steal by her signing with them. They're lucky to have her. I know she will be successful," Dean said of Scrivner, who is averaging about 20 points per game this season as a Scrapperette.

McIntosh and Erby "are well deserving of the opportunity to play at the next level," Coach Brad Chesshir said. "I'm super proud of both of them. Both kids have

been raised right by two very good sets of parents. I fully expect them to have a major impact on their programs. It's good to see them carry on the Scrapper tradition and pride at the next level.

Goff is "the kind of player you want as a golf coach," according to Scrapper Coach Aaron Worthen. "He's the same person" every day. "You wouldn't know if he's two under or two over by his body language. What this kid can do isn't limited to golf. He has a great family to support him. His grandfather is a great golf coach in his own right and spends countless hours helping him. I'm very proud of him and very happy for him" as he goes on to UA-M.

In his introduction of Tompkins, Coach Boomer Brown said there "hasn't been a player works any harder and is any more driven. That's why she's in the position she's in today."

See Letters • Page 8A

Early voting in primary set to open on Feb. 16

By Louie Graves
News-Leader staff

Howard County voters will see few races on the Preferential Primary ballot.

Election day will be March 3, and early voting will begin next Monday, Feb. 16.

Voters must cast their votes on one of the three ballots -- Democrat, Republican and non-partisan. The non-partisan races will appear on all ballots.

Some confusion exists for persons who are "registered" Republican or Democrat under new election laws.

County Clerk Keri Teague explains that -- for instance -- a person who is a registered Republican but wants to vote using the Democrat ballot needs to go to the clerk's office in the courthouse and have their status changed to "optional." They can still vote either ballot.

Last week she explained that there are actually very few

See Election • Page 5A

Chamber banquet Feb. 16

By John Balch
News-Leader staff

The Nashville Chamber of Commerce will incorporate America's big 250th anniversary celebration into its awards banquet next week, according to Tim Pinkerton, NCC executive director.

Pinkerton said the chamber plans to honor and/or memorialize veterans with special placement of pictures, with short biographies, on the banquet tables.

The NCC's annual banquet to honor "the leaders, volunteers and champions of our community" will be held Monday, Feb. 16 at the Nashville High School Cafeteria.

"As we celebrate our country's milestone, we will also be celebrating our own," the chamber noted online.

Keeping with the America250 theme, ticket sales for the event will be capped at 250. The cost will be \$30 per ticket or \$180 for table of six and can be

See Chamber • Page 5A

Legend of Tate's Hell

Tale of Florida state forest goes back to cattle, pigs and a mail-order bride

By Don Hall
News-Leader staff

Tate's Hell is a strange name for a state forest, but that's what it is.

Located in the panhandle of Florida, on the way to the "Forgotten Coast" that has towns like Carrabelle and Apalachicola, the legend of how it got its name is one of the strangest stories you'll ever hear.

But first, a bit about the state forest itself.

Arkansas knows state parks, and it does them well. With names like Daisy State Park, Cossatot River, Crater of Diamonds, Old Washington, and Millwood, just in our area, we're familiar with state parks.

Arkansas has 52 state parks that cover almost 55,000 acres all together.

Tate's Hell, by itself, has 212,000 acres.

Originally a swamp with some pines and hardwood timber, the land was owned for decades by private companies who put in drainage ditches and over 800 miles of roads, largely turning it into a huge pine plantation.

The state of Florida bought it in 1994 and began restoring some of the swamps. They also added a

load of bike paths, camping areas, hiking, paddling, ATV paths, and fishing sites. If you like outdoor activities, check out Tate's Hell. It has whatever you're looking for.

And now, on to the legend.

Jebediah Tate was married to a half Cherokee Indian, and they had a son, born just before the Civil War. Jebediah and his bride named their son Cebe, and Jeb went off to fight in the war.

After the Civil War was over, Jebediah came home and paid \$5 for a 160 acre land grant from the government, near the community of Sumatra. Twenty miles to the south was the gulf, but Sumatra was surrounded by forests and deadly swamps.

Jebediah moved his wife and his son to the newly acquired, land and they began to clear it. They harvested and sold pine oil, which was used to make turpentine in Carrabelle. They raised sugar cane as a cash crop, and before long, Jebediah had a small herd of cattle and a few pigs.

The cattle had a bad habit of getting out of the pasture and getting lost in the surrounding swamps. Jeb and Cebe would have to go find them and bring them back. The pigs stayed put and before



News-Leader photo/DON HALL

Jaree Hall of Nashville stands at the entrance to Tate's Hell State Forest in Florida. The park's story goes back to the 1870s.

long, they had quite a herd of pigs. Then Jebediah's wife died from yellow fever and things started to go bad.

Jebediah was superstitious. He made a pact with an old Indian medicine man: Jeb and Cebe would give him one pig a year and stay out of the swamp of dwarf cypress trees, and the old Indian would guarantee them good fortune.

Once a year, the medicine man

stopped by and collected his pig, and things began to improve for Jebediah and Cebe. Then Jebediah got greedy.

After three years, in 1874, the medicine man came and Jeb refused to give him a pig. The old Indian warned him that if he didn't get his pig, then they would see hard times and go through hell.

See Forest • Page 5A



8 08805 93513 4

Obituaries



**Willa Jean
'Billie' Turley**

Willa Jean (Billie) Turley, went to be with the Lord at age 97 on Feb. 2, 2026. She was born June 18, 19, to the late Forrest and Ella Bell Erwin in Nashville, Ark.

Billie graduated from Nashville High School in 1946. She was a devoted follower of Christ and trusted Him after hearing a sermon on Matthew 25 about the parable of the 10 virgins. She was a member of First Baptist Church in Nashville, Ark., where she attended the Mary Martha Sunday School class.

Billie loved to make jam and jelly out of every kind of fruit and berries. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She retired from Montgomery Ward in Houston, Texas, in 1989 and then she and her husband, Loy, moved to their home town in Nashville, Ark.

Billie was preceded in death by her husband Loy of 64 years; her parent, Forrest and Ella Bell Erwin; brothers Survetus, Carlis, Hollis, Hoyle, Edwin, Charles and Rudy; sisters Lovena Carter, Edna Carter Ross and Estha Rasco.

Survivors include: her daughter Cindy and Loren Benson; son Alan and Angie Turley; five grandchildren, Chad and Megan Turley, Kellie and Blake Boenig, Kristin and John Bate, Megan and Chris Stevens and Brandon Benson; 10 great-grandchildren, Macks, Reed, and Cole Turley; Sutton and Brynlie Boenig; Ethan, Owen and Logan Bate; Phineas and Tobias Stevens and numerous nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to

Operation Christmas Child, PO Box 339, First Baptist Church, Nashville, AR 71852
Funeral Services will be 2 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 7, at Latimer Funeral Home in Nashville with her son-in-law Loren Benson officiating. Under the direction of Latimer Funeral Home in Nashville.

A.W. 'Rootbeer' Martin

A.W. "Rootbeer" Martin, age 86, of Delight passed away Monday, Feb. 2, 2026. He was born Oct. 30, 1939, in Little Rock, Ark., to the late Arthur William Martin, Sr., and Katie Elizabeth (Porter) Martin.

A.W. was a member of Murfreesboro First Baptist Church. He was also served on the Delight Fire Department for 20 years as an Assistant Fire Chief and Training Officer. A.W. was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include: his wife of 60 years, Jolyene (Hembey) Martin of Delight; aunts, Carol Martin of Texarkana and Bobbie Martin of Hope; brother-in-law, Ray Hembey Tuskahoma, Okla.; and several nephews, great-nephews, cousins, friends, and church family who will miss him dearly.

Graveside services will be 2 p.m., Monday, Feb. 9, 2026, at Delight Cemetery with Brent Alexander and Bro. Damian Rodgers officiating.

Arrangements are by Smith Family Funeral Home-Arkadelphia/Rugles-Wilcox Chapel. Online at smithfamilycares.com.

Christine Bailey Lemons

Christine Bailey Lemons, 83, of Nashville, died Sunday, Feb. 8, 2026.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2026, in the Wilkerson Funeral Home Chapel in Dierks with John Jamison officiating. Burial will follow in the Sunshine Cemetery under the direction of Wilkerson Funeral Home.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home in Dierks from 6-8 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2026.

Online at wilkersonfuneralhomes.



A COMMUNITY COFFEE. Howard County Farm Bureau hosted a Nashville Chamber of Commerce community coffee last week. Above, agency personnel, chamber of commerce representatives and well-wishers joined for a photo in the agency's community room.

City may make some adjustments to be more prepared for future ice storms

In his 'Public Works' update to the Nashville City Council, Tuesday, Mayor Larry Dunaway told the council members that he was looking to make some adjustments to the city's preparedness for future ice storms.

The brief council meeting had been postponed as a result of the recent ice storm.

The mayor said that the city might buy and reserve road salt by the trailer load in the future. He also said he had spoken with County Judge Brent Pinkerton about the possibility of sharing a tank to mix road 'brine' to spread on streets and roads before future predicted ice storms.

The city was spared electrical outage, and therefore the rented electrical generator went unused. The equipment would have been used to power the city's equipment for taking water from the Little Missouri River and pumping it to the treatment plant in Nashville.

In attendance were about a half-dozen Nashville High School EAST Lab students.

Council members present included Lynn Dyer, Kathy Combs, Herbert Turley, Charles Pinkston, Kay Gathright,

William Turley, Brent Thompson, Phil Jones, Donna Harwell and Freddie Horne; also, Mayor Larry Dunaway, City Recorder Lauren Clements, City Financial Director Kimberly Green, Parks & Recreation Director Meghan Floyd, Fire Marshal Justin Thornton, and Police Chief Amy Marion.

PUBLIC NOTICE

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Notice is hereby given that the Dierks School District, Dierks, Arkansas, will receive sealed bids for football field renovations.

Mail bids to:
Dierks High School
ATTN: Grover Hill/School Board
P.O. Box 124
Dierks, AR 71833

Bid Submission:
Sealed bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on March 3, 2026. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud during February's school board meeting.

Bid Security:
Each bid must be accompanied by a bid bond or cashier's check in the amount of five percent (5%) of the bid.

Performance & Payment Bonds:
The successful bidder will be required to furnish performance and payment bonds in accordance with Arkansas law.

Right to Reject:
The Dierks School District reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive irregularities, and to accept the bid deemed to be in the best interest of the District.

Non-Discrimination:
Bidders must comply with all applicable state and federal laws, including non-discrimination requirements.

If you have any questions, contact Grover Hill at 870-286-2191 or at grover.hill@dierksschools.org.
(DSD: 34, 35)

Center Point chili supper benefit for VFD, Saturday

A chili supper fundraiser at Center Point has the aim of raising money for general maintenance and upkeep of that community's volunteer fire department.

The chili supper will be Saturday Feb. 21, at the Center Point Community Center. Serving begins at 5:30 p.m. The public is invited.

Fundraiser is planned by animal support group

SWA PAWS will hold a fundraiser dinner Saturday, March 28, at 6 p.m. at Midtown Social in Nashville. The meal will be served by celebrity waiters. More details will be announced.

THANK YOU
for reading and supporting your hometown newspaper
The Nashville News-Leader

Thinking about Selling?



Now is the perfect time!
Sit back and let **Stavely and Associates** take care of your real estate needs.

- Professional Photos
- Digital Marketing

Stavely and Associates

102 N. Main Street • Nashville
870-845-1188



website: stavelyandassociates.com



WILKERSON

FUNERAL HOME

110 East 4th St. • Dierks
(870) 286-3088

www.wilkersonfuneralhomes.com

Choose a health plan that's good for you with a company you can trust.

individual • family • health • dental

Lisa Chandler, agent
Lisa Chandler Insurance

Nashville
office: 870-845-5930
cell: 870-845-7728
Insurance # 1264226



Soliciting agent only. Not authorized to issue policies. Available only to residents in Arkansas.

Got Local News? Send It Our Way!

The Nashville News-Leader - Your Hometown Newspaper

Office: 418 North Main, Nashville

Email: contact@swarkansasnews.com

Phone: 870-845-0600

Ask About Our Print & Digital Subscriptions!

Thank You for Your Support!

The Nashville News-Leader

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

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

Single issue price: \$1.00.

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

www.swarkansasnews.com

Ace of Diamonds

Murfreesboro * (870) 285-3133
Mon. - Sat. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Ace of Diamonds

@aceofdiamonds_3133

aceofdiamondsllc.com

FINAL
Markdown Sale

STOREWIDE
Apparel and Shoes

Extra **1/3 Off**

all Low, Low

Green Tag Sale Prices

Sale Days: Wed., Feb. 11 - Sat., Feb. 14

Plus, Sassy Spring Apparel Beckons You

Watch our **FACEBOOK LIVE**
Each Tuesday at 5:45 p.m.



Helping Families Connect, Honor & Remember

BURIAL INSURANCE • MONUMENTS • PRE-NEED FUNERAL PLANS

NASHVILLE
(870) 845-2233



MURFREESBORO
(870) 285-2194

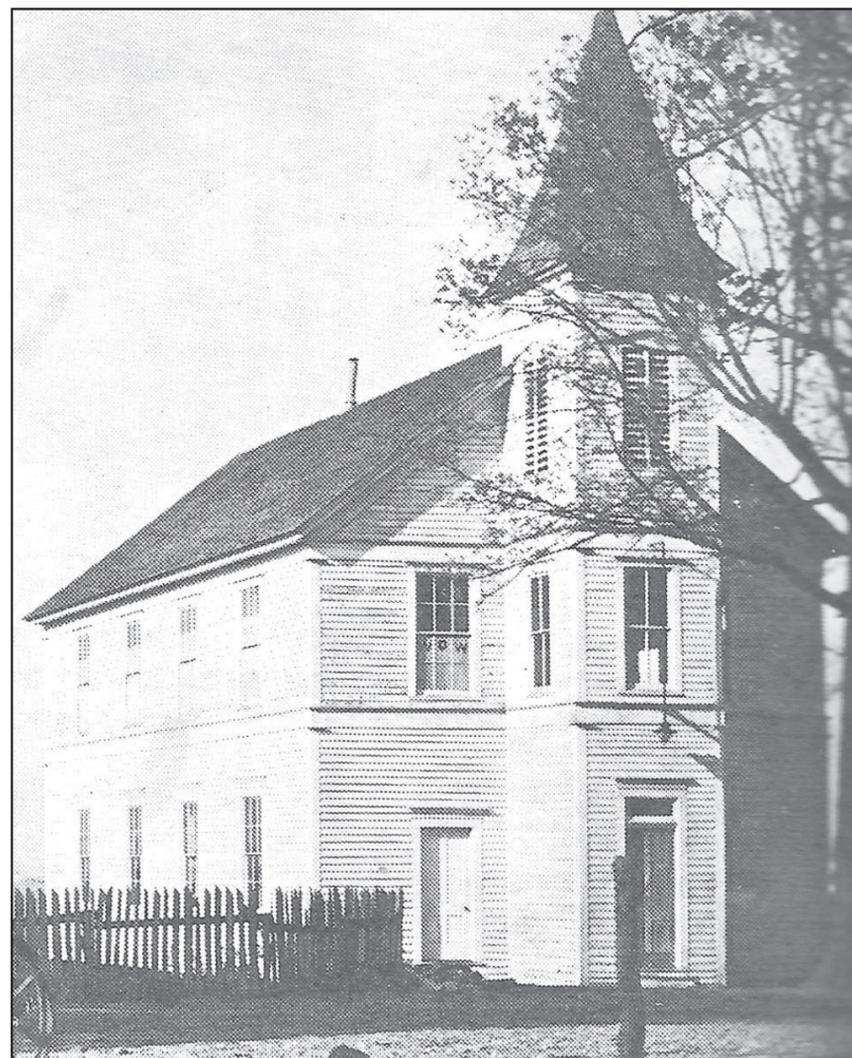
P.O. Box 298 Nashville, Arkansas 71852
www.latimerfuneralhome.com



THE CECIL "BIRDDOG" HARRIS MEMORIAL EARLY FILES

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

Compiled by Patsy Young



First church in Saratoga moved from High Hill in 1888

123 years ago: January 1903

H. N. Baker of Nashville and one of the owners of the Arkansas Woolen Mills at Prescott came over Monday afternoon, returning Tuesday. Mr. Baker attended the meeting of the businessmen at Prescott held Monday night for the purpose of considering the proposition of moving the mill from Nashville to Prescott at an early date.

