

Leader Board

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OPINION | 4A

Love your neighbor and get your vaccination.

Liberty Tree event set for April 8 in Murfreesboro

The Desoto Trace Chapter of the Arkansas Society Sons of the American Revolution will hold a Liberty Tree dedication Wednesday, April 8, on the lawn of the Pike County Courthouse in Murfreesboro.

The event will begin at 10 a.m.

The DeSoto Trace chapter is celebrating its 250th anniversary.

The Arkansas Forestry Commission donated the elm trees to be planted.

Easter Sunrise Service at park

The annual community Easter Sunrise Service sponsored by the Nashville Area Pastoral Fellowship will be held under the stage roof at the Nashville City Park.

The service will be at 6:30 a.m. on Easter Sunday, April 5.

The service message will be given by Pastor Paul Herndon of Immanuel Baptist Church in Nashville.

The public is invited.

VFDs plan benefit barbecue on April 7

County Line and Yancey Volunteer Fire Departments will be having their annual barbecue fund-raiser on Tuesday, April 7, 2026.

The event will be at the Mennonite school on Hwy. 355 from 5-7:30 p.m. with an auction following.

For more information, contact Lavon Hostetler 870-451-3757.

The public is invited.

MS egg hunt on Saturday at city park

The annual Easter Egg Hunt in the city park at Mineral Springs will be Saturday, April 4, from 1-3 p.m.

There will be food and games in addition to the Egg Hunt.

The public is invited.

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News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

HOLY WEEK IN NASHVILLE. Woody Futrell waves a palm branch during Palm Sunday services March 29 at First United Methodist Church of Nashville. Area congregations will have special services throughout the week leading up to Easter on April 5.

Churches set Holy Week events with special services on Easter

Area churches plan a number of Holy Week services leading up to Easter Sunday.

First United Methodist Church of Nashville and Bingen United Methodist Church will observe Holy Week through Easter on Sunday, April 5.

Services will be held at 5:30 p.m. at the Nashville church, including the following:

Holy Wednesday April 1
Maundy Thursday April 2 with Communion

Good Friday April 3
Holy Saturday April 4

There will be an Easter sunrise service April 5 at Bingen United Methodist Church at 6:45 a.m., followed by a pancake breakfast.

The Easter service at Bingen will begin at 9 a.m.

First United Methodist in Nashville will have an Easter service at 10:50 a.m.

Rev. Pam Estes is the pastor. Jaree Hall is the organist.

Central Baptist Church in Mineral Springs will hold an Easter Sunrise Service April 5 at 7 a.m. under the pavilion.

Rev. Robby Sherman will deliver the Easter message.

Breakfast will be served afterward.

The church's Easter service will be held at 9 a.m.

The public is invited.

First Baptist Church of Nashville will have a Holy Week prayer service at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 1.

The church will observe the Lord's Supper at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 2.

There will be a service on Good Friday at 6 p.m.

Easter Sunday will include an early service at 8 a.m., Sunday School at 9 a.m. and morning worship at 10:15 a.m.

St. Martin's Catholic Church of Nashville will observe Holy Thursday with a bilingual Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7 p.m.

There will be a procession on Good Friday April 3 at 1 p.m. along Second Street to the church campus. The Passion of the Lord will be observed at 3 p.m.

Holy Saturday April 4 will include the Blessing of the Fire followed by Easter Vigil.

On Easter Sunday, there will be an English Mass at 9 a.m. and a Spanish Mass at 11 a.m. at St. Martin's.

NHS students explore possible jobs during recent Career Fair at school

By John R. Schirmer

News-Leader staff

Nashville High School students had the opportunity to meet representatives from area businesses, industries, health care, the military and other occupations during the school's recent Career Fair in Scrapper Gym.

Career Coach Natalie Sherman and Counselor Beverly Tedford hosted the March 18 event, which attracted more than two dozen vendors who met with students by grade levels.

Each class reported to the gym for a one-hour walk through the fair.

Students asked questions and heard descriptions of numerous careers.

