

Leader Board

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Early voting continues for primary

Early voting continues in Howard County for the 2026 Preferential Primary Election at the Carter Day Training Center, N. Main St., Nashville.

Hours include:
Monday through Friday, 8-6.
Saturday, 10-4.

The last day for early voting will be Monday, March 2.

On election day March 3, eligible voters may cast their votes at any of the county's four voting places:

Nashville, at the Carter Day Training Center;

Dierks, at the Dierks Community Center;

Mineral Springs, at the Mineral Springs Methodist Church;

Umpire, at the Umpire Fire Department.

After-hours clinic opens at hospital

Howard Memorial Hospital has opened an after-hours clinic at 132 Medical Circle in the Specialty Clinic on the HMH campus.

Amy Davis, NP, will serve as the provider.

The clinic will be open Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. to treat non-life-threatening medical conditions.

The hospital says the new service "reflects our on-going commitment to expanding access to convenient, high-quality care and further advance our ability to improve the health of the communities we serve."

MS church soup kitchen set Feb. 25

The Mineral Springs Church of Christ soup kitchen will be open Wednesday, Feb. 25, from 2 until 5 p.m.

The menu will include hot dogs, chips and cookies.

Pantry boxes will be available.

The church is located at 318 Bridgeman Drive in Mineral Springs.

For more information, call 870-451-4441.

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District to seek photo firm for '26-27

By John R. Schirmer
News-Leader staff

The Nashville School District likely will have a new photography company for the 2026-27 academic year.

Superintendent Doug Graham told the school board Monday night that the district will advertise the opening and "put it out there to get somebody for 2026-27. We'll get the process started."

The district has employed Lifetouch Photography for a number of years.

During the past two weeks, the company has come under fire for alleged ties between a former executive of Apollo Global Management, Lifetouch's parent firm Shutterfly, and the late Jeffery Epstein.

Lifetouch has said that "none of Apollo's investors, its members or its funds have any role in Lifetouch's daily operations, and no one from Apollo has ever had access to student images."

The company says that Lifetouch is "not named in the Epstein files. The documents contain no allegations that Lifetouch itself was involved in, or that student photos were used in, any illicit activities. No one currently or formerly employed by Apollo has ever had access to any student images or information."



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

RECOGNITION FOR EDUCATOR. Ashton Conrad (left) accepts the Nashville School District's Teacher of the Year Award from Superintendent Doug Graham at the school board meeting Monday night, Feb. 23. Conrad teaches fifth grade math at Nashville Elementary School. (Related photo, page 5A)

Lifetouch informed Graham Feb. 19 that pre-sale pictures for classroom groups at Nashville Primary and Nashville Elementary have been refunded.

NHS yearbook staff members are taking the pictures at the two campuses. Apollo officials "couldn't get our pictures," Graham told the board.

Perceived problems with Lifetouch pre-date the recent questions about any involvement with Epstein's

associates, however.

School employees and parents have raised numerous complaints about the company's service and products.

"Here's the bottom line," Graham said. "For the last several years, Lifetouch has been difficult to work with."

Graham said there are "people locally who would do just fine taking pictures. It would be a good thing to use local people whom our

patrons know and trust. I want to give locals the opportunity."

A number of other districts in Arkansas and nationwide have severed ties with Lifetouch, including Farmington, which said Monday that it is canceling its contract with the company. Farmington cited a lack of transparency from Lifetouch.

In other discussion at

See School • Page 5A

Rumors of ICE unfounded, school says

Rumors about U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents removing a Nashville student from school are untrue, according to Superintendent Doug Graham.

Fueled last week by social media, the rumors said that ICE had gone to school and taken a student into custody.

In fact, the case had "nothing to do with citizenship," Graham said.

Instead, authorities were mandated by law to report on possible problems at home involving a student.

"This was never about immigration," Graham said.

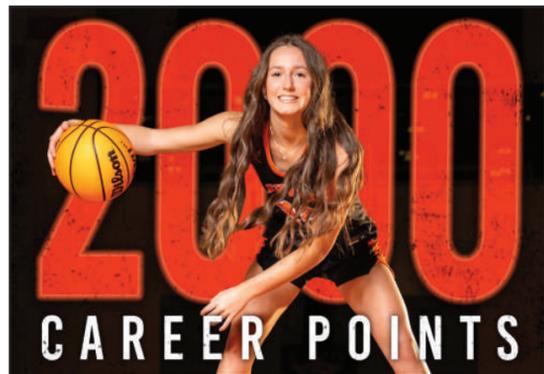
"There is no truth to the ICE rumors" involving a Nashville student, according to Graham.

"The safety and well-being of every student is our highest priority," the district said in a statement.

"Every adult in this district would go to any lengths to protect the students in our care, and we remain committed to ensuring all students feel safe, supported and valued."

"We are also committed to protecting the privacy of our students."

"Because we are legally and ethically required to safeguard information about minors, we cannot share details regarding individual students," Graham said.



MILESTONE. Scrapperette senior Karstyn Scrivner scored career point number 2,000 Friday night, Feb. 20, during Nashville's 77-38 District 7-4A win over Camden Fairview. She reached the 1,000-point mark Dec. 11, 2024, in a victory over Cossatot River in the Nashville Bankers Classic. Scrivner's first eight points came Nov. 10, 2022 as a Jessieville Lady Lion against Cutter. Scrivner signed with Harding University.

Scrapper Arena to host Class 4A South Regional

By John R. Schirmer
News-Leader staff

The Nashville Scrapperettes and Scrapperettes won't have far to travel for the Class 4A South Regional basketball tournament.

Instead, Nashville will host the regional Feb. 25-28 at Scrapper Arena.

The top four teams from District 7-4A will meet the top four from 8-4A.

The Scrapperettes will enter the regional as the top seed from 7-4A. Nashville wrapped up the conference round robin with a 10-0 record.

The Scrapperettes are the number one team in Class 4A, according to the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*. They are ranked eighth overall.

Nashville's only losses came against North Little Rock, Benton and Earle. All are tournament bound. The Scrapperettes' overall record is 26-3.

The Scrapperettes are the two seed from 7-4A.

They are 8-2 after the conference race, with the only losses coming in their two meetings with Magnolia, ranked fifth in Class

4A by the *Democrat-Gazette*.

The regional tips off Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 25.

On the girls side, District 7-4A teams include Nashville, De Queen, Camden Fairview and Arkadelphia.

Teams from 8-4A include Warren, Monticello, Watson Chapel and Star City.

The Scrapperettes will play Star City Wednesday at 7 p.m., with the winner advancing to the regional semifinal at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27.

On the boys side, 7-4A teams are Magnolia, Nashville, Arkadelphia and Camden Fairview.

Teams from 8-4A are Star City, Watson Chapel, Monticello and Hamburg.

For the Scrapperettes, the first regional game will be at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 26 against Monticello. The winner will move on to the semifinals Feb. 27 at 5:30 p.m.

Consolation and championship games will be played Saturday, Feb. 28.

The top four boys and girls teams from the regional will advance to the

See Regional • Page 5A

Nashville aldermen hear ideas from mayor for 2026

By Louie Graves
News-Leader staff

Ambitious ideas for Nashville in 2026 were unveiled Monday during the regular February meeting of the Nashville City Council.

Department heads for the police, parks and fire department gave reports on 2025 activities, but Mayor Larry Dunaway, acting as public works department head, talked about some planned activity for water treatment, sewer and street departments.

Among the projects he proposed was a vacuum cleaning of 100 years of silt from incoming waters into the bottom of Lake Nichols -- the city's old,

shallow reservoir. In particular, he said, was inflow being felt from the 2019 floods. The city is unique in that it uses a siphon to lift water from the lake into the water treatment plant.

Additional river pumps and treatment equipment will significantly boost the city's water treatment and distribution capabilities.

Mayor Dunaway also talked about extension of sidewalks south on Main Street along with associated draining work including smoke testing to discover water inflow spots on the sewer drains.

Other items before the council:

Passage of Ordinance

1000 to amend Ordinance 906 regulating animals in the city. The aldermen had heard a 2025 report from assistant animal control officer Suzanne Gathright of the animal shelter.

A letter of resignation from council member Vivian Wright was read. Wright is resigning effective March 14 and is moving to Little Rock to be near her children. She has served almost 27 years on the council, she said.

Present for the meeting were council members Lynn Dyer, Kathy Combs, Herbert Turley, Charles Pinkston, Kay Gathright, William Turley, Vivian Wright, Phil Jones, Brent Thompson and Donna Harwell.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

ASH WEDNESDAY. Rev. Pam Estes (right) uses ashes to form a cross on Linda Campbell's forehead during Ash Wednesday services Feb. 18 at First United Methodist Church in Nashville. Ash Wednesday traditionally marks the beginning of Lent, the 40-day period leading to Easter. Ashes came from the palm leaves used on Palm Sunday 2025.



Obituaries



Carrie Gale Hill

Mrs. Carrie Gale Hill, age 61, resident of Newhope, Ark., passed away on Thursday, Feb. 19, 2026, peacefully at her home.

Carrie was born on Jan. 28, 1965, in Huntington, Ind. She attended New Hope Freewill Baptist Church and proudly served her community as an active EMT, holding certification number 14568. Carrie dedicated many years to emergency medical service, serving as treasurer of the Arkansas EMS Foundation and as a board member of the Dierks Ambulance Service. In recognition of her commitment and leadership, she was honored as Industrial EMT of the Year in 2002 and previously served in both presidential and secretarial roles within the organization. Throughout her career, Carrie worked at Weyerhaeuser Company as an EMT and then at McFarland Pole Plant in Delight, Ark. She was certified as a CPR and First Aid instructor and took great pride in teaching others lifesaving skills. Outside of her professional life, Carrie enjoyed fishing, spending time at the beach, and riding motorcycles with friends. She deeply loved her family and grandchildren and was a faithful supporter at their sporting events. Carrie remained active in community service and was a dedicated member of the New Hope

Fire Department. She married her lifelong partner in 1980 and was an enthusiastic supporter of the Arkansas Razorbacks and the South Carolina Gamecocks women's basketball team.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Kelsie Ellwood Jester and Alma Fern Flemons Jester Shake, and Ted Shake; one brother, Gary Wayne Jester; one sister, Sherlene Sands; sister-in-law, Teresa Jester; and one brother-in-law, Gary Sands; and by her father and mother-in-law, Billy Joe and Edith Hill.

She is survived by her husband, Jeffrey Hill of Newhope; one daughter, Carrissa Hill of Nashville, Ark.; one son, Dustin Hill (Seth Keller) of Sherwood, Ark.; grandchildren, Harleigh Hill, Haizleigh Hill, and Eli Hill; three brothers, Jeff Jester of Newhope, Ark., Michael Ford of Elkhart, Ind., and Chad Shake of Warren, Ind.; two sisters, Gwen Peters of Newhope and Mondie Hill (Joe) of Newhope; step-sister, Tami Shake of Detroit, Mich.; step-brother, Tim Shake of Roanoke, Ind.; sister-in-law, Brenda Dunlap (Chief) of Newhope; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Funeral services for Mrs. Hill were held at 10 a.m., Monday, Feb. 23, 2026, in the Newhope Freewill Baptist Church with Bro. Brian Hill and Bro. Nathaniel Simms officiating. Burial followed in the Bissell Chapel Cemetery, under the direction of Wilkerson Funeral home in De Queen.

The family received friends at the Newhope Freewill Baptist Church from 6-8 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 22, 2026.

In lieu of flowers, all donations may be made to the Arkansas EMS Foundation, 500 Amity Rd.; Suite 5B-83,

Conway, AR 72032, in honor of Carrie Hill.

You may leave a condolence online at www.wilker-sonfuneralhomes.com.

David William Sackett

David William Sackett, 84, of Nashville died Friday, Feb. 20, 2026, in Nashville. He was born Nov. 22, 1941, in Union Town, Penn., the son of the late Hugh Sackett and Anna Miller Sackett.

He was a welder.

He was preceded in death by his son, Marty Kenyon, two brothers and two sisters.

Survivors include: his wife, Mary Ann Sackett; children, David Allen Sackett, William Ward Sackett, Marc Rice, Matt Warner, David Warner, Dale Warner and Wendy Lee Church; his sister, Judy Eckert; also grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Cremation arrangements are under the direction of Latimer Funeral Home of Nashville.

Online at latimerfuneralhome.com.

David Brent Mahaffey

David Brent Mahaffey, 61, of Camden, formerly of Nashville, died Saturday, Feb. 21, 2026.

He was born Aug. 21, 1964, in Camden, the son of David Mahaffey and the late Hazel Tuberville Mahaffey.