The meeting was well attended by the businessmen of the town and after discussion a committee was appointed to solicit subscriptions with which to remove the machinery and relocate it in Prescott.

(Adv.) J. W. Hatley, attorney-at-law, Office upstairs in Buxton Building, Nashville, Arkansas.

Notice: Matilda Fletcher, noted lecturer will appear at the Nashville Methodist Church Monday evening under the auspices of the Women's Home Mission Society. Subject: "The Heart

of a Man."

100 years ago: February 1926

Fourteen carloads of cattle were shipped from Nashville Sunday and six were shipped Monday, and at least twelve cars more will be shipped during the present week. During the month of January 33 cars of cattle were shipped from this city.

The Missouri Pacific Railroad Company reports that during the month of January there were 62 carloads of freight shipped from Nashville, 33 of which were cattle, the others being timber and timber products.

67 years ago: February 1959

Lonnie Walden of Route 2, school bus driver, is keeping a close eye on his 6-year-old grandson, and so is Mrs. Walden. The youngster, Stevie Walden, put a set of fingernail clippers in his mouth Sunday and swallowed them.

The grandparents had

him in Memorial Hospital in a short time and physicians put young Stevie under the X-ray machine to locate the fingernail clippers and sure enough, there they were, slightly left in the stomach.

The physicians sent the boy home to await developments. Mr. Walden was told that the clippers might pass through, but that if they became lodged surgery would be necessary.

(Adv.) First things to bloom in Spring our new Nelly Dons, Fashions 59, a fresh new look expressed in lively color and handsome fabrics. Robison's, Nashville, Arkansas

54 years ago: 1972

"The Rock and the Hard Place" is a prize color film depicting the 20th century challenges facing the American farmer. The film was produced by the Farm Credit Administration and reflected the financial needs in modern farming with its requirements for machinery, buildings, bookkeeping and modern techniques.

Public Record of Howard County

Items or documents that were filed, issued or recorded at the Howard County, Arkansas, courthouse during the period Jan. 29-Feb. 4, 2026, unless noted otherwise, included the following:

Marriage Licenses
(Marriage licenses cost \$60 at the County Clerk's office)
For the second consecutive week no marriage licenses were issued.

Civil Court
CV26-17, Jan. 29. LVNV Funding, LLC, vs. Raymond Newton. Debt.

CV26-18, Jan. 30. LVNV Funding, LLC, vs. Matthew Nutt. Debt.

CV26-19, Jan. 30. LVNV Funding, LLC, vs. Annette Harris. Debt.

CV26-20, Feb. 3. Cavalry SPV vs. Jacquelyn Stillwagon. Contract.

Domestic Relations Court
DR26-10, Feb. 3. Itmo Tegan vs. Noelle Sanders. Paternity.

DR26-11, Feb. 4. Savannah Carver vs. Casey Rob-

erts. Divorce.
Criminal Court
No new criminal cases filed since CR26-04, Jan. 14.

Land/Property Transactions
Quitclaim Deed

Jan. 29. Charles Herndon and wife, Sheila D. Herndon; to Charles Herndon and wife, Sheila D. Herndon; 1.27 ac. in S18 T10S R27W.

Jan. 29. Michael D. Jamison; to Michael D. Jamison and Alicia A. Jamison as Trustees of the Jamison Family Revocable Trust; 1.7 ac. in S36 T5S R28W.

Feb. 2. David Elms; to Emily Nicole Nuttall, fka Emily Elms; 3 tracts, aggregate 10.998 ac. in S13 T8S R27W.

Warranty Deeds
Jan. 29. Barry Walter Krus and Nelda Crow Krus, trustees of The Krus Family Revocable Trust; to Dierks Ark Realty JIG LLC; property in S30 T7S R28W with exceptions. \$200,000.

Jan. 29. (Special) GPM RE LP; to GPM Southeast

LLC; property in S27 T9S R27W, 1419 W. Leslie St., Nashville.

Jan. 29. Bron A. Bell and wife, Nicole Bell, fka Nicole Keener; to Hughlen Autrey and wife, April Autrey; part of Lots 1-2, all of Lot 9, Block 1, McCullough Addition, Town of Mineral Springs. \$85,000.

Jan. 29. William Taylor Hilliard; to Richard Lane Hamilton and wife, Tamberlyn Dickson; 0.55 ac in S26 T9S R27W, Town of Nashville. \$192,500.

Jan. 29. Wayne R. Gardovsky; to Jeff Withers and Charlotte Withers; Lots 24-25-26, Block 42, Heights Addition, Town of Mineral Springs. \$135,000.

Feb. 2. Eddie Brown; to Ora L. Vickers; 1 ac. in S9 T11S R27W.

Feb. 3. Josefina Bran and husband Martin Bran; to Francisco Pizarro and wife Roselva Cuevas Reyes; aggregate 3.34 ac. with exceptions in S13 T9S R27W. \$20,000.

Two jury trials in two days

The courtroom in the Howard County courthouse is said to be the largest courtroom in Arkansas. It was put to use last week when two jury trials were held on successive days.

Steven Hall
Two fines of \$1,000 and a prison term of six years were ordered by a Howard County jury last Tuesday, Feb. 3, in the trial of a 51-year-old man who had declined a plea bargain on his charges of drug and paraphernalia possession.

A routine traffic stop on a county road in April of last year netted one felony and two misdemeanor charges against Steven Hall, 51, white male, 121 Pine, Nashville.

Jury selection was held Monday, and jurors retired after hearing the case at 3:43 p.m. A little more than an hour later the jury returned with the guilty verdict.

Then, the jury needed less than 20 minutes to deliver the sentence.

On the bench was Judge Bryan Chesshir who also presided on the jury trial of the following day.

Jeremie Barton
Jeremie Barton, 38, black male, Nashville, chose to undergo a jury trial which was held Wednesday, Feb. 4, in the Howard County courtroom.

After consideration of only three minutes the jury found him guilty of possessing meth during his arrest in

a domestic violence situation here July 10, 2024.

The jury only needed nine minutes to arrive at his sentence -- 12 years in the Arkansas Department of Correction.

Circuit Clerk Angie Lewis said that never in her 23 years in office had there been two jury trials in one week.

Follow the News-Leader every week. Subscribe today.

Excavation and Dozer Work

Mike Goodson (870) 845-7053 Chris Goodson (870)557-9107

HOWARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025

	GENERAL FUNDS	ROAD FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS IN THE AGGREGATE
BEGINNING CASH BALANCE - JANUARY 1, 2025	4,620,381.37	1,981,887.04	4,439,788.75
ENDING CASH BALANCE - DECEMBER 31, 2025	4,367,281.28	2,029,345.98	4,428,754.76
REVENUES			
STATE AID-7000	549,255.06	1,540,046.14	211,791.03
FEDERAL AID - 7100	95,348.29	23,792.97	106,794.00
PROPERTY TAXES - 7200	765,573.11	318,389.61	201,974.15
SALES TAXES - 7300	332,952.34	799,085.62	1,193,101.65
FINE, FORFEITURES, AND COSTS - 7400	206,950.06		326,348.73
INVESTMENT INCOME - 7500	153,956.64	52,647.84	127,173.55
OFFICER'S FEES - 7600	34,368.70		116,489.57
911 FEES - 7700			252,002.14
JAIL FEES - 7800			233,821.76
SANITATION FEES - 7900			76,392.38
INSURANCE PREMIUMS COLLECTED - 8300			
COLLECTOR COMMISSION - 8500	308,891.97		
ASSESSOR'S COMMISSION - 8600	503,796.09		
TREASURER'S COMMISSION - 8400			
MISCELLANEOUS -	134,555.91	38,681.41	228,119.22
TOTAL REVENUES	3,085,648.17	2,772,643.59	3,074,008.18
LESS TREASURER'S COMMISSION	31,337.53	48,808.88	42,408.59
NET REVENUES	3,054,310.64	2,723,834.71	3,031,599.59
EXPENDITURES			
CURRENT			
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	1,753,175.60		148,849.39
HIGHWAYS AND STREETS		2,707,743.10	
HEALTH	47,180.93		
LAW ENFORCEMENT	1,099,462.76		1,560,172.40
PUBLIC SAFETY	31,989.99		426,252.65
RECREATION AND CULTURE			185,664.38
SANITATION			563,212.80
SOCIAL SERVICES	87,466.49		
AIRPORT	953.35		
OTHER CHECKS	198,955.02	11.48	305,221.17
VOIDED CHECKS / RECEIPTS	34,498.56	14,078.14	6,269.17
TOTAL CURRENT	3,184,685.58	2,693,676.44	3,183,103.62
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (UNDER)			
EXPENDITURES	3,184,685.58	2,693,676.44	3,183,103.62
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
TRANSFERS IN	252,115.21	17,300.67	323,397.54
TRANSFERS OUT	374,840.36	-	182,927.50
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	(122,725.15)	17,300.67	140,470.04
HOSPITAL BONDS			-
SOLAR PANEL BONDS			1,504,801.78
EXCESS OF REVENUES AND OTHER SOURCES OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES AND OTHER USES	4,367,281.28	2,029,345.98	4,428,754.76

We, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct statement of claims allowed by the county for the months of **January 1, 2025** through **December 31, 2025**. Witness our hands and seal of Howard County, Arkansas.

Brent Pinkerton, County Judge
Keri Teague, County Clerk
Sherri Mixon, County Treasurer
(HCC: 34)

(This publication is paid for by the Quorum Court Budget. The amount paid for this publication is \$182.25)

Land Auction Open Now

15 Acres in McCaskill

****Online Only Auction at toddmorrisauction.com****

Bidding Ends: Tuesday, March 3 at 6:00 p.m.

Auction Location: From Nashville, turn off US Highway 371, travel on Hempstead 29 (blacktop road) for 2.9 miles. Turn left at Hempstead 271 and proceed 0.5 miles on a gravel road to property. **Watch for signs!**

Explore this excellent opportunity to own 15 acres of land in the McCaskill, AR area, offered in two separate tracts. The property boasts excellent privacy and a great location in Hempstead County. This land is ideal for a home site prospect or an excellent hunting opportunity for deer and turkey.

Key features of the property include:

- Approximately 15 total acres, offered in two tracts of approximately 7.13 acres in tract 2 and 8.06 acres in tract 1
- Rural water and electricity available
- Gravel road frontage
- Gravel road runs the entire length of the property
- County Road # Hempstead 271 access
- 7-year-old planted pine plantation
- Excellent hunting opportunities for deer and turkey
- Ideal home site prospects

See our website: toddmorrisauction.com or call **870-845-9200** for more information. Bid with confidence online and don't miss out on this fantastic real estate opportunity in Southwest Arkansas! All property is sold "AS IS, WHERE IS".

Todd Morris Auction Company [Arkansas License #1096],
AR Real Estate License #SA00050268 **(870) 845-9200**

BROKERED BY: Gary Fant & Associates Real Estate
AR Real Estate License #PB00045694 **(870) 584-7725**

10% Buyers Premium. Terms of sale are cash with 10 percent non refundable down payment at end of sale and remaining balance due at closing with in 30 days. All property is sold as is and no warranties. See full terms and conditions at toddmorrisauction.com

TODD MORRIS AUCTION CO.

7679 HWY 278 WEST NASHVILLE, AR 71852 AR LICENSE #1096

FOLLOW US ON:

870-845-9200
www.toddmorrisauction.com
email: todd@toddmorrisauction.com

FOR MORE INFO

SCAN HERE

Point of view

Baad Bunny Time to end those awful Super Bowl halftimes

YES, I AM STILL HERE peeking out my window on Main Street, and I won't spend much time watching the Winter Olympics, but I must share a related rumor I heard over the weekend.

It concerns athletes on one of our three USA Curling Teams. I won't try to explain the exciting sport of curling to either of you at this time because I first must share the bad news contained in the aforementioned weekend rumor.

It is this: Several members of the Curling Team have entered the transfer portal. Possibly joining the team from Estonia.

Naturally, the Estonia Curling Team rumor has been overshadowed by social media reviews of the Bad Bunny Halftime Show at the Super Bowl.

A lot of the show was wasted on me because I don't know much Spanish -- Cerveza and Mucho being about the only words I use.

In recent years I haven't watched ANY of the Super Bowl Halftime Spectaculars, but I was curious about this one, so I stayed in my recliner. My personal opinion is that I wish we went back to normal-length halftime shows that were less spectacular. Unfortunately, most of the Rock-n-Roll artists I prefer have gone on to that Great Halftime Show in the Sky.

I admit to having read some of the online reviews of the 'other' halftime show-- the one put on by people who were offended by Bad Bunny.

I told my daughter that I was rooting for New England because there were two former Razorbacks in uniform and another on the Patriot coaching staff.

Of course that meant Seattle was sure to win --- and they did. Our former Razorback tight end dropped a wide-open pass, and I knew from that point that New England would get pummeled.

And they were.

After the Bad Bunny show was mercifully over I turned off the TV and retired to my bed where I re-read a book for awhile. Much better entertainment.



ONE THING I HAVE enjoyed watching online are Facebook videos of the Buddhist monks walking for peace. Apparently they started off from Ft. Worth (could there be a Buddhist temple in Cow Town?) with the avowed intention of walking all the way to Washington, D.C., in the hopes of attracting some attention to the cause of peace.

Boy, did they ever attract attention!

All of the monks appear to be Asian. Wearing odd colored orange and brown robes and capes, they walked on the side of the road all the way. I do not know what they did when they reached our nation's capitol, but I do know that they started off mostly barefoot but that changed when winter and asphalt road surfaces caught up. They walked single-file, taking breaks and meals in Christian churches and other welcoming shelters along the way.

People gave them flowers and other gifts which the monks later distributed down the road to other onlookers. Occasionally they interrupted their walk to chant and pray over an onlooker in a wheelchair.

Apparently they stirred up a lot of good thoughts. In an interview, the leader monk said they were astonished at the crowds. He said that one day they planned to walk 12 miles, and there were 12 miles of people. In the scenes I saw they were always accompanied by police and police vehicles and a dog. I do not know if they encountered any troublemakers but I wouldn't be surprised.

I think the monks and their long walk showed just how tired many Americans are of all the violence and hatred that has been inspired by people who need to labor for peace and harmony in their own lives.



THROWING FOOD AWAY. According to an online article, consumers throw away food too soon because they are guided by the 'sell by' date stamped on the product. Well, they are talking about me.

The article said that the date is really for the grocer, and also to protect the reputation of the aforementioned vendor and suppliers.

Worldwide, the article sez, about 1/3 of food is thrown away or wasted mostly because of erroneous understanding of the 'sell by' date. Produce is the first to go into the trash.