Participating companies and their representatives (where available) included the following:

Diamond Bank - Alex Bailey
Weyerhaeuser - Shaun Clark, Sandra Gandara

Farm Bureau - Hannah Clements, Arlene Padilla

Arkansas Department of Transportation - Kyle Honeycutt and Jim Bob Lamb

Navy - Reginald Herrera

Howard Memorial Hospital - Hannah Butler, Sandy Webb, Jeff Williamson

Fire Department - Lee Worley, Michel Staten

Howard County Children's Center - Patsi Neri, Yernia Neri

Cornerstone Counseling - Kali Hester

Corps of Engineers - Evan Mount, Blake Hinds, Will Posey, Zach Erwin

MSRG - Randy Pennington, Logan Pennington

Pilgrim's - Beth Lamb, Donald Mosley

Pafford - Jennifer Revels, Nikki Moore

CartainTeed - Tyler Shurden, Christina Orozco

First State Bank/De Queen - Jamie Doss, Tressie Webb, Rayleigh Faulkner

National Guard - Dallas Cox

UA Cossaatot - Megan Daugherty, Julie Rhodes, Hadley Philamlee, Sarah Chesshir, Tiana Kelly, Stuart DuFrene

Marines

Farmers Bank - Chantal Hutchison, Sarah Myers, Celina McLeland

Mission Plastics - Sara Sullivan

Tyson of Nashville - Amber Poe, Shakonda Haney

Army - Johnathan Gallagher, Sandra Khounvachai

Sherman and Tedford began planning for the Career Fair last fall.

The fair was originally scheduled for late January but was postponed because of the ice storm which hit the area.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

HEALTH CARE CAREERS. Hannah Butler, Sandy Webb and Jeff Williamson of Howard Memorial Hospital are set to discuss opportunities in the medical field at the Nashville High School Career Fair March 18 in Scrapper Gym. (Related photos page 5A)



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

BACK AT NHS. Logan Pennington (center) of MSRG visits NHS Career Coach Natalie Sherman (left) and Counselor Beverly Tedford (right) at the Career Fair. Pennington is a 2025 graduate of Nashville High and was back on campus for the event.



Obituaries



Betty J. Steele

Betty J. Steele, 80, of Nashville, Ark., passed away on Monday, March 30, 2026, in Nashville, Ark. She was born Feb. 16, 1946, in Prescott, Ark., the daughter of the late Kyle Andrews and Dessie J. Stuart Andrews.

She was a very lively lady, that never met a stranger. She loved people.

She enjoyed life and was a force to be reckoned with. Let's Go was her middle name.

Betty loved anything to do with water. She taught numerous kids to water ski and all her grandkids to swim. She continued to water ski on her Jobe ski well into her Golden years.

She had many talents, a few of them were sewing, crafts, scrapbooking and playing the piano.

At around 15 she got the job as the pianist at her childhood church. She continued to play for churches until she went into the nursing home. She would give anyone piano lessons that asked.

She was called many names to her dad she was Betty Babe, some Miss Betty, but to her grandkids she was Mom B. They thought she could do anything and she could.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Ray Steele; three brothers, Cecil, Carl, and Kyle Andrews Jr.; two sisters, Linda Lou Andrews and Joyce Marie Brantley.

Survivors include: one son, Allen Arnold and wife Jenny; two daughters, Cheryl Daniels and husband Wayne, Candy Womack and husband Robert; grandchildren Derrik Womack and wife Holly, Crystal Webb and husband Will, Alex Arnold and wife Asa, Andy Arnold, Aaran Daniels and wife Katherine; great-grandchildren Kaiden Riddle, Abagale Webb, Parker Webb, Julianne Webb, Katelynn Womack, Kambryn Womack, Ava Webb, and Blakely Webb; siblings Grace Anette Davidson, Elizabeth Sue O'Neal, Georgia Rhodes and Joey Andrews; As well as a number of nieces, nephews and friends.

Graveside services will be 11 a.m., Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at Nubbin Hill Cemetery with Robert Womack, Will Webb and Derrik Womack officiating, under the direction of Latimer Funeral Home in Nashville.

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



Jason Carter Stueart

Jason Carter Stueart, 56, of Little Rock passed away on Saturday March 14, 2026. Jason was preceded in death by his mother Linda Stueart, and his father Burl Stueart. He is survived by his sisters Laurie Stueart, Kelly Ball, Rena Pakis, Wendy Burrus and Katie Stueart; his stepmother Dorothy Stueart; and three nephews (Paul Pakis, Nicholas Pakis, and Wesley Ball) and four nieces (Mary Ball, Colleen Bell, Corrine Womack, and Caroline Burrus).