He was a member of Immanuel Baptist Church in Camden.

Survivors include: his wife, Becky Mahaffey of Camden; a son, Blake Mahaffey and wife, Jessica of Camden; daughter, Kaitlyn Mahaffey McGee and husband, Charles of Pea Ridge; a brother, John Mahaffey of Camden; also grandchildren.

Services were at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 24, at Proctor Funeral Home in Camden with Bro. David Collins officiating.



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES. Father Salvador Vega, pastor at St. Martin's Catholic Church in Nashville, distributes ashes at Ash Wednesday mass. In the background is parishioner Felipe Ornelas who assisted.



BLACK HISTORY PRESENTATION. Shawnirika Thurman presented a program on black history at last week's meeting of the Nashville Rotary Club. She closed out her program with musical selections. The club meets at noon on Wednesdays in Room 101 on the campus of UA-Cossatot. (Photo submitted by Glenn Lance)

FINANCIAL FOCUS by Josh Tice, Edward Jones Investments

Unlock the full potential of your 401(k)

Your 401(k) is one of the most powerful tools for securing your financial future. The question is: Are you using it to its full potential?

Here are some strategies to help you maximize its benefits:

- Earn your employer's match. It's a good idea to contribute as much as you can afford to your 401(k) plan. (In 2026, you can put in up to \$24,500, or \$32,500 if you're 50 or older. If your plan allows, there's also a "super catch-up" contribution of \$11,250 for people aged 60 to 63, for a total contribution limit of \$35,750). At least put in enough to earn a matching contribution if one is offered. Otherwise, you're shortchanging yourself. For example: Your employer matches 50% of your contribution up to \$5,000. If put in \$8,000, your employer's 50% match is \$4,000, and you're leaving \$1,000 "on the table."

- Give your plan a raise. When your income increases, consider increasing contributions to your 401(k). When you get a bonus or a tax refund, you could use some or all of that to boost your retirement savings.

- Evaluate the Roth option. When you invest in a traditional 401(k), you contribute pre-tax dollars, lowering your taxable income that year. Your earnings grow tax-deferred and are taxed when you withdraw. If your employer offers a Roth 401(k), you contribute after-tax dollars, so your taxable income doesn't drop that year. However, withdrawals in retirement, contributions and earnings alike, are generally tax-free. (Employer matching contributions and related earnings remain taxable.) If you expect a higher tax bracket in retirement or want to diversify tax treatment for flexibility in re-

irement, consider the Roth option. In 2026, the Roth option must be used for catch-up contributions if you earn more than \$150,000 and you are 50 or older. Consult your tax advisor before deciding.

- Build an appropriate investment mix. You may have multiple investment options in your 401(k). The driving principle early on is growth so your plan can fund a long retirement. But growth-oriented investments are naturally riskier than fixed-income vehicles. When starting your career, you may prefer a portfolio weighted toward aggressive growth, as you have years to recover from downturns. Nearing retirement, though, consider shifting to a more conservative mix. A financial advisor can help you choose an appropriate mix at different stages, based on your risk tolerance, time horizon and goals.

- Keep your plan intact. At times, you may feel a financial pinch that leads you to consider taking out loans or early withdrawals from your 401(k). However, this can cause you to incur taxes and penalties and will likely slow the growth needed to help reach your retirement savings goals. Taking steps to prepare for unexpected expenses, such as building an emergency fund containing three to six months' worth of living expenses, can help you avoid dipping into your 401(k). You may also be able to find other ways to access cash.

By following these steps, you can unlock the full potential of your 401(k) and position it as a cornerstone of your retirement income. Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult your attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.

The Nashville News-Leader

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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

134 years ago: February 1892

W. H. Pincard, U.S. Marshall of Paris, Texas and Cally Dollarhide, Deputy Sheriff of Sevier County, arrived here Wednesday night with a prisoner arrested for killing a man at Eagletown in the Indian Territory about Christmas.

This is one of the men who were shot by the posse while resisting arrest a few weeks ago. The officers left on the early train Thursday for Paris.

124 years ago: February 1902

Judge Feazel this afternoon at Centre Point sentenced Lathe Hambree to hang at this place on Friday March 28, 1902. A motion for a new trial was overruled but an appeal for a new trial was granted.

Pink Smith, a white man, was arrested in this city by Marshal Gibson and constable Martindale yesterday, upon the charge of kidnaping his daughter, Malinda

Smith, 11 years of age, from her mother at Ultamathule. The arrest was made upon a warrant from Sevier County.

Smith was entering the city in a wagon when the arrest was made and had the girl with him, but he denied that he was the man wanted and the girl refused at first to give the officers any information.

Smith and the girl were taken to Centre Point yesterday to be delivered to officers from Sevier County. Before leaving for Centre Point, the girl told a citizen of Nashville that her name was Jones instead of Smith and that her mother had given her to Smith.

94 years ago: February 1932

A windstorm occurred in this section Wednesday night, doing considerable damage to roofs and timber all over the section. No injuries had been reported.

Reports from the Pope farm at Buck Range state that the roofs were blown

off two tenant houses and a large hay barn there. It is also reported that part of the roof was blown from a house on the Murray Orchard near Center Point.

A tree was blown across the electric high line which serves Nashville, near Dierks, cutting off the lights in the city until local employees could locate the trouble and repair it.

44 years ago: February 1982

The E-Z Mart in Nashville was robbed early Tuesday morning by a man with a gun. He took \$50 in \$1 and \$5 bills from the cash drawer at the convenience store that is open 24 hours.

The robbery took place at approximately 1:45 a.m. Tuesday when a tall, dark complected male asked the clerk for change. Clerk Karla Reese of Mineral Springs opened the cash drawer and the man reached inside. She shut the drawer on his hand, then he showed her the gun and said that it was a hold up.



Odessa and Arthur Hicks retired in May 1973 from the Nashville High School faculty. Mrs. Hicks taught 30 different subjects before retiring as librarian. Mrs. Hicks served as counselor for a number of years. The couple had a combined 77 years at NHS.

Note: Nashville High School sophomores in Arthur Hicks' Occupations class were required to memorize and recite the following poem:

Be the Best of Whatever You Are By Douglas Malloch

If you can't be a pine on the top of the hill,
Be a scrub in the valley — but be
The best little scrub by the

side of the rill;
Be a bush if you can't be a tree.

If you can't be a bush be a bit of the grass,
And some highway happier make;
If you can't be a muskie then just be a bass —
But the liveliest bass in the lake!

We can't all be captains,
We've got to be crew,

There's something for all of us here,
There's big work to do, and there's lesser to do,
And the task you must do is the near.

If you can't be a highway then just be a trail,
If you can't be the sun be a star;
It isn't by size that you win or you fail —
Be the best of whatever you are!

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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.

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Public Record of Howard County

Items or documents that were filed, issued or recorded at the Howard County, Arkansas courthouse during the period of Feb. 12-18, 2026, unless noted otherwise, included the following:

Marriage Licenses
(Marriage licenses cost \$60 at the County Clerk's office)
No marriage licenses were issued during the period.

Civil Court
CV26-24, Feb. 16. LVNO Funding, LLC, vs. Cindy Hudgins. Debt.

CV26-25, Feb. 16. LVNO Funding, LLC, vs. Hannah Hawthorne. Debt.

CV26-26, Feb. 16. LVNO Funding, LLC, vs. William Turner. Debt.

CV26-27, Feb. 16. LVNO Funding, LLC, vs. Justin Hawthorne (sic). Debt.

Domestic Relations Court
No new Domestic Relations cases filed since DR26-

16, Feb. 10.
Criminal Court
(NOTE: POCS = possession of controlled substance; PODP = possession of drug paraphernalia; DOCS = delivery of controlled substance)
CR26-08, Feb.17. State of Arkansas vs. Jeramie Montrell Pugh, 26, back male, 610 S. Washington, Nashville; DOCS, class Y.

Land/Property Transactions
Quitclaim Deeds
Feb.13. James S. Lindsey, Jr., aka James Lindsey, Jr., and wife, Danielle W. Eggers-Lindsey, fka Danielle Eggers-Morris; to James S. Lindsey, Jr., and wife, Danielle W. Eggers-Lindsey; Lots 10-11-12, Block 8, Wilson & Ferguson Addition, Town of Nashville.

Feb.13. Tanya Gosnell; to Kevin Gosnell; Lot 10 and part of Lot 11, Block 5, Murray's 2nd Addition, of Dierks.

Warranty Deeds

Feb. 12. Jonathan Dalrymple and Tammie Dalrymple, husband and wife; to Isai N. Cortez and Ishby R. Cortez; Joint Tenants; 3.53 ac.in S11 T6S R29W. \$18,845.

Feb. 12. David E. Ray; to Cody Tedford; 1 ac. in S36 T8S R28W. \$2,000.

Feb. 12. Lisa Slinkard and husband, Randall K. Slinkard and William Alton Goodrum by and thru his attorney-in-fact, Lisa Slinkard; to Tyler Wayne Dove; 2 tracts, aggregate 80 ac. in S12 T9S R27W. \$250,000.

Feb. 17. Richard Weishner and wife, Cynthia Weishner; to Brandon Dunlop Howard and wife, Stephanie Wannabea Howard; 9.93 ac. in S28 T5S R30W. \$120,000.

Feb. 18. Glenda Peden, survivor of an estate with Ronald Peden, deceased; to William Wayne Wheeler; Lot 2, Block 18, with exceptions, Original town of Dierks. \$18,000.

Two sentenced after pleas

Two defendants pleaded true to failure to meet the terms of their sentences of probation on previous convictions, during a brief day of criminal court, last Wednesday.

On the bench for the regular day of criminal court was Judge Tom Cooper.

Two sentenced
Marquis King, 33, black male, Nashville, was on probation for a 2018 conviction for delivery of controlled substance. He was sentenced to 60 days in a regional punishment facility.

Michael Waterbury, 39, white male, Nashville, was on probation for a 2020 conviction for being a felon in possession of a firearm. He was sentenced to a \$500 fine and three years further suspension of sentence.

Failure to appear warrants were ordered for

Aiden Carter Evans, 20, white male, Nashville, who missed his court dates on two charges.

He was charged in 2025 for possessing or pandering visual or print medium

depicting sexually explicit conduct involving a child, a class D felony. In 2023 he was charged with theft of property.

When arrested Evans will be jailed with no bond set.

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Point of view

Early blooming? Idiot makes annual guess at progress of Spring

YES, I AM STILL HERE peeking out my window on Main Street, and am I the only one who is alarmed at what I believe is the early appearance of spring blooms?

Yellowbells are flagrant yellow. Flowering Quince is its usual shameless red.

Bradford Pears are budding, and the petals of Tulip Trees are already littering the ground.

Another Spring Bloomer I really like is Spirea. I've long admired the white blooms but I've recently learned that it comes in many colors.

I've not had much luck with Spirea which means that I've planted it mucho times in many different spots. I memorized the instructions which said it was real easy to grow and to maintain. "So simple even an idiot can grow it," the instructions said.

But I digress, and we were communicating about cold weather delivering a sneak punch on early Spring bloomers.

So, is it unusually early?

Maybe the blooming activity is at the right time, and it's just me that is 'off.'

And really, the only thing for either of us to worry about is if the peaches get caught thinking it's Spring only to get blindsided by a burst of Winter sneaking in unseen from the Starboard side.

I've already had one neighbor tell me that he was anxiously anticipating the arrival of pink blooms on the Japanese Cherry Blossom Tree in my front yard.

It's a tough tree. As a sapling it even survived sitting in a dark corner of a US Post Office regional facility for a couple of weeks while the mails were frozen in the aftermath of Sept. 11, 2001.



NOT ALWAYS dry desert.

An article in the recent issue of "Smithsonian" magazine speculates that in a few millennia or so the Great Sahara Desert will have trees and flowers and grasses again. We've (humanity) always known that a few millennia ago it was that way. It sure ain't that way now. The Sahara is the greatest desert on the face of the Earth, and has been for a looooooong time.

But these are scholarly types that are predicting the green return, not the lying liberal media.

Scholarly types have found fossils of sea creatures hidden among the rocks and sands, so we know that things were once very different in the Great Sahara Desert.

I place my hopes with the scholarly types who observe the kind of teensy changes that makes them think the Sahara will return to the green.

I won't be here, and I sincerely hope humans will be, although sometimes I have doubts.

Another way we know that the Sahara was once very different is in the rock art by tribal artists. Some of it has been around for a loooong time. There are artistic rock engravings that depict animals which have never even seen a desert, much less lived in one.

But, it's other things that make the scholarly types believe a green change is coming.

I would try to explain but I'm sure you wouldn't be interested. Millennia means 1,000 years.