Some foods DO go bad quicker than others. The publication notes some realistic throwaway dates:

Meat: One to three days beyond the "sell by" date. Dairy: One week beyond the "sell by" date. Eggs: One month beyond the "sell by" date. Bread: One week (or two to three weeks if in the fridge) beyond the "sell by" date.

The BEST judge, according to the article, is your own nose. If in doubt, feed the food to a friend. If he gets sick, throw it out.



MORE THINGS I LEARNED from opening an email: EGOTIST -- Someone who is usually me-deep in conversation.



WORD GAMES. I love oxymorons: After their latest basketball meltdown, only a small crowd met the Razorbacks at the airport.



HE SAID: "I tell young people - including my granddaughter -- there is no shortcut in life. You have to take it one step at a time and work hard. And you have to give back." Hank Aaron, baseball legend



SHE SAID: "To live in this world, you must be able to do three things: to love what is mortal; to hold it against your bones knowing your own life depends on it; and, when the time comes to let it go, let it go." Mary Oliver, American poet



SWEET DREAMS, Baby

Mine Creek
Revelations

By
Louie Graves

Love Thy Neighbor, and GET THE COVID VACCINE!

Call the Howard County Health Unit -- 845-2208 -- to get your FREE shot.



Don't let the cold weather stop you. Keep yourself and those around you safe. Please get your free Covid-19 vaccination. If you're already fully immunized, remember to get the booster shots.

Presented in the public interest by the Nashville News-Leader

New building under construction at ASDB, to open in December

By State Sen. Jimmy Hickey Jr.

A new building is currently under construction for the Arkansas School for the Deaf and Blind (ASDB). At the end of January, the school celebrated the "topping-off" ceremony with the final white steel beam, marking a milestone in construction of the new school.

In 2023, state officials toured the Arkansas School for the Deaf (ASD) and the Arkansas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ASB). During the tour, many of the buildings and facilities were found in various states of disrepair. In the past, the schools were housed in independent buildings, side-by-side on West Markham in Little Rock. When the new instructional building is completed, the schools will be combined as the Arkansas School for the Deaf and Blind and will serve pre-K through 12th grade students.

By February of 2024, the governor along with a group of bipartisan legislators and school stakeholders announced plans to assist the school in making necessary changes to the campus. More than 200 school community mem-

bers were surveyed and compiled three main priorities: keeping the campus at its current location, providing more resources for deaf and blind students beyond the Little Rock campus, and addressing the critical safety concerns students were enduring.

The group then consulted with school architects and planners to create a comprehensive vision for the future of the two schools to deliver high-quality instruction in a premier facility. The legislature initially allocated \$30 million in 2021 to begin moving forward with plans and when completed the entire project has a final estimated price tag of \$53.9 million.

In total, the school currently has approximately 167 students and half of the students live in the residence halls on campus. In addition, the state has identified 800 blind students and up to 1,500 deaf students across the state who would be eligible to receive services from the school. ASDB Superintendent Nicole Walsh believes the new school could attract more students and has plans to accommodate them.

Construction of the building has been very thoughtful. The design team considered details like the timing of natural light, which can impact visually impaired students, and lines of sight for deaf students to enable them to communicate anywhere in the building. They hope to make the building accessible for all students on campus, as well as those participating in distance learning. The new school will be equipped with the latest modern technology including Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts & Mathematics (STEAM) labs, a media center with maker space, adaptable labs that support hands-on experiential learning for deaf and blind students alike, and a flexible multipurpose room that also serves as a storm shelter.

In April 2025, the governor signed Act 796 into law, consolidating the two schools, establishing a single board and appointing Walsh, then superintendent of the Arkansas School for the Deaf, as its new superintendent. The new 89,000 square foot building is projected to be completed by the end of December 2026.

Frequent breaks give congressmen opportunity to visit with constituents

By U.S. Sen. John Boozman

Although my work in the U.S. Senate requires me to spend a lot of time in Washington, I am always grateful to come home and connect with the people and places that make up the fabric of Arkansas. Thankfully, the 2026 legislative calendar has already afforded an early occasion for in-state visits, and I was fortunate to spend a few days making stops in Northwest Arkansas and the River Valley before a powerful winter storm confined us all to our homes.

What struck me most was the growth and opportunity we have in Arkansas at this moment, and the incredible partnerships making things happen. It is something you'll see throughout our state because of a concerted effort by people across all levels of government, nonprofit organizations, businesses and motivated individual leaders who believe in the future of Arkansas.

One of those exciting projects is Patriot Park in Fayetteville. This 60-unit complex will help provide veterans with a safe, affordable place to live, near amenities and services they need. It was exciting to visit with county officials, veterans advocates and builders to see the progress and learn about this

unique public-private partnership that I am confident will serve as a model for the nation.

When I returned to Capitol Hill, I had the chance to mention the project to U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs Doug Collins and invite him to see it firsthand.

I was also pleased to see the support small businesses are getting in our state. The Wiginton family's Red Barn Donut Shop in Rogers is a great example of what is possible when hard work meets opportunity.

In addition to being a great family business with delicious apple fritters and other treats, it also highlighted how success can follow valuable support from organizations like the Arkansas Small Business Development and Technology Center (ASBDTC) as well as the optimism about the Working Families Tax Cuts' benefits for entrepreneurs and their employees.

From no taxes on tips to making the small business deduction permanent and reducing burdensome paperwork, this landmark legislation is now delivering for hardworking Arkansans and our economy.

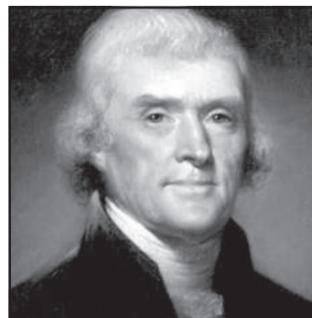
Later stops in the week were also insightful about the intersect-

ing nature of our industries and public policy.

Van Buren is home to Bekaert Manufacturing, a global company whose largest plant in North America is located in Crawford County with more than 450 employees. Bekaert is also growing, thanks to the area's tremendous skilled workforce and unique transportation infrastructure developed collaboratively and intentionally for several decades.

Nowhere is that progress more apparent than along the Arkansas River where business leaders, local officials and engineers are working through the final hurdles to begin work on a slackwater harbor. It was great to see how the project is interwoven with I-49 construction and, only seven miles away, the bridge over the Arkansas River is currently under construction. With these critical resources in progress, local businesses and communities are looking forward to even more expansion and opportunity.

I am honored to do my part in Washington to support the people and places that are making things happen in Arkansas. Over the coming year, we will put many more miles in while listening, learning and locking arms across our great state.



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

Thomas Jefferson, 1787
Free press, free people

Nashville News-Leader

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

You may contact us at
Nashville News-Leader
418 N. Main
P.O. Box 205
Nashville, AR 71852
Phone 870-845-0600

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

Letters policy

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

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

E-mail: jrs@nashvilleleader.com

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



News-Leader photo/DON HALL

The Tate's Hell picnic area at the beach. The Tate's Hell State Forest covers about 212,000 acres.

Forest

Continued from page 1A

Things were going well for Jeb and Cebe, so they ignored him and sent him on his way.

Jebediah died of malaria shortly after that. The pines stopped giving much oil, the sugar cane was stunted, and the cows started disappearing into the swamp. Before long, there were no more cows, but the pigs did so well that Cebe, now alone, had to build two new big pig pens.

Then Cebe got lonely. It's hard to meet girls or find a wife when there aren't any around, so Cebe did what any red-blooded American boy would have done: he ordered a mail-order bride from New York City.

She arrived, they married and moved into the cabin. She was described as a fiery German immigrant, but there was trouble in paradise—she was Jewish, and the only meat that Cebe could offer her was pork.

After a while of eating nothing but corn, potatoes, and pancakes, she demanded beef.

Cebe's cattle were lost in the swamp or, he suspected, killed by a panther. So, like any moon-struck newlywed would do, he got his dogs,

grabbed his gun, and went into the swamp, looking for a cow.

Then the old Indian's curse came true.

The dogs ran off chasing a panther, Cebe lost his gun in the mud, and he was hopelessly lost. The bugs were eating him alive, so he went into the dwarf cypress swamp to get away from them.

The same dwarf cypress swamp that the old Indian had warned him about. He fell asleep against one of the cypress trees that was protected by the medicine man's magic.

He woke up when he was bitten by a snake, and ran blindly through the swamp. He eventually emerged into a clearing near Carrabelle, miles away from his farm, delirious from the snakebite and from the rancid swamp water he'd been drinking for the seven days he'd been lost.

He told his would-be rescuers, "My name is Cebe Tate, and I just came through hell!" Then he dropped dead.

If there's a moral to this story, I'll leave it to you to figure out what it is. Maybe, "Don't marry a strong-willed German Jewish immigrant mail-order bride from New York City," or maybe, "Keep your dogs on a leash."



News-Leader photo/DON HALL

Jaree Hall of Nashville stands on the boardwalk over the dwarf cypress swamp where the trees, which are hundreds of years old, only grow to about 10 feet tall.

Election

Continued from page 1A

"registered" Republicans or Democrats in the county, and that most of the eligible voters have "optional" status.

All you have to do is select a Republican, Democratic or non-partisan ballot when you go to the voting place in the Preferential Primary Election, she said.

Early voting in Howard County will only take place at the Carter Day Training Center on North Main St. Early voting will end at the close of the business day on Monday, March 2, the day before Election Day.

Winners in the primary will face in November in the General Election.

In Howard County, candidates include the following:

County offices

County Judge -- Brent Pinkerton (R).

County Sheriff -- Joey Davis (R); Alex Gamble (D).

County Clerk -- Keri Teague (R).

Circuit Clerk -- Alana Miller; Jana Tallant, both (R). This is one of two races on the Republican ballot, and the winner will be unopposed in the November election.

Tax Assessor -- Cindy Butler (R).

Coroner -- Matt Smith; Alex Laxton, both (R). This race is also only on the Re-

publican ballot.

Quorum Court -- Cohen D. Davis (R), Dist 1; Andy Hogg (R), Dist. 2; Elizabeth D'Ann Rogers Henderson (R), Dist. 3; Janet O'Neal (R), Dist. 4; Elizabeth McDaniel (R), Dist. 6; Don Marks (D); Bobby Tullis (I), Dist. 8; John Reeder Raulerson (R), Juanita Jackson (D), Dist. 9. There were no candidates filed for Districts 5 and 7.

City of Nashville
Mayor -- Larry Dunaway (R).

City Clerk -- Lauren Hoen (R).

Alderman -- Charles Pinkston (R) W5P1; William E. Turley (R), W4P1.

City of Mineral Springs
Mayor -- Vera Marks (D); Merles Jean Cheatham (D), W1P1; Dana Greenlee (D), W2P1; Vanessa Hendrix (D), W3P1.

School Boards

Mineral Springs -- William Dixon, Zone 7; Barnado Thomas, Zone 6; Robert Ray Hawkins, Sr., Zone 5.

Nashville -- Jerry Wilson, Zone 4; David Hilliard, Zone 3.

Dierks -- Laykon Graham, Justin Simmons, at large.

Arkansas House of Representatives

Dolly Henley (R), Dist. 88;

Justin Gonzales (R), Dist. 89.

Non-partisan District 9 West

Circuit Judge -- Judge Bryan Chesshir, Division 2; Judge Tom Cooper, Division 1.

Prosecuting Attorney -- Erin Hunter, Clayton Tinkes, Jana Bradford.

Chamber

Continued from page 1A

purchased from a link provided on the chamber's Facebook page or its website: nashvillearcoc.com.

For more ticket information, call the chamber office at (870) 845-1262.

This year's banquet will be the last for Pinkerton, who is retiring his executive director position after three years on the job.

He was also a chamber board member for six years, including a stint as president

in 2012.

The annual awards to be presented include: Woman of the Year, Man of the Year, Orange & Black Award and Lifetime Achievement. Pinkerton said all nominations are in and were tallied Monday.

The event will be catered by the Elior Group, which manages food service for the Nashville School District, with chicken donated by Tyson Foods and drinks and rolls from Chicken Express.

Pinkerton added the chamber's auction will also take place Feb. 16 and the list of items continues to grow.

Be prepared before the next power outage.

It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase* - valued at \$535.

Call 877-319-0598 to schedule your free quote!

*Terms and Conditions apply. **GENERAC**

First Baptist Church
415 N. Main • Nashville, Arkansas
Come Worship With Us!
Sunday Morning Worship -
8:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.
Wednesday Night - 6:00 p.m.
Rev. Kevin Sartin

Edward Jones Member SIPC

Make your financial future a priority.

Josh Tice, AAMS[®]
Financial Advisor
801 Mine St
Nashville, AR 71852
870-451-9232

EJB-19325-A-E-DA-3 AECSPAD > edwardjones.com

General Practice of Law

Victor Martin
Attorney at Law

420 N. Main, Suite 1 • Nashville
phone: 870-845-5256
fax: 870-845-5899
vmartinlaw@gmail.com

When ice and heavy snow bring down limbs and power lines, safety is a consideration indoors and out. Make sure you know how to weather the storms.

When outside, stay away from downed power lines:

- A power line need not be sparking or arcing to be energized. Equipment near power lines can also be energized or dangerous.
- Lines that appear to be "dead" can become energized as crews work to restore power or sometimes from improper use of emergency generators. Assume all low and downed lines are energized and dangerous. If you see a downed or sagging line, contact your utility.
- If you are in an auto accident involving a downed power line, your vehicle is usually the safest place to be (unless it is on fire.) If it is safe to do so, stay in your car, call 9-1-1, and wait for electric utility personnel to arrive to deenergize the power. If you step out of the car and the ground is energized, you could become the electrical current's path to ground and you could be electrocuted. If your car is on fire or you see smoke, make a solid, clean jump from your vehicle and hop away with your feet together as far away as you can. If you run or walk away, you could get electrocuted.
- Motorists should never drive over a downed line, as snagging a line could pull down a pole or other equipment and cause other hazards.

RICH MOUNTAIN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
We're Here For You!

515 Janssen Ave. PO Box 897 Mena, AR 71953 479-394-4140
803 Hwy. 70 W PO Box 121 Dierks, AR 71833 870-286-2012

ATTENTION RESIDENTS OF HOWARD COUNTY!
CLIP AND KEEP THIS SCHEDULE!

The following is a list of 2026 Holidays observed by the Howard County Road Department and the Sanitation Schedule for that week:

Please have your trash bagged and out for pickup at 7:00 a.m. or before on the day of pickup.

HOLIDAYS
Thanksgiving Day: Thursday, November 26th
Thanksgiving: Friday, November 27th

Christmas Eve: Thursday, December 24th
Christmas Day: Friday, December 25th

TRASH TRUCK SCHEDULE:
Monday & Tuesday pickup on Monday
Wednesday pickup on Tuesday
Thursday pickup on Wednesday
NO TRASH PICKUP ON THURSDAY or FRIDAY

Monday & Tuesday pickup on Monday
Wednesday pickup on Tuesday
Thursday pickup on Wednesday
NO TRASH PICKUP ON THURSDAY or FRIDAY

THE HOWARD COUNTY ROAD AND SANITATION DEPARTMENT WILL WORK ON ALL SCHEDULED HOLIDAYS SO NO DISRUPTION TO THE COUNTY TRASH SERVICE. THE ONLY HOLIDAYS THAT WILL BE TAKEN OFF BY THEM WILL BE THURSDAY AND FRIDAY OF THANKSGIVING WEEK AND THURSDAY AND FRIDAY OF THE WEEK OF CHRISTMAS AS LISTED ABOVE.