Jason was in the United States Air Force for 10 years. During that time he was stationed in England, South Korea, Alabama, Spain, Alaska and Iceland. He enjoyed being able to travel and see the world. Montgomery, Ala., was the only place he was stationed that he did not like.

After returning home he joined the IT workforce in Little Rock with his last position being at Blue Cross/Blue Shield as a Production Control Analyst.

Jason loved all of his fam-

ily wholeheartedly and he will be truly missed by all his family and friends who loved him so deeply. We hold on to and are comforted by the knowledge that Jason is in heaven and being held in God's hands and surrounded by all his family who have gone before him. He will never be alone.

There will be a private family graveside service at a later date.

For Suicide Lifeline Services dial 988.

Becky Utley Jeter

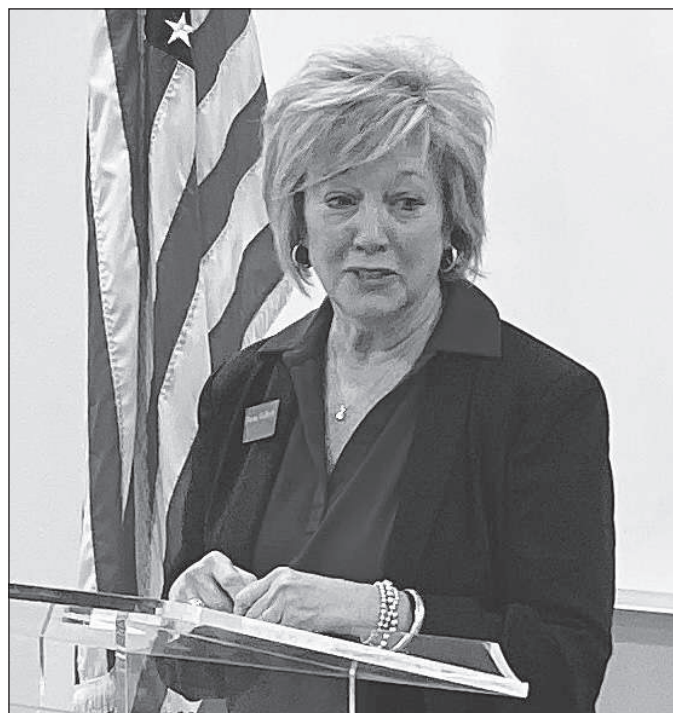
Rebecca "Becky" Utley Jeter, 81, died March 26, 2026. She was born Feb. 13, 1945, in Hope, the daughter of the late Fleda Robins and Ernest Ray Utley.

She graduated from Nashville High School where she was a member of the basketball team and was a majorette in the marching band.

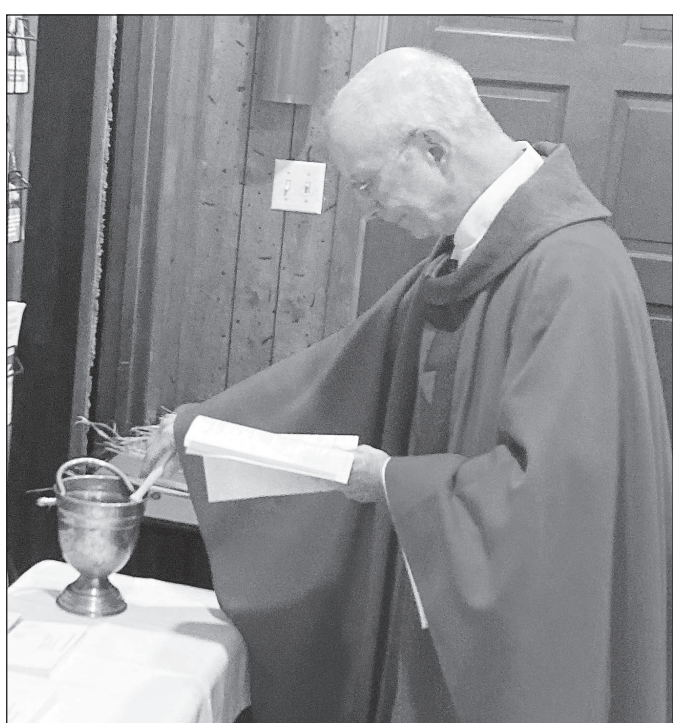
She graduated from the University of Arkansas with a degree in English. After college Becky moved to Altheimer and began a fulfilling career teaching high school English. She was a member of Altheimer Methodist Church.