WHERE ARE THEY? I sometimes still lose sleep over the whereabouts of Amelia Earhardt and Jimmy Hoffa. I hate to keep asking about this.

I no longer think either of them will be found mostly intact. Amelia's remains were probably eaten by crabs, and Jimmy likely has a lungful of concrete. Rewards are still being offered, however, so there will always be people who are looking.

If you have any information please send me a message in care of the Lost Sleep Hotline.



THIS YEAR Lent (Christians) and Ramadan (Muslims) coincide. Many Christians traditionally fast and give up something for Lent.

Pope Leo suggests that Christians might consider giving up hateful words for Lent.

I don't know if Muslims also give up anything for Ramadan.

I suppose they could give up beheading Christians.

I seriously doubt if there are many Muslims who are giving up M&M Peanuts.



MORE THINGS I LEARNED from opening an email: WRINKLES -- Something other people have similar to what I call my character lines.



WORD GAMES. I love oxymorons: Honest, Officer. I wasn't napping at the spotlight. I was having a waking dream (really napping).



HE SAID: "You don't have the same mentality as you did five years ago -- even one year. People are always changing, and I believe that everyone deserves the space to change and for people to recognize their change." Bad Bunny, stage name for a mid-level talent from Puerto Rico



SHE SAID: "I was too old for a paper route, too young for Social Security and too tired for an affair." Erma Bombeck, witty newspaper columnist from Chicago



SWEET DREAMS, Baby

Mine Creek Revelations



By Louie Graves

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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

State aims to speed up process of permitting by loosening regulations

By State Sen. Jimmy Hickey Jr.

To improve efficiency within state government, Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders, signed an executive order this week to streamline permitting. The executive order is part of the Governor's Arkansas Forward initiative to save money and improve efficiency. Consequently, this will help refine government processes and expedite permits to protect natural resources and foster economic growth. State agencies are now required to review their processes around permitting and then submit a plan on how to expedite permits.

The governor stated, "Arkansas is one of the best states in the nation to start, build, and grow a business -- but we have to do better to compete across the country and globe. This will help to add transparency and speed up our permitting process to ensure major economic development projects aren't held up by unnecessary red tape."

The executive order will require

each cabinet-level state agency, board, or commission that issues permits, licenses, certifications, or other regulatory approvals to conduct a comprehensive review of all such processes within 120 days. Findings may include unnecessary steps that can be eliminated, consolidated, or digitized; laws or regulations that slow down the processing of permits and ways to expedite permits using artificial intelligence.

Specific agencies mentioned in the executive order include the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Energy and Environment, the Department of Labor and Licensing, and the Department of Health.

Within 180 days of the new order, these agencies must submit a written improvement plan to the governor's office outlining their current performance metrics and proposed improvements. Agencies will be required to establish timelines available to the public for all major permits and licenses,

develop "one-stop" online application portals, expand concurrent reviews across agencies, and provide applicants with real-time status updates and single points of contact.

"The Department of Labor and Licensing applauds the Governor's business-friendly approach and will continue to improve its user-friendly licensing procedures by expanding its online, interactive licensing platform as funding permits," said Arkansas Secretary of Labor and Licensing Daryl Basset. "The Department works closely with Arkansas businesses to provide the licensing resources and assistance needed to foster the state's economic growth and prosperity."

In 2024, Governor Sanders established Arkansas Forward, outlining at least \$300 million in potential cost savings and cost avoidance across five main areas: information technology, procurement, fleet management, personnel, and real estate.

State's rice farmers among those needing government assistance

By U.S. Sen. John Boozman

Arkansas is the nation's top rice producer, uniquely positioning it as a leader in research, innovation and conservation practices that improve efficiency and sustainability for producers.

Rice is a way of life in the state. It represents generations of hard work, resilience and stewardship of the land. For many communities, it's a driver of local economies and a source of pride.

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Arkansas Rice Federation.

For decades, the organization has been a dependable advocate and steady leader, championing policies that support farmers, millers and the many businesses connected to this vital sector. Its work has helped ensure that Arkansas remains at the forefront of rice production in the United States and competitive in the global marketplace.

That leadership is critical. Rice-related employment supports more than 25,000 Arkansas jobs and contributes more than \$6 billion annually to the state's economy.

With so much at stake, rice farmers make it a point to meet and discuss challenges and opportunities facing the industry.

The most recent meeting occurred earlier this month at the Northeast Rice Research & Extension Center in Harrisburg. In addition to remarks by Governor

Sanders, participants heard from a congressional panel that included my staff from the Senate Agriculture Committee. These conversations help guide the committee's work in Washington.

Arkansas farmers have now endured three consecutive years of the worst farm economy in modern history.

Rising input costs, increasing inflation, extreme weather, volatile markets and uncertainty make long-term planning incredibly difficult.

Despite those challenges, farm families are resilient. I'm proud to support them and deliver the tools and resources necessary to strengthen Arkansas agriculture so they can continue growing our nation's food and fiber.

We helped secure \$31 billion in economic and disaster assistance in December 2024 and made generational investments in rural America through the Working Families Tax Cuts, signed into law last summer.

This landmark legislation answered the calls of Arkansas farmers, delivering a stronger farm safety net by increasing reference prices and payment limits to ensure the program better reflects today's economic realities.

We secured 30 million new voluntary base acres, a critical update that better aligns farm programs with current production and strengthens crop insurance while lowering the cost -- reinforcing

one of the most important risk management tools available to rice producers.

We also enhanced funding for agricultural trade promotion programs, helping open new markets and expand demand for U.S.-grown rice around the world.

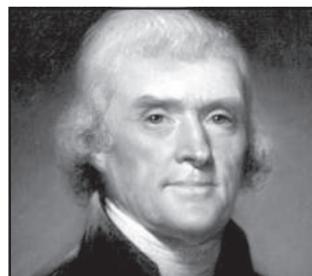
Additionally, two months ago, the Farmer Bridge Assistance Program was established to help farmers make it to the fall when they will see an improved farm safety net take effect.

These are reasons to be hopeful, but more needs to be done.

That's why I'm continuing to advocate for additional farm assistance. Senator John Hoeven (R-ND), Chairman of the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee, and I developed a package that builds upon the administration's work to support rural America and responds to the immediate financial concerns so farmers have the bankable and timely assistance they need to plan for next crop season.

I remain committed to working with my colleagues to help them understand the urgency in approving this lifeline. We're looking at every opportunity to move this package.

As Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, I'm committed to keeping Arkansas as the leader in rice production and advancing policies that support our farmers and strengthen the future of agriculture in our 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

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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/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

School board members visit Nashville Elementary teacher Ashton Conrad after she was named the district's Teacher of the Year at this week's board meeting. The group includes (front) Conrad; (back) board president Jerry Wilson and members David Hilliard, Nick Britt, Tem Gunter and Anthony Whitmore. Superintendent Doug Graham made the presentation. Conrad's husband Caleb and children Casey and Campbell attended the meeting.

School

Continued from page 1A

the meeting, members approved the district's calendar for 2026-27.

The calendar mirrors the hybrid schedule in use for the current academic year, Graham said.

Teachers will report for professional development July 23-31, with open house set July 30.

Classes will begin Aug. 3. Breaks include the following:

- Sept. 7-11, Labor Day
- Oct. 12-14, fall break
- Nov. 9, student holiday
- Nov. 23-27, Thanksgiving
- Dec. 21-Jan. 4, Christmas
- Jan. 18, Martin Luther King Jr. holiday
- Feb. 12-16, winter break
- March 22-26, spring break set by state
- April 16 and 19, Easter
- Graduation will be Friday, May 21, 2027.

The last day of school will be May 27.

The calendar includes 178 days for students.

Many schools across Arkansas, including Nashville, missed at least a week because of inclement weather in late January.

Nashville made up three of the days by canceling winter break and will use the two days around Easter to take care of the other two.

For the 2026-27 academic year, 10 minutes will be added to the school day to build up enough hours to cover up to five days missed because of weather.

If the days are not used, school would dismiss before May 27.

Graham said he has "never been a fan of the four-day school week," but he directed the district's Personnel Policies Committee to "look at it" for 2027-28.

The current calendar has received "lots of compliments from patrons. They like it," Graham said.

Graham reviewed the financial report for January. The district has an operating balance of about \$6.8 mil-

lion, he said.

The building fund has about \$7.4 million.

The board re-employed the following administrators: James Nichols, transportation, maintenance director and athletic director; Tate Gordon, assistant superintendent; Ashley Riggs, high school principal; Hannah Topor, junior high principal; Tyra Hughes, elementary principal; Nathan Evans, primary principal; and Kim Slayton, curriculum coordinator.

Assistant principals, faculty and staff employment will be dealt with in future meetings.

Resignations were accepted from head cross country coach Mikayla Clift, high school nurse Stephanie Hendry and ALE para-professional Ray Rogers.

Kaylie Hignight was hired as assistant trap coach.

Nashville Elementary math teacher Ashton Conrad was named the district's Teacher of the Year. See related pictures on page 1A and 5A.

Regional

Continued from page 1A

state Class 4A tournament starting March 3 at Morilton.

Championship games in all classifications will be played March 12-14 at Bank OZK Arena in Hot Springs.

Both Nashville teams wrapped up the regular season with conference wins.

The Scrapperettes defeated Arkadelphia 67-36 on

the road Feb. 17

They returned to Scrapper Arena for Senior Night Feb. 20 and beat Fairview 77-38.

Senior Karstyn Scrivner reached the 2,000 career points mark in the second quarter of the victory over Fairview.

The Scappers held off a late Arkadelphia rally Feb. 17 to defeat the Badgers 65-58.

They won their Senior Night game over Fairview 81-31.

Under Arkansas Activities association rules, all tickets for the regional and state tournaments must be purchased online from GoFan.co.

To order, enter gofan.co. From there, enter Nashville in the line to search for school, mascot or city. Follow instructions from there.

Tickets are \$7 each.

Fans must show their tickets on their phones in order to enter the games.

School passes will not be accepted.

Ralph Gross Baseball Camp set March 7

PRO-DAY Baseball will host the Ralph Gross Memorial Baseball Camp Saturday, March 7, from 9-11:30 am at the Scrapper Dome Indoor Facility on the campus of Nashville High School, according to Jeff Gross, founder of PRO-DAY Baseball and son of the late Ralph Gross.

Players ages 8-14 years will learn hitting, fielding, pitching and base-running from the former Texas Rangers/Chicago Cubs scout during the session.

Gross has worked in baseball on both the professional and minor league levels along with coaching college baseball at the University of Arkansas/Monticello and Pensacola Junior College. Since he founded PRO-

DAY Baseball in 1989, he has helped hundreds of players advance into professional baseball and with many others going on to receive scholarships to play college baseball.

Current/recent Major League players he has been associated with include: 9-time Gold Glove Winner Torii Hunter (Minnesota Twins), Travis Wood (Chicago Cubs), Justin & BJ Upton (Atlanta Braves), John Buck (Seattle Mariners), Stephen Drew (Boston Red Sox) and Billy Sadler (San Francisco Giants) to name a few.

Held during the Ralph Gross Memorial Baseball Tournament, the camp is named in memory of the 1952 Nashville High gradu-

ate who was a five-star athlete in baseball, basketball, football, track and tennis.

The money raised from this camp helps go to a student-athlete each year at Nashville High who plans to go off to college to continue their education while playing sports.

The Ralph Gross Athletic Scholarship Award has been presented annually since 2003.

The cost of the camp is \$40 and participants are limited, so sign-up early.

Players need to bring gloves, any other equipment needed and wear tennis shoes on the artificial turf field.