Brent Pinkerton, Howard County Judge 870-845-7500
Kelly Windham 870-845-7501

Lady Outlaws' undefeated conference record intact

The Dierks Lady Outlaws are still holding an undefeated conference record of 13-0 with an overall mark of 23-5 and have clinched the 7-2A conference title, along with both junior teams who have been declared undefeated conference champions.

The Outlaws are currently in third place behind Cutter-Morning Star in first and Foreman in second.

In February, the Lady Outlaws have picked up wins over Horatio (51-23), Foreman (65-14), Murfreesboro (54-13), Spring Hill (67-22) and Cutter-Morning Star (64-52).

This month, the Outlaws have picked up wins over Horatio (64-46), Murfreesboro (67-39) and Spring Hill (70-41) with losses to Foreman (89-63) and Cutter-Morning Star (64-48).

The two undefeated Dierks junior high teams are set to enter the junior high district tournament this week at Cutter-Morning Star.

DIERKS@M'BORO
Dierks Outlaw Maclane Smith (above) scores two points against in the 67-39 win over the Rattlers; Lady Outlaw Aspen Pugh adds points in the 54-13 win over the Lady Ratters.

News-Leader photos/NIKKI FIELDS



Class 2A-7 Boys Basketball Standings

1. Cutter-Morning Star
2. Foreman
3. Dierks
4. Spring Hill
5. Caddo Hills
6. Murfreesboro
7. Mountain Pine
8. Horatio

Class 1A-7 Boys Basketball Standings

1. Blevins
2. Nevada
3. Kirby
4. Mineral Springs
5. Mount Ida
6. Oden
7. Umpire

Class 2A-7 Girls Basketball Standings

1. Dierks
2. Cutter-Morning Star
3. Horatio
4. Mountain Pine
5. Caddo Hills
6. Spring Hill
7. Murfreesboro
8. Foreman

Class 1A-7 Girls Basketball Standings

1. Mount Ida
2. Blevins
3. Mineral Springs
4. Umpire
5. Kirby
6. Oden
7. Nevada

Buy One
GET ONE **30% OFF**
Except on Accessories

Come In and See Our Newly Remodeled Store!

Ivan Smith FURNITURE
FURNITURE | MATTRESSES | APPLIANCES

RESTRICTIONS APPLY
302 N. Main
Nashville
870-845-3767

Attend Church This Sunday!

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

Sunday (Eng.) - 9 a.m.
Sunday (Esp.) - 11 a.m.
Wednesday - 6 p.m.
Thursday - 8 a.m.
1st Friday - 6:30 p.m.
Saturday (Esp.) - 6:30 p.m.
Fr. Salvador Vega, Pastor
Welcome • Bienvenidos

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

TOMMY HALSELL, PASTOR
Everyone is always welcome!

You are invited to worship with us at...
Center Point Missionary Baptist Church
211 Church St. • Center Point
Pastor: Jaron Tipton
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Service 5:00 p.m.

-- Non-Denomination --
New Life in Jesus Christ Church
913 South Main St. • Nashville, AR
Sunday Morning Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Evening Worship 5:30 p.m.
Pastors: Lankford & Mary Alice Moore

EBENEZER UMC
318 West Dodson • Nashville
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"
Scott Memorial (Paraloma Community)
First & Third Sundays Monthly
Sunday Worship 9:15 a.m.
Pastor: Ellis Ray Floyd

Futrell Marine
Hwy. 371
Nashville
(870) 845-3122

360 *Facts About The BIBLE* BY JOHN LEHTI

This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of II Kings intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times

The Shunammite's Son

THE YOUNG SON OF THE WEALTHY SHUNAMMITE FAMILY, WHOM ELISHA HAD PROPHESIED WOULD BE BORN, HAS DIED FROM A SUN-STROKE, AND NOW....

...WHILE THE ELDERLY MAN MOURNS HIS SON, SURROUNDED BY HIS WEeping SERVANTS....

...THE YOUNG MOTHER HAS CARRIED HER BOY TO THE SANCTITY OF THE LITTLE ROOM WHICH SHE HAD ORDERED BUILT FOR ELISHA....

...HAVING PLACED HER SON AS CLOSE AS SHE POSSIBLY COULD TO THE PROPHET'S HOLINESS—THE BED ON WHICH HE SLEEPS WHEN HE VISITS THIS HOUSE, THE SHUNAMMITE WOMAN....

...HURRIES DOWN FROM THE GARDEN WALL TO SPEAK TO HER HUSBAND.

SEND ME, I PRAY THEE, ONE OF THE SERVANTS, AND A DONKEY, THAT I MAY HASTEN TO THE MAN OF GOD.

WHEREFORE WILT THOU GO TO HIM TODAY? IT IS NEITHER TIME FOR THE FEAST OF THE NEW MOON, NOR IS IT THE SABBATH!

...IN SPITE OF THE WEeping AND MOURNING BY HER HUSBAND AND THE HOUSEHOLD SERVANTS, THIS WOMAN HAS NOT GIVEN UP HOPE THAT SOMETHING CAN YET BE DONE FOR HER LITTLE BOY—AND NOW SHE SPEAKS URGENTLY....

Next Week
THE FAST RIDE!

SAVE THIS FOR YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL SCRAPBOOK

First Baptist Church
415 N. Main • Nashville
Come Worship With Us!
Sunday school 9 a.m.
Morning worship 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.
Evening worship 6:00 p.m.
Rev. Kevin Sartin

Come worship with us!
First Church of God
Community Oriented & Christ Centered
946 MLK, Hwy 355, Tolette, AR
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Worship 11:00 a.m. • Youth 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday evening service 6:00 p.m.
Rev. Charles Green, Pastor

First United Methodist Church
1403 W. Sunset St. • Nashville
870-845-3030
nashvillefumc.org
Pastor: Pam Estes
Sunday school 9:45 a.m.
Worship 10:50 a.m.
Facebook Live or listen to 98.7 FM

HOLLY CREEK Missionary Baptist Church
705 Main St. • Dierks • 286-2010
Sun. School 10:00 a.m.
Sun. Morning Worship 10:50 a.m.
Sun. Evening 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday WOW 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
Pastor: Bro. Brian Finn
Radio Program: 9:45 Sunday Morning • B99.5 FM
Visit us at: www.hollycreekmbc.net

Be our Guest at Cross Point Cowboy Church

Sunday Services 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study for all ages at 6:30 p.m.
Hwy 371 W. of Nashville
"Pointing People to the Cross"
Pastor Don Jones

To Advertise your Church or Business Call Tracy at 870-845-0600

Unity Baptist Church
380 Buck Range Road
Pastor:
Bro. David Cassady
Sunday Service 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

WOODS & WOODS
PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT, PA LTD.
118 N. Main - Nashville - 845-4422
Jason Lenderman, CPA

Delight Methodist Church
E. Antioch Street • Delight
Morning Services - 11:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting - Wed. 6:30 p.m.
Jim Henderson, Pastor

To Advertise your Church or Business Call Tracy at 870-845-0600

First Christian Church
500 N. Main • Nashville
(Corner of Main & Bishop)
845-3241
Sunday Bible School - 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 6:00 p.m.
Minister: Jim Pinson

MINERAL SPRINGS CHURCH OF CHRIST
318 Bridgeman Dr. • Mineral Springs
870-287-5652
Sunday Bible Class: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Service: 6:00 p.m.

Nashville picks up conference wins

News-Leader photos/JOHN R. SCHIRMER



Johnte Taylor eyes the basket during Nashville's District 7-4A win over De Queen Feb. 3 in Scrapper Arena.



Karstyn Scrivner (24) nails a 3-pointer against De Queen in the Scrapperettes' 66-35 home win last week.



News-Leader photo/LYNETTE LOVELIS

McKynlee Scott scores for the junior Scrapperettes in their 44-21 conference win at De Queen. The junior Scrapperettes and Scrapers are top seeds going into the district tournament starting Thursday in De Queen.



Ava Basiliere maneuvers around the Lady Leopard.



Bo Bell (23) puts up a shot over the Leopard defender.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

Bo Dean (25) puts up a shot and draws a foul in the junior Scrapers' home win over Camden Fairview.



Demetrus Shelley scores against De Queen.



Lyris Bennett hits a shot in the win over De Queen.



News-Leader photo/LYNETTE LOVELIS

Maddie Lovelis scores in the junior Scrapperettes' victory at De Queen.

The Scrapers and Scrapperettes earned District 7-4A wins at home against De Queen Feb. 3 and at Hope Feb. 6. The Scrapperettes are the top team in Class 4A in the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* rankings for this week. They're eighth overall in Class 4A. District 7-4A action will wrap up next week with games at Arkadelphia Feb. 17 and at Scrapper Arena Feb. 20 for senior night against Camden Fairview. Regionals will be Feb. 25-28 in Nashville.

First State Bank
will be closed
Monday, February 16th
in observance of
Presidents' Day



First State Bank

422 Issac Perkins Blvd Nashville (870) 451-9994

507 Front St. Dierks (870) 286-2090

member FDIC

MILLWOOD CORPORATION
BUYER OF TIMBER & TIMBERLAND

Matt Tollett (870) 703-6939
 Jason Porter (870) 703-1039
 Johnny Porter (870) 703-1628

P.O. Box 1316 Hope, AR 71802

Like it or not, they'll be out in numbers soon. We'll help you be ready for them.



At Lawrence, we want you to be prepared for the invasion of these annoying little pests. Call us — or log on to our website today! We're locally owned and we offer FREE inspections and FREE estimates.



LAWRENCE
 TERMITE AND PEST CONTROL SERVICES
 (870) 845-4320
 Toll-Free 877-845-4320
 www.Lawrencepest.com

"Lawrence Termite & Pest Control — The Bug Stops Here!"

HOSTETLER SALES
Your Family Store

toys • greeting cards • flour jellos • books • food supplements
 pie fillings • raw sugar
 homemade bread • real salt
 synthetic lubricants

1426 Mission Drive
 across from Mennonite School
 Hours - Tuesday and Thursday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Owner: Delbert Hostetler
870-557-1947

Now is the time to plant!

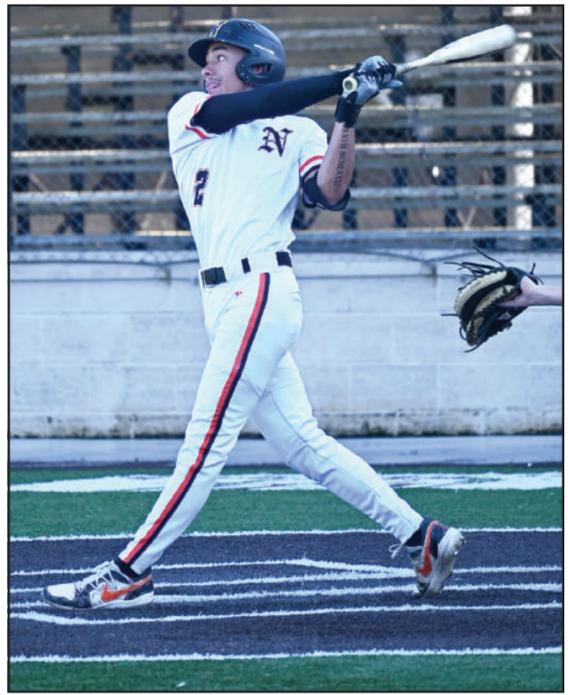
We have
Fruit Trees, Berry Vines,
Trees, Shrubs,
Landscaping Supplies,
Mulch and more!



Sunshine Acres
 3 miles out Hwy. 27 North • 870-845-1385
 Open Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Shop Early ~ Supplies Are Limited!



Harding University basketball signee Karstyn Scrivner (seated, second from left) and her Scrapperette teammates



Zeus Hutchison takes his turn at bat during the Scrapers' intrasquad scrimmage Friday, Feb. 6. The season will open March 3 at Hooks, Texas.



Football signees Jamison McIntosh (seated, second from left), Texas A&M Texarkana; Brayden Erby (seated, right), McPherson College; and Scrapper teammates



Ouachita Baptist University softball signee Landyn Tompkins (seated, second from left) and Scrapperette teammates



Southern Arkansas University baseball signee Karson Chambers (seated, second from left) and Scrapper teammates



University of Arkansas at Monticello golf signee Manning Goff (seated, second from left) and Scrapper teammates. Nashville students' signing days were held Feb. 4 and 5.

Offensive coordinator sought for Scrapper football program

The Nashville Scrapper football program is looking for a new offensive coordinator after Coach Todd Ledford accepted a position at Hooks, Texas. Ledford will be the school's head football coach and athletic director. "Coach Ledford had an opportunity he couldn't pass up," Coach Brad Chesshir said Monday. "I appreciate him for what he did for our program. He poured his heart and soul into it. He's a good friend of mine. We'll always be close. We'll continue to talk and share ideas. I'm super excited for him," Chesshir said. The Scrapper OC position has been posted on websites, according to Chesshir. The Nashville School District is taking resumes from prospects. "We will make sure we find the best coach for our kids and our program. There's no time frame for making a hire," Chesshir said, adding that he would like to have someone in place when the team goes into spring.

swarkansasnews.com

SPORTS LEADERS

Players of the Week as selected by The Leader sports department

Nashville college signees

Six Nashville High School student-athletes signed college letters last week. They include Karstyn Scrivner, Harding University, basketball; Brayden Erby, McPherson College, football; Jamison McIntosh, Texas A&M Texarkana, football; Karson Chambers, Southern Arkansas University, baseball; Landyn Tompkins, Ouachita Baptist University, softball; and Manning Goff, University of Arkansas at Monticello, golf.



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

Follow the News-Leader every week. Subscribe today.

Letters

Continued from page 1A

"She says that she and her dad go through about 24 or 25 buckets of balls in a day" during practice. Tompkins' career stats so far include a .419 batting average, 21 home runs and 96 RBIs, Brown said. Highlights include a "three-run bomb at the D Mac Tournament in Hope" her freshman year and a win over Stuttgart in the regional tournament at Nashville "when we had to win in the first round to go to state. They had the best

pitcher in the state, and she hit a three-run bomb." Brown said he is "most proud of her decision to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as her savior last year. I love you to death." Coach Zach Stewart recounted some of Chambers' accomplishments going back to ninth grade. "As a freshman, he came in to our scrimmage. In the second game, I asked if he wanted to call his own pitches." He did. Chambers "knows what he wants to do," according to Stewart. "He's a great teammate and has a bright future ahead of him. He can be the best player at SAU by the time he graduates."

NHS signing days Feb. 4 and 5
Manning Goff, Karson Chambers, Landyn Tompkins, Jamison McIntosh, Brayden Erby, Karstyn Scrivner

WOODS & WOODS
PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT, LTD
118 N. Main St.
Nashville
870-845-4422
Jason Lenderman, CPA

SWEETHEART DEALS
at York Gary Autoplex!

2025 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 RST	
MSRP	\$63,290
YORK GARY DISCOUNT	-\$7,680
CONSUMER CASH PROGRAM	-\$3,250
GM BONUS CASH	-\$1,500
Sale Price⁶	\$49,990
Up to \$13,000 OFF MSRP!	
CHEVROLET TRADE ASSISTANCE BONUS CASH - \$1,000 (IF TRADE IS A 2012 OR NEWER TRUCK OR CAR)	
SERVICE AND HANDLING	+\$130
Summit White, Jet Black Cloth, 5.3EcoTec V8 Automatic, 4WD, 16 mpg city/ 19 mpg hwy	

2025 RAM 2500 LARAMIE CREW CAB 4X4	
MSRP	\$81,740
YORK GARY DISCOUNT	-\$11,000
NATIONAL BONUS CASH	-\$2,000
SERVICE AND HANDLING	+\$130
Sale Price⁶	\$68,870
Diamond Black Crystal Pearlcoat, 6.7L 16 Cummins HO Turbo Diesel Engine, 8 Speed TorqueFlite HD Transmission.	