Survivors include: her husband of 60 years, Ronald Hardy Jeter; her son, Matthew Scott Jeter and wife Marcie; her daughter, Meredith Jeter Hagan and husband Rob Hagan; her brother, James Patrick Utley and wife Patty, her sister, Carol Utley Casey and husband Lewis; also grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, April 3 at 11 a.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1100 Central Avenue in Hot Springs.



WORKING FOR THE GOOD OF NASHVILLE. Dena Tollett, who has succeeded Tim Pinkerton as executive director of the Nashville Chamber of Commerce, spoke to the Nashville Rotary Club, last week, and talked about her plans for economic growth and about upcoming planned events for the chamber. She was president of the chamber of commerce in 2011. The club got a report on training sessions for incoming president Bobby Miller.



BLESSING OF THE PALMS. Father Bill Elser, a visiting priest from Hot Springs, prepares to bless the palms on Palm Sunday. Holy Week activities continue this week at St. Martin's Catholic Church in Nashville.

FINANCIAL FOCUS

Ask yourself these two questions before buying a home

By Josh Tice

Edward Jones Investments

You may have heard that buying a home is better than renting. After all, why "throw money away" on rent when you could be building wealth through homeownership? Financial professionals say the decision isn't that simple.

The answer depends on your personal and financial situation. Before you begin house hunting, ask yourself two key questions: Can you afford to buy? And should you buy?

Can you afford to buy? While being ready to purchase a home means having enough money for a down payment and a monthly mortgage, other financial obligations are involved.

It's important that your debt levels are manageable before you buy. Without a mortgage, it's ideal for your monthly debt payments to be less than 20% of your gross monthly income. With a mortgage, debt payments should stay lower than 35%.

You'll also need to cover homeowner's insurance premiums with a deductible, pay annual property taxes, hold emergency savings for the costs of major repairs such as roof or driveway replacement and build flexibility into your budget for routine expenses like HVAC tune-ups and lawn care. Don't forget the upfront costs, such as closing costs, that come with homebuying. They typically run between 2% and 6% of the purchase price.

Should you buy? One of the biggest factors in deciding whether to buy or rent relates to time. The longer you

plan to stay in your house, the more likely it is that buying makes financial sense. Generally, professionals say it doesn't make sense to buy unless you're planning to stay in the home at least three to five years.

When you buy a home, you face high purchasing costs right away. Initially, you build equity slowly, since most of your mortgage payment goes to interest. Staying in your house longer offers more time to build equity. Overall, the total cost of buying could be lower than renting.

Many factors can impact whether it will be more cost effective to rent than buy. Job stability, potential reduction in income for one or both spouses, mortgage rates, rental costs, the rate at which homes are appreciating in value and the cost of homeowners insurance all come into play. Fortunately, many online calculators account for these factors and help you compare your options.

Beyond the numbers. When deciding whether to buy a house, don't just look at the cost. Buying a home is more than an investment. Your home is where you live your life. So, you should consider your lifestyle and preferences. Buying might be more suitable if you need stability, want to personalize your home and are comfortable with tying a portion of your wealth to a house. Renting offers more flexibility and fewer maintenance responsibilities.

Ultimately, choosing to rent or buy comes down to understanding your finances, your plans and what you want from the place you call home. Take the time to assess costs and lifestyle trade-offs to help make a choice that supports your longterm goals.

Regular children's center board meeting April 14

The Howard County Children's Center board of directors will meet in regular session on Tuesday, April 14.

The meeting will be in the Building 2 conference area of HCCC.

It will begin at noon and is open to the public.

The center's officers and directors include: Josh Tice, president; Riley Jamison, vice-president; Lisa Chandler, secretary; Donny Woods, treasurer; and directors Carol Murray, Bill Craig, Dena Tollett, Sarah Myers, Andy Troutt and Zack Pinegar.