Register at prodaybaseball.com



Ralph Gross Memorial Baseball Camp



Coming to Nashville
Scrapper Dome
Sat. March 7th
Cost: \$40
Ages: 8-14
9:00-11:30 am

Hitting/Fielding/Pitching
Sign-up Today - \$prodaybaseball

City of Nashville Financial Statement Year Ended 12/31/2025

GENERAL FUND			
Balance December 31, 2024			\$ 1,756,968
Cash Receipts:			
State Turnback	\$ 61,706		
County Property Tax	\$ 271,425		
City Sales Tax	\$ 1,718,830		
County Sales Tax	\$ 1,072,565		
Fees	\$ 6,949		
Grant Revenues	\$ 57,625		
Interest	\$ 30,647		
Court Revenue	\$ 74,669		
Misc. Revenue	\$ 283,408		
Other sources	\$ 173,709		
Total Receipts	\$ 3,751,533		
Total General Fund Available:		\$ 5,508,501	
Expenditures:			
Administration	\$ 873,990		
Police Dept.	\$ 1,770,077		
Fire Dept.	\$ 567,103		
Park	\$ 611,464		
Sales Tax	\$ 137,728		
Code Enforcement	\$ 78,594		
Finance	\$ 88,688		
City Clerk/ Treas.	\$ 62,263		
Total Expenditures		\$ 4,189,907	
Balance General Fund December 31, 2025			\$ 1,318,594
STREET FUND			
Balance December 31, 2024			\$ 43,520
Cash Receipts:			
State Turnback	\$ 350,929		
County Road Tax	\$ 73,399		
Fees	\$ - 0		
Interest	\$ 757		
Misc. Revenue	\$ 61,960		
Other Sources	\$ 526,654		
Total Receipts	\$ 1,013,699		
Total Street Fund Available:		\$ 1,057,219	
Expenditures:			
Personnel	\$ 310,704		
Services	\$ 81,386		
Mat. & Supplies	\$ 16,305		
Rep. & Maint.	\$ 119,321		
Other & Misc.	\$ 3,292		
Capital Outlay	\$ 478,181		
Total Expenditures:		\$ 1,009,189	
Balance Street Fund December 31, 2025			\$ 48,030
WATER AND SEWER FUND			
Balance December 31, 2024			\$ 2,257,516
Cash Receipts:			
Sales Tax-Water	\$ 207,550		
Water Revenue	\$ 3,664,735		
Fines/Fees	\$ 49,496		
Interest	\$ 66,234		
Misc. Rev	\$ 1,511,308		
Other Sources	\$ 104,549		
Total Receipts	\$ 5,603,872		
Total Water Fund Available		\$ 7,861,388	
Expenditures:			
Administration	\$ 1,968,909		
Water Office	\$ 156,456		
Water Plant	\$ 1,065,523		
Distribution	\$ 368,793		
Wastewater	\$ 1,562,455		
Pre-treatment	\$ 10,997		
Total Expenditures		\$ 5,133,133	
Balance Water & Sewer December 31, 2025			\$ 2,728,255
Bond Indebtedness December 31, 2025			
Series 2003 Water & Sewer Revenue Bond \$5,000,000.00 Original			
Balance as of December 31, 2025 \$2,170,479.00			
Date Free of Debt April 2035			
Series 2014 Sales and Use Tax Refunding Bonds \$1,760,000.00			
Balance as of December 31, 2025 \$643,037.00			
Date Free of Debt November 2030			
City of Nashville, AR Water and Sewer Revenue Bond \$6,870,000.00			
Balance as of December 31, 2025 \$5,418,578.49			
Date Free of Debt September 2053			
Series 2019 Water and Sewer Revenue Bond \$1,100,000.00			
Balance as of December 31, 2025 \$897,826.00			
Date Free of Debt April 2041			
Series 2019B Water and Sewer Revenue Bond \$411,000.00			
Balance as of December 31, 2025 \$228,586.00			
Date Free of Debt April 2031			
Series 2025 Water and Sewer Revenue Bond \$12,079,207.00			
Balance as of December 31, 2025 \$12,079,207.00			
Date Free of Debt July 2046			
All the financial records of the City of Nashville, AR are public records and are available for inspection during regular business hours of 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Monday through Friday at the Finance Dept. in City Hall, 426 N. Main, Nashville, AR. If the records are in active use or in storage and are not available at the time, the custodian shall notify the applicant and shall set a time within three (3) business days when the records can be available for inspection or copy.			
Kimberly Green Finance Director			
This publication was paid for by The City of Nashville Finance Dept for \$405			

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The Ralph Gross Memorial Baseball Camp will be Saturday, March 7, at the Scrapper Dome. The camp is part of the annual Ralph Gross Memorial Baseball Tournament at Wilson Park.



News-Leader photo/NIKKI FIELDS

DISTRICT CHAMPIONS. The Dierks senior Lady Outlaws will carry their undefeated conference record to the regional tournament this week in Hampton after topping the 7-2A District Tournament in Spring Hill last week. The team (14-0/27-5) were scheduled to play Hampton at 7 p.m. on Feb. 25. Team members include (front from left) Presley Pugh, Aspen Pugh, Ryleigh Simmons, Lilly Hogg, Ali Shelton, manager Katelyn Moore, Archer Stewart, Fielder Stewart; (back) Coach Taylor Collum, manager Krissy Icenhower, Milee Harrison, Raylie Walston, Addison Hill, Savannah Tedford, Delannie Hawthorne, manager Linnea Thompson, Coach Leslie Simmons and Coach Will Stewart.



News-Leader photo/NIKKI FIELDS

THIRD IN CONFERENCE. The Dierks senior Outlaws (9-5/21-11) finished third in the 7-2A conference standings and runners-up at the district tournament in Spring Hill. The Outlaws are scheduled to enter regional play at Hampton Feb. 26 at 5:30 against Woodlawn. Team members include (front from left) Coach Taylor Collum, Harrison Simmons, Maclane Smith, Ben Ernest, Bryar Janes, Peyton Boeckman, Kolton Gadbury, Johnny Kirby, Jacoby Faulkner, Madden Hill, Hunter Glasgow, Jacob Runyan, Bentley Glasgow, Coach Will Stewart; (back) Javion Chapman, Maxton Greene, Konner Jones, Griffin Shankles and Eligah Hawthorne.

The Mineral Springs senior Lady Hornets (7-5/10-11) will enter 4-1A Regional Tournament at Emerson on Thursday, Feb. 27 at 7:00 against Lafayette County.
 The MS senior Hornets (7-4/11-10) did not qualify for the regional tournament and finished the season in fourth place.

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GOOD LUCK TO THE
 NASHVILLE SCRAPPERS & SCRAPERETTES,
 DIERKS OUTLAWS & LADY OUTLAWS
 MINERAL SPRINGS LADY HORNETS AND UMPIRE LADY WILDCATS
 IN THE 4A, 2A & 1A REGIONAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS!

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Scrapper, Scrapperette seniors honored

News-Leader photos/JOHN R. SCHIRMER



Scrapperette senior manager Niasia Gilliam, her family and Coach Paul Dean



Scrapperette senior Angel Watson, her family and Coach Paul Dean



Scrapperette senior Karstyn Scrivner, her family and Coach Paul Dean



Scrapperette senior Emma Chambers, her family and Coach Paul Dean



Scrapperette senior Sofia McCauley, her family and Coach Paul Dean



Scrapperette senior Lyris Bennett, her family and Coach Paul Dean



Scrapper senior manager MyKayla Marks, her family and Coach Aaron Worthen



Scrapper senior manager Serenity Hainey, her family and Coach Aaron Worthen



Scrapper senior manager Laney Pate, her family and Coach Aaron Worthen



Scrapper senior KJ Coulter, his family and Coach Aaron Worthen



Scrapper senior Johnthe Taylor, his family and Coach Aaron Worthen



Scrapper senior Austin Finley, his family and Coach Aaron Worthen



Scrapper senior Cortez Cooper, his family and Coach Aaron Worthen



Scrapper senior Demetrus Shelley, his family and Coach Aaron Worthen

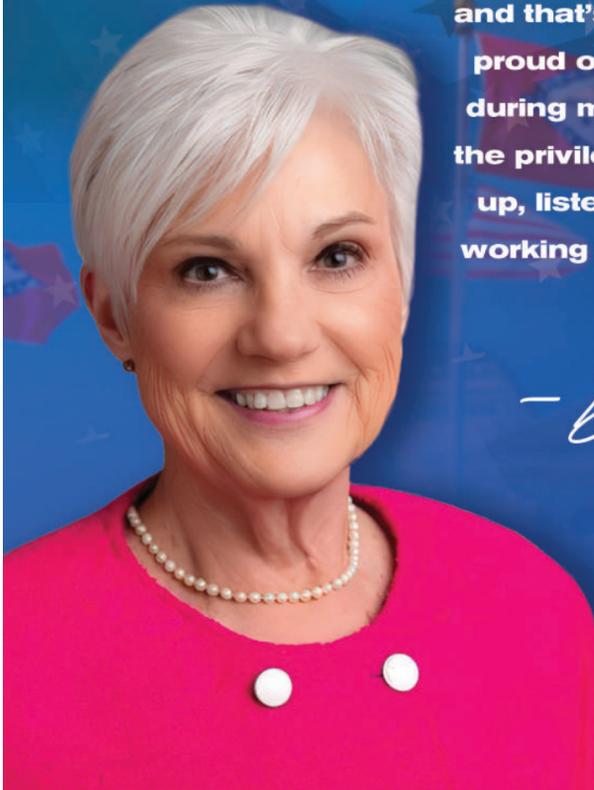
Senior Night Friday, Feb. 20 @ Scrapper Arena

DOLLY HENLEY: PROVEN LEADERSHIP FOR SOUTHWEST ARKANSAS

When I first ran, I promised to put Southwest Arkansas first...

and that's exactly what I've done. I am proud of the work I've accomplished during my first term. As long as I have the privilege to serve, I'll keep showing up, listening to my constituents, and working hard to make District 88 even stronger for all of us.

- Dolly Henley



Paid for by Dolly Henley for State Representative

Early Voting: February 17 • Election Day: March 3

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SPORTS LEADERS

Players of the Week as selected by The Leader sports department

Area teams advancing to regionals

Regional basketball tournaments will be played this week for schools in Class 1A, 2A and 4A. Area teams participating in regionals include Nashville Scrapppers and Scrapperettes, Dierks Outlaws and Lady Outlaw, and Mineral Springs Lady Hornets. Tournaments will begin Wednesday, Feb. 25, and continue through Saturday, Feb. 28.



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

Scrappers, Scrapperettes wrap up District 7-4A race

News-Leader photos/JOHN R. SCHIRMER



Karstyn Scrivner (24) eyes the basket during Nashville's 77-38 win over Camden Fairview in the final regular-season game Feb. 20 at Scrapper Arena. Scrivner scored her 2,000th career point in the second quarter of the mercy-rule victory. The Scrapperettes are 10-0 in conference games and will be the top seed from 7-4A in the 4A South Regional.



Jailyn Staggers (24) protects the ball as he sets up a scoring attempt Feb. 20 in the Scrappers' 81-31 home victory over Camden Fairview. The Scrappers are 8-2 in District 7-4A and will be the conference's two seed going into the regional tournament this week at Scrapper Arena.



Seniors Sofia McCauley, Karstyn Scrivner, Lyris Bennett, Angel Watson and Emma Chambers and junior Ava Basiliere watch the fourth quarter of Nashville's district win over Camden Fairview Friday, Feb. 20.



Demetrus Shelley (right) goes head to head with the Badger defender in the Scrappers' 65-58 conference win at Arkadelphia Tuesday, Feb. 17.



Lyris Bennett scores against Arkadelphia in the Scrapperettes' 67-36 road win Feb. 17.

Nashville Scrapperettes (10-0 in District 7-4A), top seed going into Class 4A South Regional Wednesday, Feb. 25, at Scrapper Arena.

Nashville Scrappers (8-2 in district), two seed going into regional.

Farm Equipment Auction! Don't miss our Spring Auction!

Saturday, March 14th at 9:00 a.m. in Nashville, AR!

Live Onsite and Simulcast Bidding Available for This Auction

Our March Auction will be an outstanding one! Lots of local, one-owner equipment has already been consigned! Our list is growing daily, so what's below is just a PARTIAL listing. Plan to come and stay all day. Bring your trailers. Advertised equipment can start arriving Monday, Feb. 23 - Friday, March 7 from 8 a.m. - 5 pm. We will also be checking in any and all items Monday, March 9 through Wednesday, March 11 from 7:30 till dark. This auction offers something for all! Concessions and rest rooms will be available. Feel free to call us anytime at (870) 845-2142 or 845-9200. Go online to see current auction items at toddmorrisauktion.com or check us out on facebook.

Celebrating 30 Years of Consignment Auctions

Directions to auction: On Hwy. 278, travel 3 miles from Nashville, AR toward Hope. From I-30, take the Hope exit (#30), then go west on Hwy. 278 for approx. 23 miles, sale yard is on the right.

PLEASE help us avoid a hazard by NOT parking on the highway the day of the auction - THANK YOU for your cooperation! The items below represent only a PARTIAL listing of what has been consigned to us two weeks prior to the auction. No Buyer's Premium.