1420 West Leslie Nashville
870-845-1536
Toll Free 1-800-235-6855
yorkgaryauto.com

60
York Gary
WE GO THE EXTRA MILE

1. YORK GARY SAVINGS 2. PURCHASE ALLOWANCE 6. SALE PRICE IS AFTER ALL APPLICABLE INCENTIVES AND DOES NOT INCLUDE TTBL OR OTHER QUALIFYING INCENTIVES, AND REQUIRES CREDIT APPROVAL, WAC (WITH APPROVED CREDIT). **TO QUALIFY FOR BEST PRICING ON SELECT MODELS, CUSTOMERS MUST FINANCE WITH YORK GARY OR OTHER IN-HOUSE ENTITY, AND FOR AT LEAST 6 MONTHS WAC (WITH APPROVED CREDIT). SEE DEALER FOR DETAILS ABOUT MANUFACTURER DISCOUNTS BECAUSE SOME VEHICLES AND/OR CUSTOMERS MAY QUALIFY FOR ADDITIONAL INCENTIVES SUCH AS MILITARY, FIRST RESPONDER, AND EDUCATOR DISCOUNTS. ALL INCENTIVES ARE NOT THE SAME AND THEIR VALIDITY DATES MAY VARY. SEE YOUR FRIENDLY SALES TEAM FOR DETAILS. SEE DEALER FOR DETAILS ABOUT MANUFACTURER DISCOUNTS BECAUSE SOME VEHICLES AND/OR CUSTOMERS MAY QUALIFY FOR ADDITIONAL INCENTIVES SUCH AS MILITARY, FIRST RESPONDER, AND EDUCATOR DISCOUNTS. ALL INCENTIVES ARE NOT THE SAME AND THEIR VALIDITY DATES MAY VARY. SEE YOUR FRIENDLY SALES TEAM FOR DETAILS.

FIND NEW ROADS

Pike County to take another shot at alcohol sales

By PJ Tracy
Murfreesboro Diamond

The effort to present an alcohol sales referendum to voters of Pike County is gearing up in the hope that the second time is the charm.

The same effort presented the issue to voters in 2022, where the measure was defeated by six votes, 1,858-1,852.

According to information provided by the group, they will need to collect a minimum of 2,291 valid petitions (38% of the 6,028 registered voters in Pike County in order to make the ballot for the 2026 general election this November.

Due to some petitions being thrown out in the confirmation process by the Pike County clerk, the group hopes to collect perhaps an additional 1,000 petitions than what is actually needed.

After successfully getting on the ballot in 2022 right at the deadline, the effort hopes to get local groups in each of Pike County's communities to aid more in petition collection process.

Anyone with interest in helping the effort is asked to contact Lisa Harvill at (870) 557-1860. Harvill said one of the major obstacles toward the effort will be the loss of volunteers from the 2022 campaign.

Petitions are currently being crafted by a lawyer.

A number of people asked to sign a petition in the 2022 effort felt like they were deceived into participating, so the effort wishes to make it very transparent that the signing of a petition is only for the purposes of getting the issue to the ballot. Signing a petition in no way reflects a "vote" for or against the issue.

The petition will include exactly what will appear on the ballot – including "for" and "against" boxes. But these are only for informational purposes on the petition, and not counted or required for a valid petition toward the 2,291 total.

"We want people to know what they are signing, so there is absolutely no confusion," said Harvill.

Should an unregistered citizen wish to fill out a petition, they must first register to vote at the Pike County Clerk's office in Murfreesboro. A voter registration form may be downloaded from www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/elections/ArkansasVoterRegistrationApplication.pdf and mailed to the County Clerk at P.O. Box 218, Murfreesboro, AR 71958.

For any further questions regarding voter registration, contact the Pike County Clerk's office at (870) 285-2743.

The group said the experience in getting the effort to the ballot four years ago was invaluable toward the process this time around.

For those that would like to aid the effort, but have not the time to do so, monetary donations toward the effort are being accepted at First State Bank in Murfreesboro into the group's account.

Since the 2022 election, a pair of restaurants in the county have opted for the private club option in order to sell alcohol to customers on site. Additionally, the State of Arkansas began allowing alcohol sales at state parks in dry counties, including the Crater of Diamonds State Park in 2025.

The group also feels there are a number of benefits

across Pike County from the additional revenue derived from alcohol sales, including but not limited to better infrastructure, city/county services, greater security against economic downturns, support of local businesses, less dependence on grant funds that may or may not exist in the future and attraction of a larger tourist base.

The group also hammered home the fact that Pike County is losing population and the trend is expected to continue in the future. An effort to regain a grocery store for Murfreesboro found many businessmen unwilling to invest in the area before the saga was finally solved locally earlier this year.

Based on a comprehensive economic development strategy along with the University of Little Rock's Institute for Economic Advancement, the Pike County Economic Development Commission has stated that Pike County, like much of rural America, is facing the challenge of demographic change while trying to maintain a diverse economic foundation. According to numbers provided by the group, the county had a population of 10,066 in 2021, a 10.8% decline from the 2010 census. Furthermore, the decline is suggested to continue, with projections of 9,661 population by 2027. The group has stated that Pike County stands at a crossroads -- the 4% predicted population decline through 2027 will start to affect services, infrastructure and economic vitality. Meanwhile, the aging population will likely increase demands for healthcare services while

potentially reducing the available workforce.

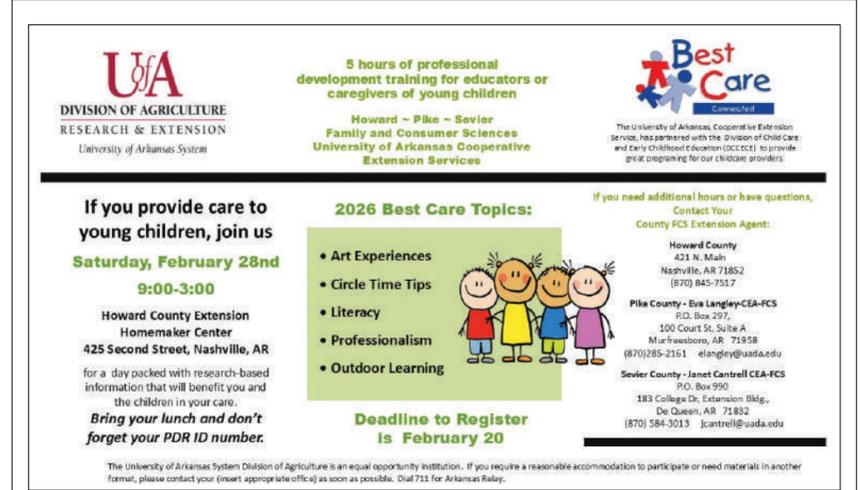
Individual communities across the county and the Pike County Economic Development Commission have been looking to find ways to stem the tide from regression via a number of studies and plans. The group seeking to legalize liquor sales in the county feels that the revenue from that effort

can be one of the first hurdles toward stabilizing the area's economy.

As tourism is Murfreesboro's largest financial boon, the availability to have a nightlife could help attract and retain more tourists in the area.

Regionally, the effort is gaining momentum. Howard County is currently attempting to get a referen-

dum on the 2026 ballot, while Hempstead County tried in 2022. Clark County passed their referendum in 2010. A report from a local television station (KATV, Little Rock) stated that sales tax revenue decreased in Clark County from 2009-2010 by over \$28,000, but after the county went wet in 2011 the sales tax increased over \$123,000.



5 hours of professional development training for educators or caregivers of young children

Howard - Pike - Sevier Family and Consumer Sciences University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Services

Best Care

The University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service, in partnership with the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education (DCCCE) to provide great programming for our childcare providers.

If you provide care to young children, join us

Saturday, February 28nd

9:00-3:00

Howard County Extension Homemaker Center
425 Second Street, Nashville, AR

for a day packed with research-based information that will benefit you and the children in your care.

Bring your lunch and don't forget your PDR ID number.

2026 Best Care Topics:

- Art Experiences
- Circle Time Tips
- Literacy
- Professionalism
- Outdoor Learning

Deadline to Register is February 20

If you need additional hours or have questions, Contact Your County FCS Extension Agent:

Howard County
421 N. Main
Nashville, AR 71852
(870) 845-7517

Pike County - Eva Langley-CEA-FCS
P.O. Box 297,
100 Court St. Suite A
Murfreesboro, AR 71958
(870) 285-2161 elangley@uada.edu

Sevier County - Janet Cantrell-CEA-FCS
P.O. Box 990
183 College Dr. Extension Bldg.
De Queen, AR 71832
(870) 584-3013 jcantrell@uada.edu

The University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture is an equal opportunity institution. If you require a reasonable accommodation to participate or need materials in another format, please contact your (insert appropriate office) as soon as possible. Dial 711 for Arkansas Relay.

Free professional development training for Arkansas child care providers

Arkansas childcare providers are encouraged to take advantage of the many free professional development opportunities and resources available across the state. These trainings are offered at no cost by the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service in partnership with the Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education and the Professional Development Registry (PDR).

The 2026 Best Care training is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 28, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The in-person, all-day event will be held at the Howard County Extension Homemakers Educational Center, located at 425 Second Street (behind the courthouse)

in Nashville, Arkansas. Participants are asked to bring their own lunch, and light snacks will be provided throughout the day. The registration deadline is Feb. 20.

This face-to-face training will provide only five Best Care hours, which is a change from previous years when 10 hours were offered.

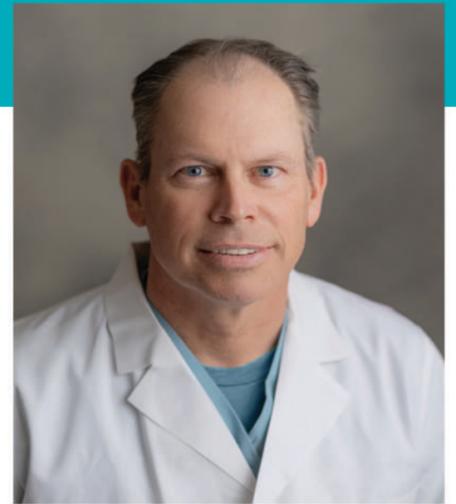
For more information or to register, childcare providers may contact Family and Consumer Sciences agents Janet Cantrell in Sevier County at 870-584-3013 or jcantrell@uada.edu, Eva Langley in Pike County at 870-285-2161 or elangley@uada.edu, or the Howard County Extension Office at 870-845-7517.

Trusted Surgical Care IN NASHVILLE

Dr. Sutherland is now performing surgeries exclusively at Howard Memorial Hospital, delivering top-tier care with state-of-the-art technology in one of the nation's Top 20 Critical Access Hospitals.

Why Howard Memorial Hospital?

- ✓ Efficiency & Excellence – Nationally recognized for patient care
- ✓ Advanced Technology – Robotic Surgery, MRI, CT scan, nuclear medicine
- ✓ Compassionate Care – Personalized treatment, close to home



Now Accepting New & Existing Patients
Howard Memorial Hospital | Nashville, AR
No Facility Fee

To learn more call **870-845-8914**,
or visit howardmemorial.com/our-services/robotic-surgery



Tax Time

Tax Deadline is Wednesday, April 15



National Taxpayer Advocate makes annual report to Congress; says IRS was helpful

WASHINGTON — National Taxpayer Advocate Erin M. Collins today released her 2025 Annual Report to Congress, finding that taxpayers generally fared well in their dealings with the IRS in 2025 and that most taxpayers are likely to have a smooth experience in 2026. However, the report cautions the upcoming filing season is likely to present greater challenges for taxpayers who encounter problems.

"Among the reasons the 2025 filing season went well was that the IRS had its largest workforce in many years and faced no major tax law changes that required implementation during the filing season," Collins writes. "Entering 2026, the landscape is markedly different. The IRS is simultaneously confronting a reduction of 27% of its workforce, leadership turnover, and the implementation of extensive and complex tax law changes mandated by the [One, Big, Beautiful Bill] Act, many of which apply retroactively and require significant IRS programming, guidance, changes to tax forms and instructions, and taxpayer education."

Despite these challenges, Collins says most taxpayers will be able to file their returns and receive their refunds without delay. "For the significant majority of taxpayers who file their returns electronically, who include their direct deposit information, and whose returns are not stopped by IRS processing filters, the process will be seamless," she writes. "Their returns will be processed quickly, and if

they are due a refund, they will receive it without delay." However, she notes "the success of the filing season will be defined by how well the IRS is able to assist the millions of taxpayers who experience problems."

Taxpayer service in 2025
During 2025, the IRS processed more than 165 million individual income tax returns. About 94% were submitted electronically, and 6% (about 11 million) were filed on paper. Approximately 104 million taxpayers (63%) received refunds, with an average refund amount of \$3,167. While most refunds were issued timely, about 3.6 million taxpayers received their refunds beyond the IRS's normal processing time, with an average wait time of 7 weeks for e-filers and 14 weeks for paper filers.

In addition, longstanding delays in resolving identity theft victim assistance cases persisted during 2025, with hundreds of thousands of taxpayers waiting an average of more than 21 months for the IRS to resolve their cases and issue refunds due. Particularly for lower income taxpayers, these delays can create or exacerbate financial hardships. Collins has previously called these delays "unconscionable," and her report reiterates a prior recommendation to keep IDTV employees focused exclusively on identity theft casework until the average case resolution time is reduced to 90 days.

2026 filing season challenges
The report says the combination of staffing reductions and significant retroactive changes in the tax law has created challenges for taxpayers and the IRS alike. It also examines the challenges the IRS will face in balancing telephone service with case processing and the potential risks of outsourcing the processing of millions of paper-filed tax returns.

Of particular importance for taxpayer service are customer service representatives who answer telephone calls and process taxpayer correspondence and casework. The IRS generally receives over 100 million telephone calls and several million pieces of taxpayer correspondence each year. In 2025, the number of CSRs was reduced by 22%. Although the IRS backfilled some of these positions late in the year, the number of CSRs remains substantially lower than last filing season, and the new hires have less experience than the employees who departed. "To fulfill its mission, the IRS must align hiring decisions with operational needs and emerging challenges, rather than target a predetermined staffing level," Collins writes. "Workforce planning should be guided by the work necessary to provide timely, accurate service to taxpayers and to protect taxpayer rights, as well as by the most effective ways to deliver those outcomes."

Impact of tax law changes. The One Big Beautiful Bill Act made more than 100 changes to the tax code. While some will not take effect until 2026, key provisions were made



retroactive to the beginning of 2025 and must be reported on 2025 tax returns filed during the current filing season. "While the OBBB Act is generally taxpayer-favorable in that it expands eligibility for certain deductions and benefits," Collins writes, "the deductions and benefits are subject to complex eligibility rules, income thresholds, and phaseouts that will be difficult for many taxpayers to understand and for the IRS to administer accurately during the filing season."

These benefits include new tax deductions for tip income, overtime pay, and interest paid on auto loans, as well as an additional standard deduction for senior citizens and an increased maximum deduction for state and local taxes.

The report highlights the complexity of these provisions. To cite one example, the following requirements must be met for a taxpayer to claim a deduction for interest paid on auto loans:

The vehicle must be new (used car purchases do not qualify);

The vehicle must have been purchased for personal use (lease payments do not qualify);

The loan must have originated after December 31, 2024;

The loan must be secured by a lien on the vehicle;

The vehicle must carry a gross vehicle weight rating of less than 14,000 pounds.