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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



Cast members for Dierks High School Senior class play "Wagon Wheels a-Rollin," April 2006

140 years ago: March 1886
A young man, who together with two other boys got into a gambling scrape one night last week, in which they said he used his 'pop' rather too promiscuously, returned after a week's absence Wednesday night and was pulled by Marshal Mulkey and Deputy Montgomery. He will be held to answer for deadly assault.

120 years ago: April 1906
Satterwhite, the man who shot young Jim Wallace at Hope Monday night because he caught him kissing his daughter, was placed in jail at Washington in default of bond, to be held to await the result of Wallace's wounds.

Wallace was reported to be slightly improved yesterday morning but is not yet out of danger.

J. C. Kirby & Son of Washington County, who have been for several weeks buying cattle, have shipped out sixteen carloads to their ranch in the Indian Territory. They will have about twelve cars more to ship about the 20th. They have bought most of the surplus cattle in this section of the county.

110 years ago: April 1916
Guy Norsworthy, a young boy, was assaulted and robbed of \$5.90, while en route home from the picture show.

The boy was struck on the head with what is thought to have been a sandbag, and after his assailant took the money from his pocket he warned him that if he attempted to follow him, or raise an alarm, he would be shot.

70 years ago: April 1956
Roy Rogers, the cowboy movie star; and R. A. McDerby, president of Yellow Jacket Boat Company are motor boating down the Red River from Denison, Texas to New Orleans, La. They will be at Fulton Friday at 3 p.m., and Rodgers will be available for interviews and will sign autographs for the children.

Dan Futrell of Futrell Auto Supply of Nashville, urges all children who wish to see and talk to Roy Rogers to be at Fulton when he lands.

40 years ago: March 1986
Millwood Lake, where 29,200 acres of water has furnished top fishing for years, will be 20 years old this year. The project was authorized in 1946 and was dedicated on December 8, 1966.

Public Record of Howard County

Items or documents that were filed, issued or recorded at the Howard County, Ark., courthouse during the period Mar. 19-25, 2026, unless noted otherwise, included the following:

Marriage Licenses
(Marriage licenses cost \$60 at the County Clerk's office)
Mar. 20. Jason Clint Cox, 46, Lockesburg, and Sheila Lynette Cox, 51, Salisaw, Okla.

Mar. 20. Samuel Eugene Maroon, 24, Nashville, and Kymberly Michelle Stanek, 23, Nashville.

Mar. 24. George Edward Jordan, 54, Dierks, and Ruth Annette Dixon, 56, Dierks.

Mar. 25. Paul Michael Morrow, 33, Nashville, and Ashley Renee Pratt, 34, Foreman.

Civil Court
CV26-55, Mar. 18. Bank of America vs. Cameron Harding. Contract.

CV26-56, Mar. 19. LVNO Funding LLC, vs. Sharon McFalls. Debt

CV26-57, Mar. 19. Spring Oaks Capital vs. Ceaser Jones. Debt.

Domestic Relations Court
DR26-28, Mar. 20. Melissa Simmons vs. Gary Simmons. Separate maintenance.

Criminal Court
(NOTE: POCS = possession of controlled substance; PODP = possession of drug paraphernalia; DOCS = delivery of controlled substance. Defendants are innocent until proven otherwise.)
CR26-17, Mar. 23. State of Arkansas vs. Porsha Linn Gray, 43, white female, 510 W. Shepherd, Nashville; POCS, class D felony; PODP, class D.

CR26-18, Mar. 23. State of Arkansas vs. Jason Dixon, 48, Hispanic male, 121 S. Pine, Nashville; sexual indecency with a child, class D; contributing to the delinquency of a juvenile, misdemeanor.

Land/Property Transactions Beneficiary Deed
Mar. 19. Cecilia Harberston; to James Gregory White, et al; 1.419 ac. plus easement in S15 T9S R27W.
Mar. 19. James H. Chan-

dlar, widower of Rose Ann Chandler; to Tony L. Chandler and Heather Chandler, joint tenants; Lots in Block 3, Holly Addition, City of Dierks.

Mar. 19. Stanley Joe Herrington and wife Helen Deshoutel Herrington; to Gregory Warren Herrington, et al; part of Lot 3, Block 3, Town of Mineral Springs.