TRACTORS * CAMPER * TRAILERS * FARM EQUIPMENT * CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT * BOATS

Live Onsite and Simulcast Bidding Available for This Auction

- | | |
|--|--|
| Bush Hog 2720 20 Ft. Batwing Cutter | Kubota L 2350 4x4 Tractor |
| 16 Ft. GN HD Trailer w/Ramps | 700 Polairs 4-Wheeler |
| 3 Pt. Post Hole Digger | Pull Behind Airator |
| 50/60 KW Diesel Generator (runs good) | Krone AM 243 Cutter |
| 24' x 6'8" Stock Trailer | Massey Ferguson TD 1120T-2 |
| 8 Ft. Sheep & Goat Gates | Basket Tedder |
| 5 Ft. 3 Pt. Cutter | New Holland 315 Square Baler |
| GN 14 Ft. Dump Trailer w/Ramps and Tarp | Accumalor Grapple (6 Bales) |
| 32' x 6'8" S&H Stock Trailer w/ Tarp and Escape Door | 24 Ft. Portable Working Chute |
| 38 Ft. Toy Hauler w/Roof Damage | 2 3/8 + 2 7/8 Drill Stem Pipe |
| 15 Ft. Land Pride Cutter | Good Sucker Rods, Load Locks |
| Dodge Durango | Bundle of 1 and 1 1/2 in. Square Tubing |
| New Wooden Trash Bins - Single and Double | Bad Boy 60 in. ZeroTurn Mower |
| (2) 20 Ft. New Containers | Warn Winch |
| Vintage Patio Furniture | 24 Ft. Portable Working Chute |
| Pasture Gates Various Sizes | 2020 Kubota BV4160F Baler (less than 135 bales) like new |
| Log Cabin School Bush Stop | 2006 Custom Built 40 Ft. GN Flatbed Trailer |
| Herd Boss Feeder on Trailer | Skid Steer Tracks for Wheel Loader |
| Camper Shell | 8'x12' Cattle Gaurd w/Gate |
| 14 Ft. Bumper Pull Dump 4 Ft & Sides & Tap w/ Ramps | 24 Ft. Bumper Pull Trailer w/Gate |
| Grasshopper 729 w/ 72 inch cut | 3 Bale Spears |
| 2000 Ford Box Truck w/16 Ft. Box, Dual Wheel, 188,000 miles | Approx. 600 Handmade Knives |
| 2001 GMC Van Truck w/12 Ft. Box, Single Wheel, 242,000 miles | PTO Generator on Trailer |
| Heavy Duty 20 Ft. Gates | Drill Press |
| Misc. Tractors | 3 Set of Pallet Racks, 3 Totes |
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FIND NEW ROADS

Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week March 1-7



The National Weather Service in Shreveport has designated the week of March 1 as Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week.

This is a safety campaign designed to help residents in the Four State Area of Southeast Oklahoma, Southwest Arkansas, East Texas, and Northern Louisiana prepare for the spring storm season.

The NWS encourage all residents within the four-state County Warning Area to take this opportunity to prepare for the upcoming severe weather season. Make a tornado safety plan, know the plan, and test the plan.

2025 was an active severe weather year across the Four State Area of Southeast Oklahoma, Southwest Arkansas, East Texas, and Northern Louisiana. 35 tornadoes were recorded along with numerous events of large hail, damaging winds, and flash flooding. With the peak of severe weather season fast approaching, the National Weather Service in Shreveport has designated the week of March 1st Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week. This is a safety campaign designed to help residents of the region prepare for the fall severe weather season.

For 2026 Spring Severe Weather Awareness Week, the following safety topics will be highlighted:

Sunday, March 1st: Make a Plan – Making sure you know what to do before storms threaten the area.

Monday, March 2nd: Flash Flooding – Highlighting the danger of flash flooding along with safety tips.

Tuesday, March 3rd: Lightning Safety – Highlighting the importance of seeking a grounded, fully enclosed structure with ANY storm that approaches, with a special emphasis on delaying outdoor activities until the threat of lightning ends.

Wednesday, March 4th: Tornadoes – Highlighting safety tips to help people identify safe shelters, and develop a family emergency action plan before storms arrive.

(The Routine Weekly NOAA Weather Radio Test on Wednesday will include instructions for a tornado drill. We encourage all area residents (including all area schools) to test out their tornado safety plans during this time. The test and tornado drill will occur at 9:15 a.m. on Wednesday, March 4th. If thunderstorms are in the area on this day, the drill will be postponed to Thursday, March 5th).

Thursday, March 5th: Severe Thunderstorms – Focusing on the dangers of large hail and damaging wind gusts.

Friday, March 6th: Watches & Warnings / Warning Reception Methods – Providing information on what it means to be under a Severe Thunderstorm or Tornado Watch or Warning, and what actions are recommended when watches and warnings are issued.

Saturday, March 7th: Mobile Home Safety – Being prepared is essential, especially if you live in a mobile home. Learn about alternative shelters in the event you are in a mobile home and severe weather is likely.

StormReady
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

We Are StormReady

Be Prepared




www.weather.gov/stormready

Four State Area Tornado Drill March 4

This test will be sent as a NOAA All Hazards Weather Radio Test at 9:15 a.m. on Wednesday, March 4.

What you will hear: "This is a test tornado drill for the National Weather Service in Shreveport's Severe Weather Awareness Week. Use this drill to practice your tornado sheltering plan. Remember, a real Tornado Warning means that a tornado has been detected by radar or has been spotted. Take immediate action to protect your life! Stay away from windows, doors, and exterior walls. Repeating, this has been a test tornado drill for the National Weather Service in Shreveport's Severe Weather Awareness Week. This concludes the test."

- What you can do during the test:
- Go to a shelter area, such as a basement or the lowest level in the building.
 - If there is no basement, go to the center of an interior room on the lowest level (closet, interior hallway) away from corners, windows, doors, and outside walls.
 - If you live in a mobile or manufactured

home, evacuate your home and move to a safe shelter or a sturdy building such as a concrete community building.

- Put as many walls as possible between you and the outside.
- Crouch down on the ground next to or under something sturdy and use your arms to protect your head and neck.
- Do not open the windows.

In the event of a real Tornado Warning, stay in your shelter until the threat has passed.

For more information regarding how to prepare your tornado sheltering plan, please visit www.ready.gov/tornadoes.

If severe weather is expected or ongoing during this time, the scheduled backup time/date for the tornado drill is 9:15 a.m. on Thursday, March 5.

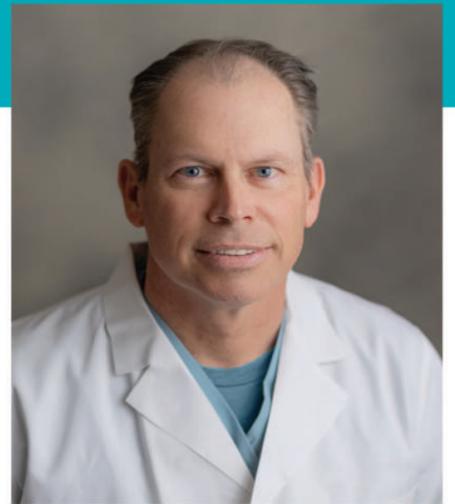
NWS will not send another alert tone to conclude the tornado drill. Real Tornado Warnings do not contain an "all clear" message. Once the warning expires or is cancelled, the threat has passed.

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Howard County District Court

Feb. 19, 2026
BF=Bond Forfeited
Howard County
 Camarillo, Andrea Nicolle, 26, Mineral Springs, \$195 BF, expired vehicle tags/no tags; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245; guilty of driving on suspended for revoked license, fined \$460
 Combs, Jeremy, 37, Hot Springs, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$2,762 balance; committed to jail for 30 days
 Gray, Kenneth M., 51, Texarkana, guilty of third-degree battery, fined \$675
 Johnson, Nakesha L., 39, Nashville, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$360; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$260
 Lofton, Dominique C., 48, Nashville, \$15 BF, non-payment of fines
 Mendez, Emanuel, 20, Nashville, \$245 BF, speeding
 Mercado Lina, Fabian, 23, Nashville, \$265 BF, speeding
 Quiroz, Angelo J., 33, Murfreesboro, \$245 BF, failure to appear; \$245 BF, failure to appear; \$245 BF, failure to appear
 Sanders, Taveon D., 18, Murfreesboro, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$460; guilty of speeding, fined \$275
 Smith, Amy, 45, Mineral Springs, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$6,050 balance; committed to jail for 30 days; guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$460

Washington, Dorothy, 36, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$625 balance; committed to jail-suspended conditions
 Watson, Shawn R., 50, Grannis, \$245 BF, failure to appear
 Wells, William Braydon, 22, Broken Bow, Okla., \$2245 BF, speeding
 Williams, Larry Darnell, 33, Mineral Springs, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$3,605 balance; committed to jail-suspended conditions

City of Nashville
 Abalos, Karla, 20, Nashville, \$15 BF, non-payment of fines
 Adams, William K., 33, Saratoga, \$460 BF, driving on suspended or revoked license; \$360 BF, violation of ignition/interlock device
 Benson, Lashunda R., 51, Nashville, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$110
 Black, Tommie Lee, 64, Texarkana, Texas, \$50 BF, no proof of liability insurance
 Block, Tracy D., 59, Nashville, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$160
 Burton, Devarrio D., 28, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$1,477 balance
 Collier, Shawn, 46, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$2,090 balance
 Duran, Angel, 23, Nashville, \$210 BF, no driver's license/expired license; \$210 BF, no child restraint
 Hohenstein, Trevor, 36, Nashville, \$445 BF, driving on suspended or revoked license; guilty of no proof

of liability insurance, fined \$345; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$245
 Jacobs, Jasmine, 25, Hope, \$200 BF, no vehicle license
 Kesterson, Tiffany D., 36, Mineral Springs, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$460
 Markham, Ashley, 28, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$2,155 balance; committed to jail; guilty of shoplifting, fined \$425; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$300
 O'Keefe, Jody Brent, 53, Nashville, guilty of expired vehicle tags/no tags, fined \$210
 Parnell, Michael Clayton, 29, Murfreesboro, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$25
 Parra, Orlando, no age listed, Nashville, \$210 BF, no driver's license/expired license; \$160 BF, no proof of

liability insurance
 Pena Murillo, Cristhian D., 26, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$1,035 balance; guilty of theft of property, fined \$675 plus restitution
 Piza, Eric, 27, Nashville, \$225 BF, failure to pay registration
 Stagers, Naivaighn, 17, Nashville, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$195 balance
 Stewart, Mychel M., 22, Washington, \$200 BF, no vehicle license
 Sullivan, Marcus, 44, Nashville, \$45 BF, no seat belt
 Walker, Chantramel L., 26, Mineral Springs, guilty of non-payment of fines, \$585 balance; guilty of no driver's license/expired license, fined \$210
 Weston, Tyrese, 22, Fulton, \$15 BF, non-payment of fines
 Williams, Abari Omar, 17, Nashville, \$45 BF, no seat belt
 Williams, Tavis D., 25, Nashville, \$245 BF, failure to appear

City of Dierks
 McHam, Adrian D., 34, Dierks, \$210 BF, no driver's license/expired license; \$225 BF, failure to pay registration
 Mitts, Brenda K., 35, Dierks, guilty of driving on suspended or revoked license, fined \$460

City of Mineral Springs
 Collins, Gnaiyah L., 18, Mineral Springs, guilty of shoplifting, fined \$425
 Finley, Christopher, 60, Mineral Springs, guilty of possession of controlled substance, fined \$1,090 and license suspended for six months
 Flores, Joyce, 30, Nashville, \$210 BF, running stop sign or light
 Huddleston, Jonathan C., 40, Ashdown, \$210 BF, expired vehicle tags/no tags; \$360 BF, no proof of liability insurance; \$260 BF, failure to appear
 Porter, Josua F., 43, Ozan, guilty of DWI, fined \$1,125, credited for time served, license. Suspended and must complete DWI educational course; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$360
 Terrell, Warren S., 60, Texarkana, \$210 BF, no driver's license/expired license
 Wesson, Dondra, 31, Nashville, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$360

City of Tollette
 Linville, Theresia Maria, 60, Oan, guilty of expired vehicle tags/no tags
Arkansas Game & Fish Commission
 Verdic, William F., 61, Gillham, guilty of road hunting, fined \$635



Free Genealogy 101 workshop offered March 7 at Howard County Library

A free Genealogy 101 workshop will be held on Saturday, March 7, at 11 a.m. at the Howard County Library, hosted by the Mine Creek-Paraclifta DAR chapter. The beginner-friendly session is designed for anyone interested in tracing their family history, whether you are just getting started or simply curious about researching your roots. Participants will learn basic tools, helpful tips, and simple research strategies to begin their genealogy journey with confidence. The workshop will cover foundational steps to help attendees organize information, locate records, and better understand how to build a family tree. The event is open to the public, and light refreshments will be provided. Anyone with an interest in discovering their heritage is encouraged to attend. Come learn how to uncover the stories that make your family unique.