IRS warns taxpayers about scams and plans

You can avoid falling for a tax scam. Know what to watch out for and how the IRS contacts you.

Tax scam warning signs

Scammers mislead you about tax refunds, credits and payments. They pressure you for personal, financial or employment information or money. IRS impersonators try to look like us.

Watch out for:

A big payday - If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Bad tax advice on social media may convince you to lie on tax forms or mislead you about credits you can claim.

Demands or threats - Impersonators want you to pay "now or else." They threaten arrest or deportation. They don't let you question or appeal the amount of tax you owe.

Website links - Odd or misspelled web links can take you to harmful sites instead of IRS.gov.

Payments we accept

Know your taxpayer rights

How to know it's the IRS
Protect yourself from impersonators. Know how we contact you.

Common tax scams

Be aware of the signs of tax scams.

Charity impersonators
COVID-19 pandemic schemes

Credits and refunds misinformation

Disaster fraud
Dishonest tax preparers
Email and text message impersonators

Seniors targeted
Social media bad tax advice and scams

Tax debt settlement or relief services

Unclaimed tax refund
Unemployment claims identity theft

Unexpected tax bill
W-2 Form fraud

GOT YOUR W-2?

BEAT THE RUSH! FILE EARLY.



our tax game is strong.

Visit your local Jackson Hewitt today!



1511 South 4th St.
Nashville • 870-845-4650
318 N. Washington Ave
Murfreesboro • 870-285-3108

Your

INCOME TAX

Solution

Tax Preparation
Accounting

Wes Howard Tax and Accounting Co.

212 Main Ave. • Dierks • 870-286-2019

Money Questions Answered



*Thinking about buying a house?
Getting married or expecting a baby?
Confused about the best way to prepare for retirement?*

Trust our knowledge and experience in money matters to expertly answer all of your financial questions. Whether you're applying for a home mortgage, comparing checking and savings accounts, opening a small business or simply saving for the future, we have fiscal solutions to meet your unique needs.

To discuss your financial concerns, stop in or schedule an appointment anytime.
Our advice is always friendly and free!



FIRST STATE BANK

Nashville • 422 Isaac Perkins Blvd • 870-451-9994
Dierks • 507 Front St. • 870-286-2090
Murfreesboro • 322 E. 13th St. • 870-285-2228

Member FDIC



It's Tax Time!

Let our professional staff prepare your tax return and assist you with tax planning!

Woods & Woods

Public Accountant, Ltd.

118 N. Main • Nashville • 870-845-4422
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.



Howard Memorial

Do you have a hospital bill?

For a limited time, Howard Memorial Hospital is offering a special

Tax Refund promotion.

Get a 20% discount on any patient portion after insurance or private pay balances.

Now through April 30, 2026

This will cover accounts for Hospital, Medical Clinics, Surgeons and Hospitalists

Please attach this coupon with your enclosed check

20% Tax Refund Discounts

Tax Time

Tax Deadline is Wednesday, April 15



IRS lists frequently asked questions of Fact Sheet

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service today issued frequently asked questions in Fact Sheet 2026-02 PDF to help taxpayers, businesses, and other stakeholders understand the changes under Executive Order 14247: Modernizing Payment To and From America's Bank Account.

"These FAQs support the Executive Order in its effort to reduce fraud, improve security, lower costs, and make payments to and from the IRS faster and more reliable," IRS Chief Executive Officer Frank J. Bisignano said.

Background

The U.S. Department of the Treasury, in collaboration with the IRS and other federal agencies, is transitioning federal payments to and from the government to electronic methods pursuant to Executive Order 14247, signed March 25, 2025.

These changes apply to:

Payments sent by the federal government, including tax refunds, benefits, grants, and vendor or contractor payments; and

Payments made to the federal government, including tax balances due, fees, penalties, and other payments from individuals, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and state or local partners.

Electronic payments are generally processed faster, cost less to handle, and reduce errors compared to paper payments. Limited exceptions to electronic payment requirements will be available in specific situations, such as those involving hardship and/or legal or procedural requirements.

Filing tax returns is not changing

The Executive Order does not change how taxpayers file their tax returns. Taxpayers will continue to file their returns in the same manner as they have in the past. The change affects how refunds are issued and how payments are made, not how returns are prepared or submitted, beginning with the 2026 filing season. For now, checks and money orders will still be accepted.

What taxpayers should do now

To prepare for these changes, the IRS encourages taxpayers to:

Use direct deposit for refunds by providing accurate bank or prepaid debit card information when filing.

Choose electronic payment options when paying taxes, such as IRS Direct Pay, Electronic Federal Tax Payment System, or other approved methods.

Review account information to ensure bank details are current and correct.

Visit IRS.gov to learn about electronic payment options and available resources for taxpayers without a bank account.

For more information about how the IRS is implementing the Executive Order, visit Modernizing Payments To and From America's Bank Account on IRS.gov.

More information about reliance is available on IRS.gov.

FINANCIAL FOCUS by Josh Tice, Edward Jones Investments

Love languages can help you enjoy Valentine's Day on a budget

Valentine's Day doesn't have to break the bank. In fact, the most meaningful expressions of love often cost little to nothing. The key is understanding your partner's love language and tailoring your approach accordingly. When you know what makes your partner feel truly valued, you can create memorable experiences without the financial pressure that often accompanies this holiday.

The five love languages — words of affirmation, acts of service, receiving gifts, quality time and physical touch — offer a roadmap for showing affection without overspending. Here's how to express your love while staying financially smart this Valentine's Day.

Words of affirmation: For partners who value verbal expressions of love, heartfelt words matter far more than expensive gifts. Write a letter expressing what you appreciate about them, create a personalized playlist with songs that remind you of your relationship or record a video message. All are free but carry immense emotional value. For this love language, thoughtful expression surpasses financial investment every time.

Acts of Service: If your partner feels loved through helpful actions, Valentine's Day is about sweat equity, not spending. Cook their favorite meal, tackle chores they've been dreading or, for those who have expressed frustration with budgeting, create a simple budget tracker or spreadsheet tucked into a decorative folder. Your time and effort demonstrate your love. The beauty of acts of service is that they cost little to nothing but demonstrate care and attention.

Receiving Gifts: Even gift-oriented partners don't need expensive presents to feel valued. Focus on thoughtfulness and personalization over price tags. Try DIY crafts that show you put time into creating something. Explore thrift stores for vintage treasures or consider giving stock in a company your partner loves — a retail store, a tech brand or a coffee chain. Many platforms offer fractional shares, so you don't need a huge budget. Remember: A \$10 item chosen with care can mean more than a \$100 generic gift.

Quality time: For those who value undivided attention, experiences often cost less than gifts. Check for free museum days, plan a scenic hike, go stargazing or create a cozy home movie night with homemade popcorn. The key is being fully present without distractions. For a longer-term outlook, consider a future fund jar for shared goals, like a couples massage or a trip. Make the first deposit and pair it with a handwritten note about building dreams together.

Physical Touch: Intimacy and affection are inherently free, but small comfort investments can enhance closeness. Create an at-home spa experience with inexpensive bath products, invest in cozy blankets for cuddling, or clear space in your living room for dancing together. These minimal purchases amplify connection without requiring significant spending.

There's no wrong way to celebrate Valentine's Day,

and overspending isn't necessary. If you're diligent about budgeting, you'll know what you can afford to spend. Understanding your partner's love language empowers you to express affection in ways that resonate deeply — without the financial stress. The best Valentine's celebrations come from the heart, not the wallet.

New deductions can reduce taxable income and increase taxpayer's 2026 refunds

WASHINGTON — Taxpayers may be able to take advantage of new deductions that could reduce taxable income and increase refunds due to the One, Big, Beautiful Bill, passed by Congress in July 2025. Provisions from the new law can have a significant effect on federal taxes, credits and deductions. The legislation includes four prominent provisions for individuals: the "deduction for seniors," "no tax on tips," "no tax on overtime" and "no tax on car loan interest." Taxpayers claiming these deductions should use Schedule 1-A and see the related instructions.

Find answers to tax questions
IRS.gov/Help: A variety of resources to answer some of the most common tax questions.

IRS.gov/ITA: The Interactive Tax Assistant will ask questions and provide answers on several tax topics based on input.

IRS.gov/Forms: Find forms, instructions and publications on the most recent tax changes and interactive links for answers, including the new Schedule 1-A.

Publication 17 explains tax law to help ensure you pay only the tax you owe and no more.

Get personalized account services and quicker refunds
Access tax information 24/7 with a secure IRS online account. An IRS Individual Online Account allows taxpayers securely to access to view tax account information, interact with the IRS, and manage payments, refunds and communications.

Speed tax refunds with direct deposit. The IRS is phasing out paper tax refund checks. Taxpayers should use direct deposit to receive tax refunds faster.

Taxpayers may have questions about taking advantage of OBBB tax provisions to lower their tax bills. One, Big, Beautiful Bill Provisions on IRS.gov provides information on the new tax law provisions and others, plus eligibility and guidance. Taxpayers can also use IRS.gov tools to learn more and get answers on how these changes could impact tax return filing.



We can electronically file your returns for faster refunds. It's accurate and secure.

Plus, we're open all year for all your tax needs!

Smith Tax Service

200 S. Main • Nashville
870-845-5075

Late Appointments Available

Before You Sign



...check out what we have to offer.

Buying insurance is a major decision. Before you go just anywhere, consider us. We're committed to helping you protect yourself and your loved ones against life's unforeseen events. And, it's our goal to make peace of mind affordable to everyone.

HOME • LIFE • AUTO • BUSINESS



219 N. 2nd St. • Nashville • 845-5303
Insurance #245691

Castleberry Bookkeeping and Tax Service

516 N. Main • Nashville
(870) 845-1396 or (870) 557-6552
www.castleberrytax.com



Tax Preparation

- ◆ All Types: W-2-to Corporate Returns
- ◆ Free Electronic Filing
- ◆ Refund Transfers Available
- ◆ Friendly, Courteous & Professional Service.

Debbie Castleberry Hicks



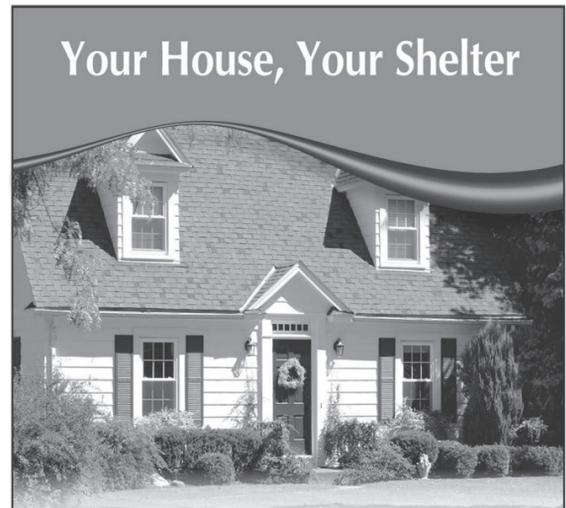
Walk In or Call for an Appointment

LOCKHART TAX & CONSULTING SERVICES

- Tax Returns
- Tax Planning
- Bookkeeping
- Business Consulting

Stephanie Lockhart, CPA

410 N. Main, Suite 1 • Nashville
870-455-8093
stephanie@lockhartcpa.com



Your House, Your Shelter

Your home is your biggest investment. You provide the house and we'll provide the Shelter. Let us help you design an insurance plan that's right for you. Call us today.



Steve Tate, Agent
812 S. Main • Nashville
870-845-1836
#10170422



AUTO • HOME • LIFE

We're your Shield. We're your Shelter.

ShelterInsurance.com

Howard County District Court

Feb. 3, 2026
BF=Bond Forfeited
Howard County
 Carver, Bryan Charles, 19, Ozan, guilty of operation of motor vehicle with modified bumper, fined \$275
 Castanon Liquidano, Martin, 63, Gurdon, \$210 BF, no driver's license/expired license
 Cox, Jerry Dwight, 28, Lincoln, guilty of speeding, fined \$245
 Finley, Lance Todd, 43, Mineral Springs, \$15 BF, non-payment of fines; \$260 BF, failure to appear
 Ganous, Eileen J., 56, Nashville, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$160; guilty of possession of drug paraphernalia, fined \$575
 Garland, Charles L., 64, Mineral Springs, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$220 balance
 Hernandez, Alan, 18, Glenwood, \$210 BF, no driver's license/expired license
 Hernandez-Escobar, Diana, 31, Mineral Springs, guilty of no driver's license/expired license, fined \$210; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$160; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245
 Holyfield, Bryllon C., 19, Texarkana, Texas, \$255 BF, speeding
 House, Shane M., 36, Newhope, \$265 BF, speeding
 Lemons, Levi Edward, 23, Grannis, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$445; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$345; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245
 Manuel, Norman Luke, 61, Gilliam, \$285 BF, failure to repair/maintain parts/access
 Mendoza, Drelon J., 30, Dierks, \$255 BF, speeding; \$210 BF, no driver's license/expired license
 Oglesby, Kayla, 34, Ashdown, \$255 BF, speeding
 Pate, Candice Reann, 38, Newhope, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$160
 Shoemake, James Jordan, 17, Ashdown, \$255 BF, speeding
 Taylor, Trevor Leroy, 45, North Little Rock, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$160; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$160

Vasquez, Dewayne, 42, Gurdon, \$225 BF, speeding
 City of Nashville
 Aguilar, Yemser, 26, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$1,935 balance; committed to jail-suspended conditions
 Allmon, Jake D., 49, Nashville, \$255 BF, speeding
 Cardona, Haziel Y., 20, Hope, guilty of possession of marijuana, fined \$1,090 and license suspended for six months; guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$460
 Gonzales, Yanine C., 35, Nashville, guilty of expired vehicle tags/no tags, fined \$160
 Hernandez, Manuel, 18, Hope, \$210 BF, no driver's license/expired license
 Hubbard, Kane Q., 31, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$3,353 balance; committed to jail; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$260
 Jackson, Antonie C., 49, Little Rock, \$210 BF, no driver's license/expired license
 Jetton, Kejuan Kiara, 35, Ashdown, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$980 balance
 Johnson, Kevin R., 42, Nashville, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$460; guilty of violation of ignition/interlock device, fined \$360
 Key, Jambra, 38, Texarkana, guilty of failure to yield, fined \$210; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$360; guilty of leaving scene of accident, fined \$360
 Markcum, Allen Lee, 50, Nashville, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$460
 Olenick, Michael, 48, Woodlands, Texas, \$240 BF, speeding; \$245 BF, failure to appear
 Pacheco-Cazares, Damaris, 37, Nashville, \$210 BF, no driver's license/expired license; \$210 BF, running stop sign or light
 Ramos, Jahaziel, 18, Nashville, guilty of no driver's license/expired license, fined \$210; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245; guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$460; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$260; guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$460
 Scott, Tressie, 42, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$3,600 balance; committed to jail-suspended



AERIAL VIEWS OF STORM DAMAGE
 Lee Vincent, Pike County's Office of Emergency Management coordinator, provided these images after he deployed the agency's drone to survey the initial damage around the county caused by Winter Storm Fern, including at Swaha Lodge & Marina (above) on Lake Green and the county fairgrounds in Glenwood.

Lee Vincent, Pike County's Office of Emergency Management coordinator, provided these images after he deployed the agency's drone to survey the initial damage around the county caused by Winter Storm Fern, including at Swaha Lodge & Marina (above) on Lake Green and the county fairgrounds in Glenwood.