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 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.
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& MT. CARMEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 12:15 P.M.
TOMMY HALSELL, PASTOR
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 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.
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 Sunday Worship 9:15 a.m.
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Facts About The Bible BY JOHN LEHTI
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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 SHUNAMMITE WOMAN IS UNWILLING TO ACCEPT THE DEATH OF HER SON AS FINAL... WITH ONE OF HER HUSBAND'S DONKEYS, AND A YOUNG SERVANT WHO RUNS FAST, SHE HASTENS TO ELISHA...

...THEY TRAVEL AS FAST AS THE YOUNG SERVANT CAN MAKE THE DONKEY RUN...

...AS THEY APPROACH CARMEL, WHERE ELISHA IS ABIDING....

ALL WILL BE WELL!

...THE WOMAN DOES NOT ALLOW HER FAITH IN ELISHA TO WEAKEN...

...THE PROPHET SEES THEM FROM AFAR OFF....

...RECOGNIZING THE WOMAN, EVEN AT THIS GREAT DISTANCE, ELISHA DIRECTS HIS SERVANT, GEHAZI, TO RUN AND FIND OUT IF ALL GOES WELL WITH THE WOMAN, AND WITH HER HUSBAND, AND WITH THE CHILD...

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 Evening worship 6:00 p.m.
Rev. Kevin Sartin

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 946 MLK, Hwy 355, Tollette, AR
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 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.
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 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
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 Pastor:
 Bro. David Cassady
Sunday Service
10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

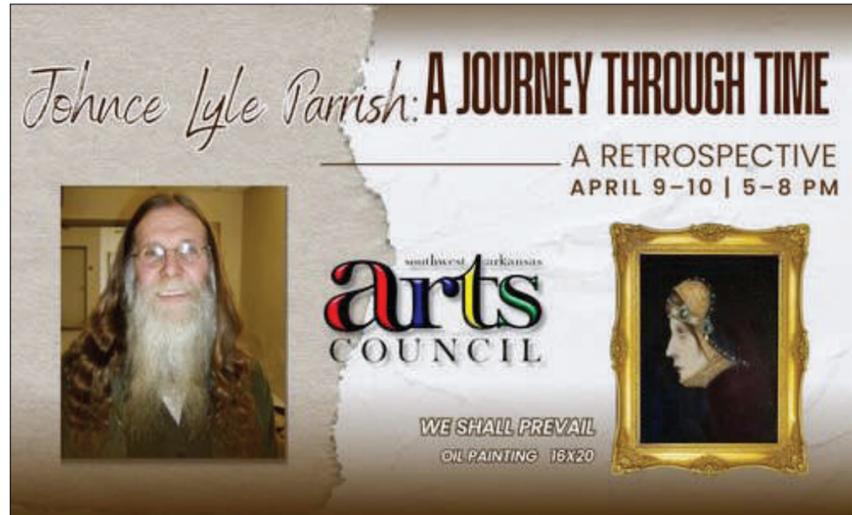
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First Christian Church
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 (Corner of Main & Bishop)
845-3241
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 Wednesday Bible Study 6:00 p.m.
Minister: Jim Pinson

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.



A Journey Through Time Late artist's life work to be showcased by Southwest Arkansas Arts Council

HOPE - Johnce Lyle Parrish (1946-2025) was an artist whose life and work were defined by curiosity, craftsmanship, and an unwavering commitment to creative expression. Knowing he wanted to be an artist by age three, Parrish held his first one-man exhibition at just eleven years old. As an adult, he became known as a "Jack of All Trades," excelling in sign painting, remodeling, and large-scale mural work throughout the region.

Parrish's artistic practice extended beyond functional craftsmanship into the realm of fine art. He earned recognition for his sculptures, pen and ink drawings, watercolor on Yupo, oil paintings, and more. After retiring from carpentry, he dedicated himself fully to his art, teaching classes, serving on arts-related boards,

and contributing to cultural organizations including the Arkansas Arts Council, the Elberta Arts Council, the Fine Arts Center of Hot Springs, AmeriCorps VISTA, and the Howard and South Pike County Literacy Council.

His work has been exhibited in galleries, featured in publications such as A Gathering of Artists, and continues to live on in public spaces including the Glenwood Library and the Crater of Diamonds State Park Visitors Center. Since his death in April 2025, Johnce's work has been featured internationally through Bifarin Galleries. Johnce painted daily after retirement, driven by an internal need to create. Though the loss of his vision eventually prevented him from continuing to paint on canvas, his artistic vision

never faded.

As Parrish once said, "Art requires honesty. This makes me a seeker, so my art is about process, not product." This retrospective honors a life devoted to that philosophy.

April 9 will be open exclusively to SWAAC members. The exhibition opens to the public on April 10 and will remain on view through the month of April during weekday morning hours.

For more information, contact the Southwest Arkansas Arts Council at swaac13@gmail.com or visit 200 E Division St Hope..

About the Southwest Arkansas Arts Council
The Southwest Arkansas Arts Council is a nonprofit organization dedicated to enriching communities through experience, expression, and education in all the arts.

Pike County Quorum Court hears proposal to honor veterans with highway road signs

**By PJ Tracy
Murfreesboro Diamond**
The Pike County Quorum Court heard that there was "nothing warranting disclosure" following their recent legislative audit for 2024.

County Clerk Randee Edwards said "all was in compliance" with Justice of the Peace John Plyler stating it was good that it was "nice we don't have issues like other counties."

Pike County Archives volunteer Gary Graves -- a 1966 graduate of Murfreesboro High School and a veteran of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps -- gave a presentation on road signs similar to "adopt a highway" that would recognize veterans in the county.

He initially hoped to have them from the Pike County Line south of Murfreesboro all the way to Glenwood, but was told by the Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) that was simply too long of a stretch to be dedicated.

So, ARDOT recommended a stretch from the Murfreesboro City Limits to Highway 379.

He said he had \$600 in donations already -- \$100 from himself and \$500 from the Vietnam Veterans of America Texarkana Chapter. The cost of the signs would be around \$900.

The signs will state something along the lines of "Pike County recognizes veterans and first responders."

Pike County Judge Eddie Howard said that unfortunately Pike County could not give donations to a private cause -- referencing a former knock in a audit -- but denoted that "veterans don't get enough attention."

Pike County Treasurer Loletia Rather and Plyler personally pledged the remainder of the costs.

Graves said he would also like to see signs go up in the Glenwood area, should donations be found. Plyler said that if all else failed, he would find a way to make that happen as well.

"We need to thank vets for what they do," said with Plyler.

Howard gave a report on the 2025 flood damages, stating that of the \$735,000 placed into the emergency account, the county has currently recouped \$713,000 from federal government repayments with another \$400,000 coming from the Strawberry Bridge replacement.

He added that the "good progress" of the repairs and financial return was a sign of the county not wasting taxpayer dollars.

"Especially when it didn't cost the taxpayers [of the county] anything," added

J.P. Paul Baker.

Plyler noted that Hot Spring County had to issue bonds to raise the funds to repair the damage from the flooding event last spring, and it was good that Pike County was able to handle it all in-house.

The Quorum Court passed a measure that will allow them to make electronic payments for their internet from South Central Connect, as well as future vendors that require such payment in the future.

Rather stated the following openings/closings for county accounts through January 2026:

County General	\$2,389,742.81 / \$1,923,207.60
County Road	\$374,072.36 / \$333,259.97
County Landfill	\$487,483.10 / \$465,785.32
All County Accounts	\$7,518,183.70 / \$6,990,260.32

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Mineral Springs man charged in Pike County with two counts of rape

A Howard County man has been charged in Pike County with two counts of rape.

Samuel Rogers, 52, of Mineral Springs, was charged Feb. 20. He made his first court appearance Monday where he pleaded innocent to the charges and a May 29 pretrial date was set.

According to case information, an investigation into Rogers' alleged crimes began in June 2025 when

officials received a report from Arkansas State Police Crimes Against Children Division. Rogers' alleged victims were ages 13 and 14 at the time they disclosed the abuse.

One of the juveniles stated the sexual abuse started when she was approximate-

ly six or seven years old and continued until she was 12. The other victim corroborated details and additional disclosures accusing Rogers of misconduct.

Both victims stated it appears Rogers was intoxicated when the incidents happened.

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Congratulates the 2025 Community Award Winners
Woman of the Year - Susan Nannemann,
Man of the Year - Glenn Lance, D.D.S.,
Lifetime Achievement - Deb Kinkade,
Orange and Black - Frank Puryear*

The Chamber thanks the following for making this event possible:
Nashville Public Schools for the venue, Tyson Foods and Chicken Express for meal sponsorship.

Thank you, Auction Sponsors:
Blossoms at Nashville, Carlton Tire Company, Coca-Cola Bottling Co., Dale and Melinda Bennett, Diamond State Insurance, Farm Credit Services, Farm Bureau Insurance, Farmers Bank and Trust, First State Bank, Futrell Marine, Glenn Lance, D.D.S., Hickory House Restaurant, HMH Pediatric Therapy Ctr., HMH Rehab & Fitness, Home Improvement Center, Hoppin' Nutrition, Ivan Smith Furniture, Kids Dental Center, King Cattle Company, Latimer Funeral Home, Lawrence Termite & Pest, McDonald's of Nashville, Mission Plastics, Nashville Family Pharmacy, Nashville Vision Center, Pafford Medical Services, Pink Avenue Gift Shop, Poblano's Mexican Café, Quality Construction, Red River Credit Union, Regions Bank, S & C Road Mart, Simple Simon's Pizza, Smith Tax Service, Southern Glass & Mirror, Southwest Arkansas Radio, Special Moments, Starz Family Restaurant, Sunshine Acres, SWEPCO, Sweet Pepper Designs, Teague & Teague Insurance, 10 Minit Lube, Weyerhaeuser - Dierks, What's Cookin', and York Gary Autoplex

And, a special "thank you" to Ms. Terri McJunkins, your talent and time in helping coordinate this event are greatly appreciated!!!

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Nashville Chamber of Commerce Banquet a success.

Land Auction Open Now
15 Acres in McCaskill
****Online Only Auction at toddmorrisauction.com****
Bidding Ends: Tuesday, March 3 at 6:00 p.m.

Property 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!**

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News-Leader photo/JOHN BALCH

CONTROLLED BURN. There were three controlled burns on Monday on the south end of Pike County, including this one visible from Highway 27 just outside Murfreesboro, according to Murfreesboro Fire Chief Ricky Branch, who added he was keeping his fingers crossed they "stay controlled."

Forestry personnel deployed for wildfire, storm response in Tennessee, Oklahoma

Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders has authorized the deployment of Arkansas Department of Agriculture forestry personnel to support wildfire suppression in Oklahoma and urban tree recovery in Tennessee, highlighting the state's commitment to regional cooperation and public safety.

"Our teams bring specialized skills and equipment to support communities in need," said Arkansas State Forester Kyle Cunningham.

"Whether it's assisting with wildfire suppression in Oklahoma or helping Tennessee communities recover after storms, these deployments show how sharing knowledge and resources across state lines strengthens the entire region."

Wildfire Response in Oklahoma

Six wildland firefighters will be deployed to eastern Oklahoma for approximately two weeks to assist with ongoing wildfire suppression. Strong winds, low humidity, and above-average temperatures have increased wildfire risk across the South Central United States, prompting activation of the South Central Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact on Feb. 17. The compact allows participating state forestry agencies to share personnel and resources when wildfire activity exceeds local response capacity.

The crew will focus on initial attack and rapid suppression of new wildfires to prevent further spread. The Department is also sending four bulldozers and two pick-up trucks to support operations.

Urban Tree Recovery in Tennessee

Three urban forestry personnel will be deployed to Tennessee to assist communities recovering from recent ice storms. The crew will join an Urban Forest Strike Team (UFST), a specialized group of certified arborists, foresters, and urban forestry experts mobilized to assist communities in the aftermath of natural disasters.

The UFST provides critical support to impacted communities, including tree damage and risk assessments, hazard mitigation planning, and technical expertise and training.

Arkansas personnel have previously participated in UFST deployments, including in December 2024 following tornadoes in the state. During that mission, teams from multiple states in the Southern region came to Arkansas to provide critical assistance.

Safety and Preparedness in Arkansas

While assisting neighboring states, the Department continues to closely monitor conditions in the state. Elevated fire risk remains across western and northwestern Arkansas, with all counties in the northern part of the state currently classified at high or moderate wildfire risk. Several counties have issued burn bans.

Local wildfire response capabilities will remain fully staffed and operational, with resources strategically positioned to protect Arkansas communities while supporting neighboring states.

With dry and windy conditions expected to continue, Arkansans are urged to take proactive steps to protect lives, property, and natural resources.

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State's cattle producers suffer \$24.8M in cow, calf mortality during storm

Poultry losses not yet tallied

By Ryan McGeeney
University of Arkansas
Division of Agriculture

The heavy winter storm that brought snow, sleet and sub-freezing temperatures to Arkansas and surrounding states resulted in tens of millions of dollars in losses to farmers across the state, according to a new report from the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture.

The Jan. 23-27 storm brought "extreme cold, ice, and snowfall that disrupted livestock operations, crop production, and agricultural infrastructure across the state," according to the report. As much as 12 inches of snow and 2 inches of sleet fell on much of Arkansas, collapsing structures — especially poultry houses — throughout the region.

Cattle

In the wake of the storm, Cooperative Extension Agents surveyed their constituents about damage and losses to their operations. The data gleaned from the responses indicate that Arkansas cattle producers suffered \$24.8 million in cow and calf mortality alone, based on an average calf mortality rate of 2.74 percent and a cow mortality rate of 1.65 percent. Producers also spent an additional \$7.52 million on supplemental hay and feed above what they typically spend in January.

James Mitchell, extension economist for the Division of Agriculture and one of the report's authors, said the current state of beef markets affected the underlying formulation for projecting

economic losses.

"Cattle prices are historically high, so losses reflect higher values," Mitchell said, noting that these numbers do not reflect "unusually large numbers of cow and calf mortalities."

"Producers are encouraged to contact their Farm Service Agency office about the Livestock Indemnity Program," he said.

Sheep and goats

Arkansas' ruminant population includes an estimated 34,100 goats and kids and approximately 32,485 sheep and lambs. Respondents to the survey indicated a 2 percent mortality rate for lambs and kids born during the storm and a 1.3 percent mortality rate for sheep and goats during the week of the storm.

Most goats raised commercially in Arkansas are meat goats and most commercial sheep are raised for their wool. The estimated market value of the sheep and goats that died in the storm is between \$151,200 and \$170,100, according to the report. Producers also reported feeding about twice as much hay during the storm as they would in a typical week.

These estimates are less precise than the cattle numbers because "small ruminant inventory reporting is not sufficiently disaggregated to produce precise estimates," Mitchell said.

Specialty crops

The report calculated losses for five major Arkansas specialty crops: Blueberries, blackberries, peaches, strawberries and grapes,



BUCKLING WEIGHT. A collapsed farm shop was one of many structures damaged or destroyed during the Jan. 23-27 winter storm that covered most of Arkansas and surrounding states. (UADA photo)

including muscadines. Producers for each of the five crops estimated yield losses between 4 and 8 percent. This data was combined with baseline values for each respective crop in order to estimate a loss of \$1,169,540 across all five crops.

Aquaculture

The report estimates that the Arkansas catfish industry suffered a 1.17 percent loss of inventory, which is estimated to result in approximately \$270,300 in sales.

The Arkansas baitfish industry was estimated to have suffered less than 1 percent of inventory loss,

resulting in an estimated economic loss of approximately \$219,000.

Poultry

Although estimated poultry losses are not yet available, the industry "experienced the greatest losses in Arkansas among all livestock and crop sectors," the report stated, citing both structural damage and flock mortality.

"A key challenge in quantifying these losses is the high degree of variability across operations, including differences in poultry house age, whether a house contained a flock at the time of the storm or had been

repurposed, lost value of production and grower income, whether damaged houses can be repaired or must be fully replaced, and disruptions to the delivery of birds, feed, and propane," reads the report.

Other Damages

Mitchell said that other losses include farm equipment and vehicles, farm buildings, greenhouses, timber stands and forages.

"The cost of these damages is farm-specific, so dollar estimates were not offered in the report," Mitchell said.

The winter storm damage report was produced by the department of agricultural

economics and agribusiness and the Fryar Price Risk Management Center of Excellence. A separate forthcoming report will examine the losses to the Arkansas poultry industry in detail.

To learn about extension programs in Arkansas, contact your local Cooperative Extension Service agent or visit uaex.uada.edu. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram. To learn more about the Division of Agriculture, visit uada.edu. To learn more about ag and food research in Arkansas, visit the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station at aaes.uada.edu.

Drop in egg prices not expected to last long

By Mary Hightower
University of Arkansas
Division of Agriculture

Egg prices have fallen to levels not seen since 2023, but don't expect that dip to last long, said Jada Thompson, associate professor and economist for the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture.

In a system where supply and demand dictate prices, "the lower prices are the result of an oversupply," she said.

At a time when the poultry industry is facing unprecedented pressures from highly pathogenic avian influenza, or HPAI, the nation's egg farms took some-

thing of a gamble.

"Growers, anticipating negative effects from avian influenza during the winter, increased the number of eggs they produced," Thompson said.

However, the highly pathogenic avian influenza that has hit other commercial and backyard flocks passed over the egg layers.

"That left growers with plenty of eggs, and consumers are the ones who get to benefit," she said.

Egg prices made a slight recovery in May 2023, when HPAI cases were low and bird supplies ramped up. As cases increased, the prices rose again.

The current low price consumer windfall isn't necessarily good for farmers.

"Growing eggs isn't an industry with a large profit margin and lower prices make those margins even tighter," Thompson said. "Farmers are reaching deeper into their pockets more at the moment."

However, Thompson said the egg supply will likely drop from its current over-abundant state.

"We are likely to see producers reduce egg sets, slowing the replenishment pipeline," she said.

"While the egg supply chain is highly dynamic and can change day to day, it is

still constrained by biological timelines.

"Absent large-scale disruptions, overall supply could remain elevated for the next five to six months," she said. "However, given ongoing HPAI risk, we may see new cases emerge sooner, which could tighten supplies earlier than expected."

HPAI cycle

The current cycle of HPAI began when it was detected in a commercial flock in February 2022. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, HPAI affected more than 4 million birds in the United States in January alone, af-

fecting 44 backyard flocks and 18 commercial flocks. Backyard flocks have been hard hit, with 54 flocks in November and 56 flocks affected in December and 15 so far in February.

The number of commer-

cial flocks affected by the disease has declined over the last four months.

Forty-two flocks were affected in November 2025, 26 in December 2025, 18 in January and 17 so far in February.

Fast Facts

- Abundant supply of eggs leads to lower egg prices for consumers
- Farmers "reaching deeper into their pockets" after increasing egg production
- HPAI still a potential threat to egg supplies

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South Pike County school board holds February meeting

By PJ Tracy
Murfreesboro Diamond
 At the South Pike County School Board meeting Monday night, Superintendent Tanya Wilcher congratulated the Junior High Lady Rattlers basketball team for placing runner-up in the District Tournament.

She added that baseball/softball/track seasons all start next week. Wilcher also updated the board about the Roots Academy homeschool group that is looking at starting a school in Delight.

The elementary school academic report by MES Principal James Riley said that interim testing has been going on, but a bout of the flu has hurt and required 70 makeup tests this time.

"We are seeing growth with these interims," said Riley.

This Tuesday, Feb. 24 MES will host a "parent night" to share information on Atlas scores, Rooms, third grade promotion and more.

The MES Dodgeball tournament has been rescheduled for March 7.

Riley added that this is Kindness Week and the school has activities for students to participate in at school and at home. Mrs. Morris will be hosting the Reading Olympics in the library.

The high school academic report was presented by EAST Lab students.

EAST is a student driven program.

River Riley and Madilyn Draper presented their project of an evacuation plan for the Senior Citizen building.

Nicole Beaty presented information about "EAST Night Out" on Thursday, Feb. 26th from 4-6 p.m. The public is encouraged to stop by and see the projects that have been created.

Gianna Draper gave information about the EAST conference that will be coming up in March.

The board approved motions to approve the personal electronic device policy and the 2026-2027 school calendar.

The Financial Audit Report was presented to the board, with no findings for the audit.

The March board meeting has been set for Tuesday, March 17 at 6 p.m.

The board then entered executive session for a resignation/retirements and principals' contracts.

Following the session, the board accepted the retirements of Lois Hunter-Wesson, Sandra Elliott, Terrie Slatton, and Caroline Wise at the end of the school year.

The board also accepted the resignation of custodian Ed Jones at the end of 25-26 school year and accepted the resignation of Brian Caldwell, Zone 3, from the school board.

To conclude the evening, the board agreed to extend the contracts of principals Davey Jones and James Riley for the 2026-2027 school year.



Photo Courtesy of MSSD Facebook
SIGNING WITH NATIONAL PARK COLLEGE. Standout Mineral Springs Lady Hornet softball player Zoey Lockeby (seated) signed her letter of intent last week to play softball with the National Park College Nighthawks. The Nighthawks compete as a Div. 11 program with the National Junior College Athletic Association Region 2. The team plays their home games at Majestic Park in Hot Springs.

Nashville man, 21, sentenced to 20 years in prison for possessing child sexual abuse material

A Howard County case heard on Friday, Feb. 20 in Pike County has resulted in an extensive sentence for pandering or possession of child sexual abuse material.

Aiden Crater Evans, 21, of Nashville, pleaded guilty to two counts of pandering or possessing visual or print medium depicting sexually explicit conduct involving a child. He was originally charged with four count

but plead to only two counts Monday.

Evans was sentenced to 10 years in the Arkansas Department of Corrections (ADC) on each count for a total of 20 years with an additional six years on the probation revocation charged. The probation sentence will run concurrently with the 20-year sentence.

An investigation of Evans started in August 2025 following a cyber tip from the National Center for Missing and

Exploited Children involving material posted that included child sexual abuse material.

Also Monday in Pike County court, David Rhodes, 37, of Nashville, pleaded guilty to possession of a controlled substance and drug paraphernalia. He was sentenced to a total of eight years in the ADC and was credited for time already served.

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Moo! I mean, drink milk every day!

Do you see the little **star** after the word "**MyPlate**" in the speech balloon above? That is called an "asterisk" (**as-tuh-risk**). It is a symbol used to show that there is information missing or an addition of information somewhere. Look here to see what extra information I needed to tell you.

*from the United States Department of Agriculture

Moderate amounts of fat are good for your brain!

Try half of a frozen banana for a cool treat.

Be the best that you can be! If you haven't exactly been sparkling and **energetic** every day, here are my ten tips to get you on your way!

I make sure to **stretch** every morning.

Did you know that goats like to climb trees? They will go high on a tree's branches if they can!

Read each health tip. Draw a line from each to the word that would make sense in the blank. Next, look for the 18 words in bold print. Find and circle them in the puzzle below:

A. friends
 B. wash
 C. sleep
 D. exercise
 E. sugar
 F. brush
 G. cook
 H. dress
 I. weight
 J. breakfast

1. Start each day by eating that famous first meal of the day called _____. It will kick you into high gear!
 2. Plan healthy meals and snacks. Then, shop for **vegetables** and **fruits** that you like. Help to _____ healthy meals at home.
 3. Keep a good _____! Your family **doctor** can help you decide what is healthy for your size and activities.
 4. _____ for at least 60 minutes each day - ride a bike, walk, shoot hoops, exercise to dance DVDs.
 5. Take care of yourself: **bathe** or shower, _____ your hands, face and hair as often as needed.
 6. Choose **healthier** snacks - ones with less _____ or lower fat.
 7. _____ your teeth at least 2 times a day and after sugary snacks.
 8. _____ appropriately for the **weather** and temperature.
 9. Get enough _____ every night.
 10. Talk to and have fun with your family and _____ every day.

MyPlate groups: Dairy, Protein, Grains, Fruits, Vegetables.

Words in puzzle: energy, bones, cereal, Fruits, apples, muscle, chicken, carrots, eyes, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

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AGFC proposes simplified deer season structure, reduced regulations for 2026

**By Randy Zellers
Arkansas Game
& Fish Commission**

Arkansas Game & Fish Commissioners at the recent meeting heard the first reading of proposed regulations changes for 2026; the common theme: reduction in both the number and complexity of the rules hunters and anglers must follow as they enjoy the woods and waters of The Natural State.

AGFC Deputy Director Brad Carner led a team of biologists during Wednesday's briefings to go in depth on the many regulations under consideration for consolidation or removal.

Many regulations proposed for elimination had simply outgrown their use, having received very few, if any, warnings or citations issued within the last five years.

"We've been very intentional about ways to reduce, combine and eliminate regulations," Carner said. "More than 65 regulations were eliminated that were either out of date, redundant or deemed unnecessary during our internal review process," Carner said. "You'll also see some major consolidation in many of our season structures and limits on deer on public land as well as daily fishing bag limits for many lakes and streams."