Medina Montero, Sergio, 28, Mineral Springs, \$210 BF, no driver's license/expired license; \$360 BF, leaving scene of accident
 Arkansas Game & Fish Commission
 Crocker, Isaiah, 19, Hope, guilty of state duck stamp, fined \$135

Bench Trials
Howard County
 Mejia, Jonathan Ismael, 18, Nashville, \$360 BF, careless or prohibited driving
City of Nashville
 Smith, Brandon, 39, Nashville, guilty of third-degree assault, fined \$350

Worley, Michelle K., 55, Lockesburg, \$235 BF, possession of open container of alcohol in motor vehicle
City of Mineral Springs
 Hernandez-Escobar, Diana, 31, Mineral Springs, guilty of no proof liability insurance, fined \$360; guilty of no driver's license/expired license, fined \$210; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$260
 Lee, Michael D., 58, Hope, guilty of DWI #2, fined \$1,675, sentenced to seven days in jail, license suspended and must complete DWI educational course; guilty of driving on suspended license, fined \$625

payment of fines, \$1,240 balance; committed to jail-suspended conditions
City of Dierks
 Barbre, Skylar F., 24, Dierks, \$165 BF, dogs running at large
 Cobb, Jason Barnes, 45, Little Rock, \$210 BF, no driver's license/expired license
 Jackson, Jacob, 29, no address listed, \$210 BF, no tail or brake lights
 Nickhan, Alireza, 48, McKinney, Texas, \$285 BF, speeding
 Whiteside, Angela Marie, 64, New Albany, Miss., \$265 BF, speeding

DOUBLE J EXCAVATION
 SPECIALIZING IN ALL YOUR EXCAVATION NEEDS

- Dozer
- Dump Truck
- Trackhoe
- Ditch Witch
- Clearing/Roads
- Gravel/Sand/Top Soil
- Pads/Ponds
- Water, Elec., Gas lines

Justin Jacques • 870 582 1570 • Nashville, AR
 dbljexcavation@yahoo.com

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR LOW INCOME HOUSING IN NASHVILLE AND DIERKS

Applications may be picked up at the Howard County Housing Authority office located at
1010 S. Pope Street, Nashville, Arkansas (off of Hope Hwy).

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

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

fsb First State Bank

Accounts That Make Sense.
 Open Simply Free Checking for every convenience, local service, and a FREE GIFT - all for zero monthly fees!

422 Issac Perkins Blvd Nashville (870) 451-9994
 507 Front St. Dierks (870) 286-2090

Member FDIC

We complain when there's too...
 ...much snow and when there's no snow!
 Kids: color stuff in!

Newspaper Fun!
 www.readingclubfun.com
 Annimills LLC © 2017 V14-07

Weird, Wintry Weather!

Wow! Every winter we seem to say at some point that we are having "weird weather this year." Sometimes the temperature is above freezing for a period of time and fun, outdoor events may be called off due to lack of cold, ice and snow. Other times we have deep cold with surprisingly low temperatures and we break records. And once in awhile, we have a winter with "too much" snow. In some areas people even have to shovel some of the snow off of their roofs!

If ponds are not frozen enough to skate upon them safely, find an indoor ice rink!

Ice is Safe! Open Today!

Don't you just love a snowy day?

Oh, no you don't!
 Is that a carrot?
 Hmm
 There's No Day Like a Snow Day

Read the clues to fill in this wintry weather puzzle:
 1. handy to clean the driveway and sidewalks
 2. are sharpened and ready to glide
 3. will keep my hands warm while I build a snowman
 4. will keep people from slipping on ice
 5. is waxed and ready to carry my friends downhill
 6. is stacked and ready to fuel warm fires
 7. are next to the poles, ready to slide downhill

Follow the dots to see what's coming down. Next, find and circle the snowy day words in the word search puzzle.

Word search words: snowflake, cold, ice, frost, glaze, frozen, drifts, hail, sleet, icicles.

What Do People Do When There's No Snow?

Some people think that we may be in for more bitter, cold weather before spring arrives. Right now, in many areas it is too cold to stay outside for long periods of time, but there is no snow for sledding and the ponds are not safe for skating. People are still getting outside for exercise and a breath of fresh air. Can you fill the correct word in the blanks for outdoor activities that can be done when there's no snow?

Kids are:
 1. playing a game of _____
 2. playing street _____
 3. scattering _____ for birds
 4. bouncing _____
 5. racing radio-controlled _____
 6. walking their _____
 7. kicking _____ balls

cars tag hockey basketballs dogs seeds snow tires soccer

Too Much Snow!

Fill in the missing letters to see what people are busy doing when there's just too much snow! Then fill in the names of the storms that bring the snow.

1. s _ o _ e _ i _ g
 2. s _ o _ b _ o _ i _ g
 3. s _ o _ m _ b _ l _ n _
 4. s _ n _ i _ g
 5. s _ l _ i _ g

What Brings the Snow?

When a lot of precipitation falls in a short period of time, usually combined with a lot of wind, the meteorologist calls it a storm. A storm may have rain, hail, sleet or snow. What are the names of storms that bring snow?

1. _ now _ torm
 2. bli _ _ ard
 3. nor' _ ast _ r
 4. snow squa _ _

A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

STAVELY & ASSOCIATES REAL ESTATE
 102 N. Main • Nashville
 870-845-1188
 www.stavelyandassociates.com

Latimer Funeral Home
 Nashville • 845-2233
 Murfreesboro • 285-2194

Southern Glass & Mirror
 920 S. Main Nashville
 (870) 845-2121
 (870) 845-5353
 (870) 845-1623
 Stacy Smith Owner

Teague & Teague Insurance Agency
 219 N. 2nd St. • Nashville
 845-5303

Tyson Foods, Inc.

JOHN PLYLER HOME CENTER
 101 W. Broadway • Glenwood, AR
 PHONE: 870-356-3312
 HOURS: 7-6 Mon-Sat

Electrolux FRIGIDAIRE BRAND SOURCE



ONLINE BIDDING opens midnight Monday for Nashville Chamber of Commerce's Annual Banquet & Awards SILENT AUCTION

Bidding opens Monday, Feb. 16 at 12 a.m. and closes at 7:15 p.m. during the banquet.

Find the bidding & browsing link at the chamber's website:

www.nashvillearcoc.com and also find a link to purchase tickets.

NCC Annual Banquet & Awards • Monday, Feb. 16 • 6:00 • Nashville High School Cafeteria



Dierks High School Honor Roll

All A Honor Roll

7th Grade

Amelia Kirby, Judith Ortiz, Harper Stuard, Ina Ward

8th Grade

Parker Gadbury, Klayton Helms, Henry Semmler

9th Grade

Jacoby Faulkner, Maxton Greene, Delanie Hawthorne, Jacen Herrington, Harley Howell, Bailee Manasco, Brayden Mathis, Abbi Nelson, Savannah Tedford, Kylie Valadez, Tristan Winer

10th Grade

Kylee Bray, Cashlynn Davis, Briseis

Faulkner, Milee Harrison, Joelle Herrington, Emma Hoskins, Lily Kendrick, Jacie Kesterson, Presley Pugh, Claire Stapp, Izabelle Thompson, Gareth Trejo, Sophie Young

11th Grade

Jancey Glidewell, Tristen Goodwin, Laila Mayes, Alanna Sayre, Drake Thatcher, Abigail Vaughn, Raylie Walston

12th Grade

Sayer Baker, Peyton Boeckman, Evelyn Diaz, Ben Ernest, Cecilia Hill, Lilly Hogg, Krissyn Icenhower, Carlee Mounts, Kalee Mounts, Aspen Pugh, Ryleigh Simmons, Mason Smith, Gracie Thigpen

A/B Honor Roll

7th Grade

Elise Davis, Claire Fetherree, Leonel Garcia, Luke Glasgow, Hunter Hill, Hayden Humphries, Thomas Klein, Ellania Mathis, Kason McBride, Laura Reeder

8th Grade

Barrett Alexander, Eli Brinkley, Berkleigh Hill, Nash Hill, Brielle Kirby, Scarlett Nuttall, Isabella Quintana

9th Grade

Seth Bearden, Madden Hill, Jett Jackson, Konner Jones, Ali Shelton

10th Grade

Sydney Barbare, Ace'Lee Black, Kaylan Coulter, Bentley Glasgow, Jackie Gonzalez,

Elijah Hawthorne, Triston Hendershott, Addison Hill, Maylee Hill, Tinnsley Hill, Taylor Jewell, Shyanne Kight, Emma Manasco, Aiden Russell, Harrison Simmons, Cooper Smith, Maclane Smith, EJ Winer

11th Grade

Brayden Ackley, Leah Allen, Nicholas Lovell, Danielle Mathis, Haley Woods

12th Grade

Conner Bailey, Jaydin Chapman, Rocibell Delgado, Paige Eason, Kolton Gadbury, Hayden Koon, Hailey Morris, Aaron Pinkerton, Jacob Runyan, Arely Salgado, Tomas Salgado, Amelia Sweeden, Brayson Talley, Linnea Thompson

Mineral Springs High School Honor Roll

All Honor Roll

7th Grade

Katherine Adame, Aubri Dickerson, Emilynn Harris, Princeton Sanders, Emmaraya Walker

8th Grade

Stormy Swopes

9th Grade

Fatima Campos, Nayeli Gomez

10th Grade

Christen Bell, Brittney Cooper, Kynnadi Hawkins, LaKarenan Ross

11th Grade

Paloma Campos, Rihanna Collins, Kady-nce Harris, John Sitzes

12th Grade

Sarai Canales, McKenzie Chennault, Keithen Dixon, Maddelyn Harris, Zoey Lockeby, Elizabeth Yetter

A/B Honor Roll

7th Grade

Kenneth Armstrong, Lilian Contreras, Jamiya Gamble, Miles Golston, Kinsley Heard, Emzie Pilgreen, Jazlyn Rojas, Cayden Sanders

8th Grade

Javen Allen, Liyah Belill, Christopher Bell, Corbin Dixon, Aaliyah Griffin, Jolena Piggee, Niko Soumaker, Constance Tilman

9th Grade

Lillian Bailey, Tiana Collins, Jasmine Ellis, Kaliyah Harris, Brooklyn Johnson, Cherish Johnson, Lkayvion Marlow, Rickeyia McFadden, Kylan Neal, Katilyn Vaughn, Brianna Witherspoon, Alyssa Yetter

10th Grade

Namicka Green, Zion McElroy, Jordyn Peggee, Nila Sauls, Kailey Thomas, Daniela

Velez, Zakiah Walton

11th Grade

Madison Adams, Brenayja Barton, Adam Dean, Evelyn Garcia, Shane Goins, Mason Golston, Donovan Green, Kamiah Green, Rikerion McFadden, Keiandrian Nunally, Marco Olguin, Fantasia Walker

12th Grade

Brandon Allen, Tristian Chambers, Aiden Dillard, Jameia Erby, Wesley Kuykendall, Bre-asia Lamay, Rahkin McLaughlin, Kloie Megginson, Kytaviunna Pree, Juliana Salazar, Shamachia Stuard, Decayveon White

Stavelly and Associates



#25042393 - Country setting, approx 11 miles east of Nashville, paved road frontage. House offers approx 1,770 sq ft of living space, 3 bedrooms and 2 full baths. Large living room, spacious kitchen, appliances to convey, including refrigerator and stove. Lot to be surveyed. 12x20 storage building conveys. Home is move in ready.

ADVERTISED PRICE \$184,500.

For more home, farm or land listings visit www.stavellyandassociates.com

Eddie Stavelly, Principal: 870-845-9000
 Kristin Stavelly: Executive Broker: 870-845-9068
 Pam Kirby, Sales Agent: 870-845-9251
 Brad Vines, Sales Agent: 870-356-9680
 Jodi King, Sales Agent: 870-557-0747
 Holly Rucker, Sales Agent: 870-784-1349
 Matt Smith, Sales Agent: 870-845-8821

102 North Main Street • Nashville
 870-845-1188

Featured LISTING! 716 W. Syper St., Nashville



Welcome to this inviting 4-bedroom, 2 bath home conveniently located in the heart of Nashville. This well-maintained property offers a functional layout with ample space for family space for family living, entertaining, or a home office setup. The exterior features classic curb appeal with mature trees providing shade and character, while the spacious yard offers room to relax or enjoy outdoor activities. Inside, you'll find comfortable living areas, generously sized bedrooms, and two full bathrooms designed for everyday convenience. The home's central location provides easy access to schools, shopping, dining, and local amenities, making it an excellent choice for families, first-time buyers, or investors. Don't miss this opportunity to own a spacious home in a desirable, in-town location, schedule your showing today! **PRICE \$140,000.**

www.murrayandcompanyrealty.com
Carol Murray, Principal Broker
 122 North Main • Nashville
 Office: 870-451-9000 • Cell: 501-993-6183
Murray & CO. REALTY
 Tammy Lansdell, 870-200-4888
 Kristi "Noelle" Couch, 870-557-7193
 DeAnn Simmons, 870-557-4968
 Allana O'Neal, 870-557-7162

PUBLIC NOTICE

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Howard County Housing Authority

The Howard County Housing Authority is seeking competitive bids for a **security camera project** to be located at Herman Avenue & South Arkansas Ave in **Dierks, Arkansas**. This project involves the procurement of a comprehensive security and IoT surveillance system.

Required Equipment and Quantities: The following specific camera types and quantities are required for the project:

(11) 4MP Network IR Fixed Dome Cameras: These must be NDAA compliant with 2.8mm lenses, Wide Dynamic Range, and smart IR capabilities up to 30m, (2) NDAA 2MP ANPR Cameras: These units must feature built-in vehicle plate recognition software and a 10x motorized zoom lens.

Additional Project Components: The project also includes the following infrastructure and networking equipment: (7) Versatile Solar Powered Systems featuring 1200Wh lithium batteries, MPPT solar charge controllers, and wireless bridges; (2) Ubiquiti Rocket Prism AC airMAX ac BaseStations and 2 Ubiquiti 5GHz airMax Omni Antennas; (2) 5G Outdoor Routers with dual SIM slots and WiFi 6 hotspots; (9) Security Camera Poles (21ft long) and (2) Solar panels (400W 12V); (14) 1TB Micro SD Cards rated for 4K video recording. All specifications listed should be considered minimum required specifications and quantities.

Bid Packets and Inquiries: Interested bidders may request a formal bid packet by emailing info@hchousing.org or in person at the Howard County Housing Authority Office, 1010 S. Pope St., Nashville, AR 71852 between the hours of 8:30AM-4:30PM Monday-Friday.

For any questions regarding project specifications, please contact Ross Allen, Executive Director, at 870.845.1080.

The Howard County Housing Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Complete bid packets must be received no later than 5:00PM on Friday, March 13, 2026 to be considered.

Minority and/or Women Owned Businesses are encouraged to bid.

(HCHA: 34, 35)



4 Bedroom, 2 full baths with approx. 2107 sq-ft. of living space situated on approx. .80 acre lot. Large open kitchen/dining area and a separate formal dining space. Family area has a large fireplace that is wood burning or gas. New roof in Jan. 2026. Central A/C & Heat. Two car attached garage. Covered patio and 6' wood fencing. Refrigerator convey with sell of home. Llocated at 103 Pathway Circle, Nashville

Listed at \$325,000.

Call our office for additional information or to view this property.

www.raysrealty.net. Call for your personal tour today!