AGFC Deer Program Co-

ordinator Ralph Meeker presented the proposals for deer season, the product of months of work with wildlife biologists and land managers throughout the state.

The focus on clarity and consistency for hunters touched nearly every aspect of deer hunting. If passed, deer will be categorized as either "antlered bucks" or "antlerless deer," regardless of the status of chronic wasting disease in the zone.

"You will still check a button buck as a button buck when you harvest one, but it will go toward the hunter's antlerless bag limit," Meeker said. "You'll be allowed two antlered bucks per year."

The statewide seasonal limit of six deer with no more than two being bucks will remain in place, but private and public land zone limits will see a major standardization. Each private land zone will have a limit of four deer (no more than two bucks), and each WMA will have a limit of three deer (no more than two bucks). Hunters who have reached a zone limit and still wish to hunt can still go to another zone, public or private, to fill out their statewide limit of six.

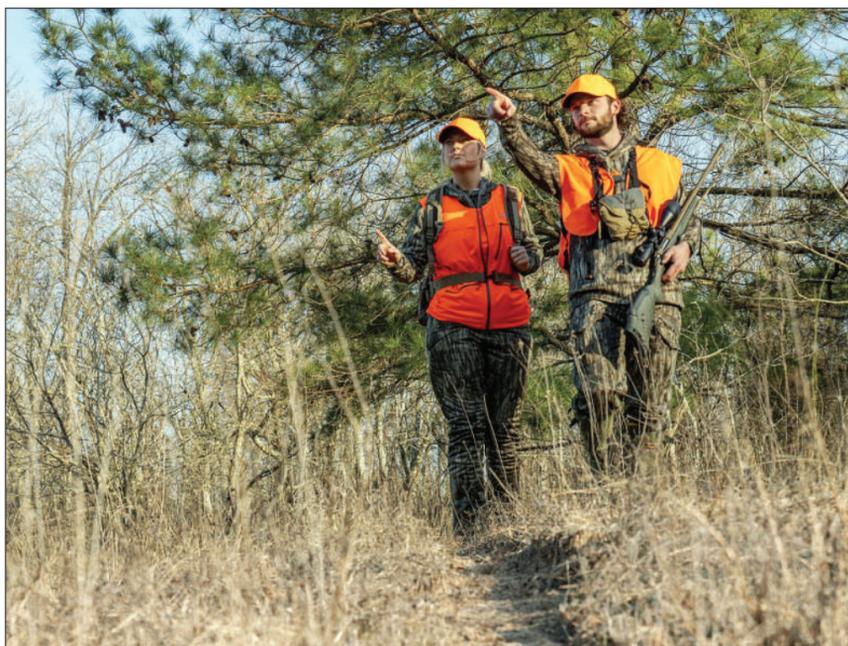
It was also recommended that the three-day early antlered buck archery hunt be moved to begin the last Saturday in August, a little earlier than last year. This

will allow hunters more opportunities to get a buck before it sheds its velvet, and it will reduce conflicts with the opening of dove season.

"After speaking with all of our conservation partners who own land in the WMA system, the early antlered buck archery season will be opened on all but four WMAs that allow deer hunting," Meeker said.

A few major revisions to waterfowl hunting on wildlife management areas are also being considered. The agency is considering the creation of nonmotorized boat access only in Galla Creek WMA and on portions of George H. Dunklin Jr. Bayou Meto, Dave Donaldson Black River and Shirey Bay Rainey Brake WMAs. Limited permit hunts also are being considered on the Buckingham Flats Green-tree Reservoir on Bayou Meto, the Wyville Tract at Rex Hancock Black Swamp WMA, Prairie Bayou WMA and portions of Ed Gordon Point Remove WMA. Both regulations are in response to continued complaints of crowding and pressure on Arkansas's public duck-hunting areas and reduced hunt quality.

"These restrictions are only in parts of these WMAs, not the entire area," AGFC Wildlife Management Chief Luke Naylor said. "I encour-



ARKANSAS DEER HUNTERS will see a simplified deer season in place July 1.

age everyone commenting to see the proposed maps in the survey to get an idea of what areas will be affected."

Fishing regulations, too, saw a drastic reduction in complexity. AGFC Fisheries Chief Tommy Laird said that in addition to removing more than 30 outdated regulations, his team was able to greatly reduce the number of products in the AGFC's licensing system.

"There were a lot of permits and licenses that applied to a small number of individuals, and we were able to eliminate or combine many of these so people

could find what they needed without sorting through too many options," Laird said.

For recreational anglers, the largest change will be the consolidation of smallmouth bass fisheries throughout the state to a standard set of harvest limits.

"We will have 'blue-ribbon streams,' like the Buffalo River, Caddo River, Current River and Crooked Creek," Laird said. "These will have a daily harvest limit of one fish, and that must be 15 inches or longer. This was at the request of many stream anglers working with the AGFC Black Bass Program.

In other flowing waters, we'll see a standard 12-inch minimum length for smallmouth, eliminating the need for the current smallmouth zone map."

All regulation changes will be available for public comment through a survey at www.agfc.com/regssurvey. Participants have until March 6 to complete the survey.

Commissioners will review public comments and vote on any changes during their regularly scheduled April meeting.

All changes will become effective July 1.

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1532 sq ft home sitting on a corner lot in the heart of Nashville. This home offers 3 bedrooms, 1.5 upgraded bathrooms and a large bonus room. Galley kitchen has been upgraded with granite countertops and a beautiful glass backsplash. The living room has a ton of natural light coming in from the double door that leads out to concrete patio. This home is a must see to fully appreciate. **PRICE \$165,000.**

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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

2005 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER VIN#4M2ZU66W35UJ12540

2013 NISSAN ALTIMA VIN#1N4AL3AP5DC269128

2014 KIA OPTIMA VIN#5XXGR4A66FG393766

2008 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER VIN#4M2EU37E38UJ10228

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: 36)



4 Bedroom, 2 full baths with approx. 1848 Sq. Ft. of living space situated on approx. 2 acres. Kitchen has great storage space (Refrigerator conveys.) Family area features wood burning fireplace. Spacious laundry area with great storage. Covered patio, backporch. Property has a 26 x 42 shop and a 20 x 32 greenhouse. Located at 249 Hempstead 326, Nashville. **Listed at \$219,000.**

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



RAY'S REALTY
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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 PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF: CONSTANCE JACKSON & ELIJAH JACKSON Case No. 31PR-24-80

Warning Order

TO: Serita Lee, Christopher Tilman, and Nicole Whiting or Nicole Lee

Shall take notice that on November 21, 2024 a Petition for Adoption was filed on behalf of Bobbie Smith in the Circuit Court of Howard County, Arkansas to adopt the minor children C.T. whose date of birth is April 18, 2012 and E.J. whose date of birth is October 8, 2013.

Serita Lee, Christopher Tilman, and Nicole Whiting or Nicole Lee shall take notice that unless you appear and defend or otherwise respond within thirty (30) days from the first date of publication of this notice, an order may be entered and granted, or you will be otherwise barred from asserting your interest in this matter.

A hearing will be conducted on this matter March 18, 2026 at 9 a.m. at the Howard County Courthouse, 421 N. Main St., Nashville, 71852.

Angie Lewis, CIRCUIT CLERK
DATE Feb. 13, 2026
(AB: 35 - 38)

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HOWARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVISION

ISAAC CONNELL, Plaintiff,

VS.

31DR-25-60 SAMANTHA CONNELL, Defendant,

WARNING ORDER

TO: Samantha Connell

You are hereby notified that Isaac Connell, Plaintiff, whose Attorney is Aaron R. Brasel of Brasel Law Firm, PLLC, whose address is Post Office Box 813, Nashville, Arkansas, 71852, has filed a Complaint herein against you, a copy of which Complaint and Summons shall be delivered to you or to your attorney upon request. You are also notified that you must appear and defend by filing your answer or other responsive pleading within thirty (30) days of the date of the first publication of this Warning Order; in the event of your failure to do so, judgment by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint as circumscribed by the laws of this State.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal as Clerk of the Court on this 12th day of February, 2026

Howard County Circuit Clerk
Angie Lewis
(AB: 36, 37)

CLASSIFIEDS

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.

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Roughin' It Early American Style

Southwest Regional Rendezvous offers life like its 1700-1840

PRESCOTT — Step into the past at the 42nd Annual Southwestern Regional Rendezvous, returning to Prescott, Arkansas for a week of authentic living history. On March 14, 15, and 21, visitors will encounter authentic mountain-man encampments, historic demonstrations, traders, food vendors, and more, bringing Early American life into vivid focus. Hosted by the Nevada County Depot and Museum.

Public visiting hours are 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. on March 14, 15, and 21, with admission \$5 for adults while children 12 and under attend free. Parking provided at no charge. The Rendezvous takes place at Prairie D'Ane Battlefield, 2243 Highway 19 North, Prescott, Arkansas, with food vendors and period merchandise available on site.

What is a Rendezvous? Historically, Rendezvous were Colonial and Early American-era trade meetings between companies and fur trappers to buy and sell beaver and other pelts. Another purpose was to provide

much-needed socializing and entertainment for the often-isolated trappers. The Southwestern Regional Rendezvous is held each year in one of its member states—New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Arkansas—to celebrate this era in American history. Visitors can see authentic crafts and pioneer skills and discover what daily life in Early America was really like. History, hospitality, and hands-on discovery await!

For more information, call 870-887-5821, email TheDepotMuseum@gmail.com, or visit the Nevada County Depot Museum's Facebook page.

The Nevada County Depot Museum is a 501(c)3 non-profit humanities organization dedicated to preserving and sharing regional history. The Depot Museum manages Prairie D'Ane Battlefield as a historic and natural site open for visitors year-round. For more information on this or upcoming events, call 870-887-5821, email TheDepotMuseum@gmail.com, find us on Facebook, or visit TheDepotMuseum.org/Events.



AERIAL VIEW OF ENCAMPMENT. The Southwest Regional Rendezvous brings Early American enthusiasts together to live as it was from 1700-1840. Image courtesy Southwestern Regional Rendezvous

PUBLIC NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 1000

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCES 906 AMENDING THE CITY OF NASHVILLE ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE

This Amendment is to provide that prior ordinances that amend the City of Nashville Animal Control Ordinance, specifically Ordinances 906, are amended as follows:

WHEREAS, the City of Nashville Animal Control Ordinance is in need of certain modifications; BE IT SO ORDAINED:

Section One: Licensing.

The Section One "Licensing" as set forth in Ordinance 906 is deleted in its entirety.

Section Three: Number of Dogs Owned.

No person shall own, keep or harbor more than four (4) dogs over the age of three (3) months within the corporate limits of the City of Nashville.

Any person requesting to maintain a dog hospital or kennel with the City of Nashville city limits must first receive permission from the City Council and make such sanitary arrangements and pay any such fees as the Council may require. Violation of this Section is subject to a fine not exceeding One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) plus costs.

Section Five: Impoundment

Unstrained dogs and nuisance animals shall be taken by the Animal Control Officer and impounded in the animal shelter and there by confined in a humane manner.

Impounded dogs and cats shall be kept for not fewer than five (5) days for owners to reclaim.

If, by license, tag, or other means, the owner of any impounded animal can be identified, the Animal Control Officer shall immediately, upon impoundment, notify the owner by telephone or certified mail.

An owner reclaiming an impounded dog or cat shall pay a fee of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) for each day the animal has been impounded. Each subsequent violation, boarding costs' will be assessed at Twenty Dollars (\$20.00) for each day the animal has been impounded. Any animal not reclaimed by its owner within five (5) days shall become property of the local government authority and shall be placed for adoption in a suitable home or humanely euthanized.

That in no other manner is Ordinance 906 modified except as specified herein. The remainder of Ordinance 906 remains in full force and effect.

This amendment shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

Passed this 23rd day of February, 2026.

Larry Dunaway, Mayor

Lauren Clements, City Clerk

(This publication was paid for by the City of Nashville.)

PLAN NOW FOR YOUR BEST YARD & GARDEN EVER!!!

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- Pink & White Dogwoods
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- Carolina Jasmine
- Azaleas & More!



REMINDER: It's Time to Vote for the March 3rd Election!



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Consistent record backing Second Amendment rights and standing up to the radical Left.

Helped President Trump Secure the Border.

Backed tough enforcement, expanded border resources, and helped ICE deport criminal illegal aliens.

Delivered Billions for Arkansas Defense Projects.

Strengthened national security while creating and protecting good-paying jobs for Arkansans.

Let's Keep Arkansas Red and Reelect a Strong, Conservative Leader

Early Voting Begins February 17 • Election Day is March 3



Scan the QR Code to Find Your Nearest Polling Location

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