RAY'S REALTY
 724 S. Main St. • Nashville • 870-845-2900
 Terry Ray 870-845-7757
 Dale Bennett 870-557-6597 • Carolyn Reed 870-200-0201
 Robert Crocker 870-285-5779
 Melinda Bennett 870-451-2226

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HOWARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS 9th WEST CIRCUIT DIVISION 2

GARY LANE COULTER, PLAINTIFF
 VS. CASE NUMBER 31-CV-25-92

TO ALL UNKNOWN PERSONS CLAIMING LEGAL OR EQUITABLE RIGHTS OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THIS AMENDED COMPLAINT

Section 12. Township 10 South, Range 29 West SE 1/4 of NE 1/4 40 Acres. All in Howard County, Arkansas the following: and

Section 7, Township 10 South, Range 28 West SW 1/4 of NE 1/4 40 Acres.

Pt. N 1/2 SE 1/4 NE 1/4 13 Acres, FRL E 1/4 NW 1/4 20.7 Acres and

Section 6, Township 10 South, Range 28 West N 1/2 of the SE 1/4 of SE 1/4 20 Acres

And

Section 5, Township 10 South, Range 28 West N1/2 of the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 20 Acres

S 1/2 of SW 1/4 of SW 1/4 20 Acres

And

Section 8, Township 10 South, Range 28 West NW 1/4 of NW 1/4 40 Acres

Pt. NW 1/2 of SW 1/4 NW 1/4 4.5 Acres

PT. E 1/2 SW 1/4 NW 1/4 21 Acres

Section 8, Pt. SW 1/4 NW 1/4 13 Acres

Total acres containing in the aggregate of 252.2 acres more or less.

AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR QUIET TITLE (pd. 34 - 37)

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 PRE-PROBATE ESTATE NOTICE

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:
RANDOLPH HENDRIX, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that Randolph Hendrix, born January 16, 1939, and last residing at 304 Meadow Lane, Nashville, Arkansas 71852, died on August 23, 2025.

This notice is published for the purpose of identifying any creditors or persons having claims against the Estate of Randolph Hendrix prior to the formal appointment of a Personal Representative.

All persons having claims against the Estate are hereby notified to present their claims in writing, with supporting documentation, within six (6) months from the date of first publication of this notice, or such claims may be barred.

Claims must be sent to:

DeWayne Hendrix
 4180 Calla Drive
 Bartlett, TN 38135
 (510) 599-7188
drdwaynehendrix@gmail.com
 (pd. 34, 35)

FOR SALE

This 60 acres near Old Washington and 2 miles from Grandview Wildlife Management Area is a **Hunter's Dream**. Lots of oak and pine timber and a beautiful creek running through the middle plus a pond. Access is through a locked gate with a gravel timber company road that dead ends into the property. The area around the property is leased and controlled which makes this place

very private. **\$165,000.**

CALL 870-703-1628.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! for READING & SUPPORTING Your Hometown Newspaper- The Nashville News-Leader

BUSINESS SERVICES

MINI STORAGE IN MUR-FREESBORO. 870-845-6304. (gs:4-tf)

Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 202 W. Howard St. Mon., Wed. & Fri. 8 to 9 p.m. Elizabeth 870-949-5833, Warren 870-557-0446, Chad 430-200-7150.

Subscribe to the Nashville News-Leader for only \$45 a year.

SMITH MINI STORAGE
Boat/RV Climate Control
870-845-5075
903-826-3481

PUBLIC NOTICE

2010 CHEVROLET COBALT
 VIN#1G1AD5F56A7162886

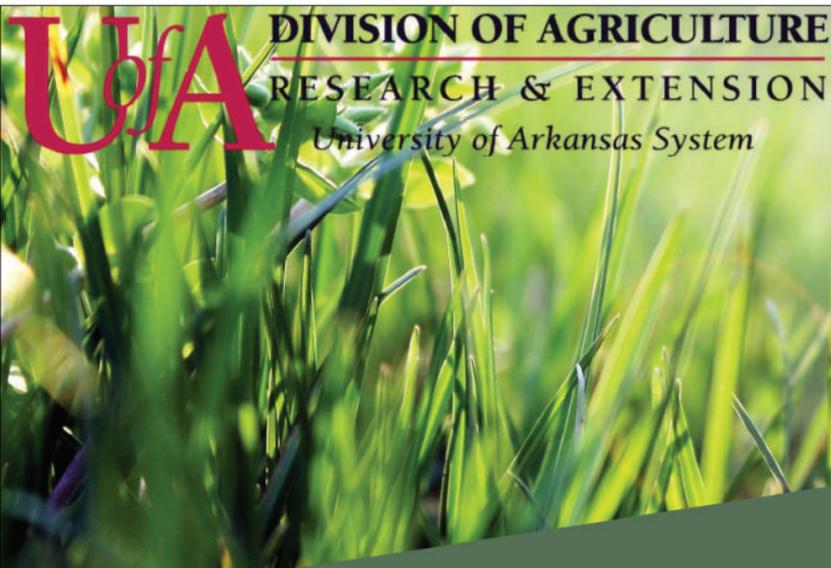
ARE BEING HELD AT BYPASS DIESEL & WRECKER SERVICE, INC. 9224 HWY 278 WEST NASHVILLE, AR 71852, 870-845-1597, DUE TO ABANDONMENT. VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE UNLESS CLAIMED WITHIN 10 DAYS. FAILURE TO RECLAIM VEHICLES WAVES ALL RIGHTS, TITLE, & INTEREST IN ABOVE VEHICLES. VEHICLES MAY BE RECLAIMED DURING BUSINESS HOURS BY PROVIDING OWNERSHIP, AND BY PAYING ALL CHARGES AGAINST VEHICLES. (BD: 34)

PUBLIC NOTICE

The electronic voting equipment to be used in the March 3, 2026, Preferential Primary will be tested and demonstrated on Feb. 9, 2026 at 3:00 pm in the Howard County Courthouse Annex.

Howard County Election Commission:
 James Jones Commissioner,
 Gary White, Commissioner
 Joe Green, Commissioner

(This publication was paid for by the Howard County Clerk. The amount paid for this publication is \$29.70.)



U of A DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION
University of Arkansas System

PESTICIDE APPLICATOR TRAINING

February 19, 2026
@ 9:00 AM

@ the EH House
425 N 2nd Street,
Nashville

Call to Register:
870-845-7517

Cost of the
Class is \$20

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

Howard County man sentenced for internet stalking of child

A Howard County man was sentenced Monday in Pike County Circuit Court for internet stalking of a child.

Dustin Curry, 42, pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to 17 years in the Arkansas Department of Corrections (ADC) with seven years suspended. Curry will be required to register as a sex offender following his release.

An investigation involving Curry started in October 2025 when he contacted the Pike County Sheriff's Department's undercover social media account that portrays to be a 14-year-old female.

Curry eventually made arrangements to meet the

female and was immediately arrested by the sheriff's department and the Murfreesboro Police Department. He admitted to bringing marijuana to the meeting, along with two open bottles of whiskey and a bedsheet.

When arrested, Curry told officers he "knew he messed up" and asked, "can I just plead guilty now and get this over with?"

Also Monday in Pike County court, Charles Harold Christ, 63, of Glenwood, pleaded guilty to deliver of a controlled substance. He was sentenced to 15 years in the ADC with seven years suspended.

Curtis Jay O'Neal, 25, of Kirby, pleaded guilty to possession of controlled substance and was sentenced to four years of probation.

Lacie Scantling, 26, of Caddo Gap, pleaded "true" to violating the terms of probation and had her probation extended for five years, sentenced to 120 days in the county jail and 90 days in "transition housing."

Also Monday, Mary Phillips and Timothy Phillips, the Murfreesboro couple charged with endangering the welfare of a minor, both pleaded innocent to the charge and an April 6 pretrial date was set.

Pike County District Court

Feb. 3, 2026

BF=Bond Forfeited

Pike County

Brauner, Austin Blake, 32, Pittsburg, Kan., \$150 BF, speeding

Canales, Casey M., 39, Glenwood, guilty of failure to register tags/expired, fined \$125

Crum, Wade Staton, 48, Ellington, Miss., \$140 BF, overweight-overwide

Delgado, Miguel Angel, 19, Lockesburg, \$140 BF, no driver's license; \$150 BF, speeding

Dodson, Marsha Renae, 58, Delight, guilty of third-degree battery, fined \$530; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245

Eatmon, Kent Denny, 19, Delight, guilty of speeding, fined \$140

Francis, Jarrid W., 50, Glenwood, \$250 BF, overweight

Gordon, Shelia Ann, 76, Delight, \$200 BF, speeding

Gunn, Jasmine, 27, Hope, \$45 BF, no seat belt

Hickman, Hunter Jackson, 24, Miami, Fla., \$200 BF, speeding

Liu, Ying Chun, 51, Ontario, Calif., \$150 BF, speeding

Lockeby, Nickolas, 30, guilty of fictitious tags, fined \$125; guilty of failure to register tags/expired, fined \$125; guilty of driving with suspended license, fined \$325; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$315; guilty of failure to appear,

fined \$220

Love, Roger Joe, 50, Oden, \$220 BF, failure to pay Lovewell, Justin Allen, 32, Nashville, \$150 BF, speeding

Martin, Kolton Lee, 18, Kirby, guilty of speeding, fined \$140; guilty of drinking in public or on highway, fined \$235; guilty of minor in possession of alcohol, fined \$275 and license suspended for 60 days

Matthews, Leslie Paige, 42, Conway, \$235 BF, open container in motor vehicle

McDade, Donaten Shawn, 16, Glenwood, guilty of speeding, fined \$150

McKinnon, Michael S., 50, Delight, \$250 BF, overweight

Murphy, Lorie E., 52, Delight, guilty of failure to pay, \$1,175 balance; committed to jail; guilty of failure to pay, fined \$205

Pina, Fabian Mercado, 23, Nashville, \$150 BF, speeding

Ross, Ethan Jarod, 23, Glenwood, guilty of possession of controlled substance, fined \$1,090 and license suspended for six months; guilty of disorderly conduct, fined \$235

Salisbury, Homer L. Jr., 74, Blevins, \$140 BF, careless prohibited driving

Stephens, Jared Samuel, 35, Glenwood, \$140 BF, no driver's license

Sutton Dakota Lane, 30, Amity, guilty of driving with suspended license, fined \$340; guilty of no

proof of liability insurance, fined \$330

Vasquez, Roberto Mata, 22, Kirby, \$330 BF, no proof of liability insurance

City of Murfreesboro
Bailey, Lilly Mae, 18, Murfreesboro, guilty of cruelty to animals, fined \$315 with \$480 restitution

Camberos, Martin, 56, Horatio, \$360 BF, driving with suspended license

Davis, Nolan Ryan, 35, Gurdon, \$160 BF, speeding

Nuttall, Dusty, 49, Nashville, \$105 BF, failure to present insurance

Scroggins, Shaniqua S., 34, Nashville, possession of controlled substance, deferred adjudication for 30 days to dismiss, fined \$345

Stangler, Shannon Brandon, 50, Murfreesboro, guilty of cruelty to animals, fined \$315 with \$467 restitution, animals forfeited

Arkansas Game & Fish Commission
Johns, Brandon T., 33, Nahunta, Ga., \$885 BF, hunting from roads prohibited in WMAs

City of Glenwood
Hamilton, Casey Nicole, 28, Kirby, guilty of failure to register tags/expired, fined \$125

Johnson, Caleb Tyler, 18, Glenwood, \$150 BF, city canine/feline ordinance

Lane, Glenn Daleray, 20, Mount Ida, \$160 BF, speeding

Mondragon, Jose Manuel, 68, Lewisville, Texas, \$170 BF, speeding



Howard Memorial Hospital Foundation presents

Hearts for HMMH

Doors open- 5:30 pm
Bingo begins- 7:00 pm

BINGO GO

\$60 entry fee includes:
Hearty Appetizers
Refreshments
10 rounds of bingo with great prizes

Bingo Fun ♥ Live Music ♥ Prizes ♥ Photo Booth

Contact Sandy Webb
(870) 845-8006
sandyw@howardmemorial.com
to purchase tickets or sponsorships.

Saturday, February 14th, 2026
Midtown Social, Nashville, AR
Bring cash to purchase extra bingo rounds and enjoy the live auction



Chambers IT Services

- computer repair
- sales
- network administration
- websites
- PC & Mac Troubleshooting
- commercial business only

Jon Chambers,
Owner/
Operator
870-557-3109
jon@chambersitservices.com

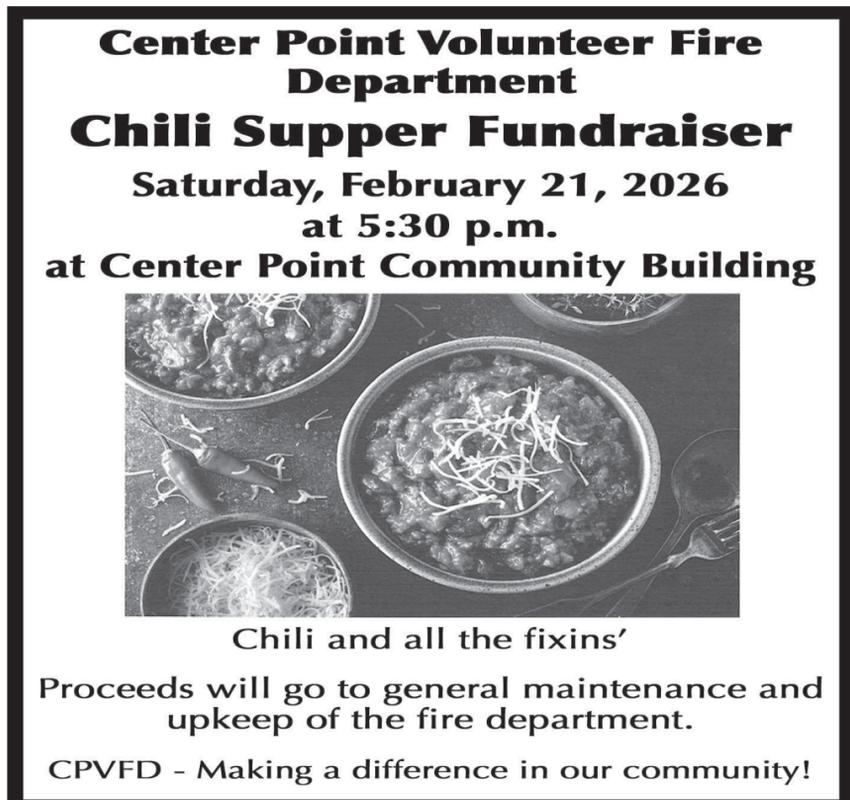


Valentine's Day is Almost HERE!

Fresh flowers,
beautiful gift
baskets, and yummy
Valentine treats
made with love.

Order Today!
870-455-5060

Special Moments
the Shop on Main
Main Street Nashville
across from the Post Office



Center Point Volunteer Fire Department
Chili Supper Fundraiser
Saturday, February 21, 2026
at 5:30 p.m.
at Center Point Community Building



Chili and all the fixins'

Proceeds will go to general maintenance and upkeep of the fire department.

CPVFD - Making a difference in our community!



★ Re-Elect ★
MATT SMITH
Howard County
CORONER
ELECTION MARCH 3, 2026
ELECT EXPERIENCE
25+ YEARS SERVING HOWARD COUNTY FAMILIES
(Political ad paid for by Matt Smith)

Got Local News? Send It Our Way!
The Nashville News-Leader - Your Hometown Newspaper
Office: 418 North Main, Nashville
Email: contact@swarkansasnews.com
Phone: 870-845-0600
Ask About Our Print & Digital Subscriptions!
Thank You for Your Support!