Mar. 23. Lewis McIntyre, surviving spouse of Beverly McIntyre; to Carolyn Elaine Marshall and Mark Marshall, joint tenants; 2 ac. plus easement in S20 T9S R27W.

Quitclaim Deed
Mar. 19. Casey Dwayne Roberts and Savannah Brooke Carver; to Savannah Carver. Properties in S15 T10S R28W.

Mar. 20. Kevin Gosnell; to Tanya Gosnell; Lots 7-8, Block 5, Heights Addition, Town of Dierks.

Mar. 24. Robert Washington, Sr., and wife, Debra Washington; to Debra Washington; all or part of Lots 17 thru 26, Block 27, Heights Addition, Town of Mineral Springs.

Distributee Deed
Mar. 24. Jacqueline Roberson, Distributee of the Estate of Frank Wesson, deceased; to Anthony Taylor, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Little Rock for the benefit of St. Martin Catholic Church; 0.584 ac., Lot 3 and part of Lot 4, Block 98, Town of Nashville.

Administrator's Deed
Mar. 20. Stacy Piggee, administrator of the estate of Travis Lee Hile, deceased; to Melodee Archer; 2 tracts, aggregate 0.693 ac. in S30 T7S R28W.

Warranty Deed
Mar. 19. Brennon C. Watts

and wife, Tashia Nicole Watts; to Francisca Cardenas Cardenas and husband, Fredy Marque Cienfuegos; Lot 4, Ramage Road Estates in S3 T9S R27W.

Mar. 19. Jacobo Salazar and Maria Salazar, husband and wife, and Jose Guadalupe Bustamente and Maria N. Bustamente, husband and wife; to Miguel Bustamente and Gabriela Mendoza, husband and wife; 0.55 ac. in S23 T9S R27W. \$39,000.

Mar. 20. Tanya Gosnell; to Jeremy Parker and wife, Casey Parker; Lots 7-8, Block 5, Heights Addition., Town of Dierks. \$98,500.

Mar. 20. Amber Billings, fka Amber Chesshir; and husband, Dalton Billings; to Corey Hockaday and wife, Laken Hockaday, 50 ac. in S3 T9S R28W. \$2,750,000.

Mar. 23. Patricia Stinson and husband, Gene Stinson, Jr.; to H&H Properties, LLC; 0.94 ac. in S4 T10S R27W. \$0.

Mar. 23. Patricia Stinson and husband, Gene Stinson, Jr.; to Brent Nelson and wife, Jennifer Nelson; property in S4 T10S R27W. \$330,000.

Mar. 23. Larry Allen Breeden and wife, Melissa Marie Breeden; to Reagan Bell and wife Colleen Bell; property in S26 T9S R27W in Nashville. \$210,000.

Mar. 23. Chad Matthew Duncan Tucker and wife, Kaylyn Ann Tucker; to Gregory K. Parker and Yolanda M. Parker; 12.47 ac. with exceptions in S20 T9S R27W. \$25,483.78.

Mar. 24. Samantha Dawn Wilhite; to Robert Campillo; Lot 5 and part of Lot 4, Holly Addition, Town of Dierks \$20,000.

Defendants enter pleas

One defendant pleaded guilty and three more entered not guilty pleas last Wednesday, March 25, the regular day for criminal court in Howard County.

On the bench to set trial dates and pronounce a sentence was Judge Tom Cooper.

The guilty plea was by Demario Laquinn Scoggins, 37, black male, Mineral Springs, who was charged with felon in possession of firearm, a class B felony, and a misdemeanor drug charge. The felony charge was reduced to class D, and he was sentenced to five years in the Arkansas Department of Correction.

Trial dates and pretrial motion dates were set for three defendants who pleaded not guilty:

Jason Dixon, 48, Hispanic male, Nashville, is charged with sexual indecency with a child, a class D felony, and contributing to the delinquency of a juvenile, a misdemeanor crime. Motions will be heard April 14.

Porsha Gray, 43, white female, Nashville, is charged with a pair of class D felonies -- possession of controlled

substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. Motions will be heard April 15.

April Kinsey, 44, white female, Nashville, is charged with class D felony drug possession. Her date for motions is May 27, and she was instructed to return with an attorney.

Five cases were continued.

Follow the News-Leader every week.

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR LOW INCOME HOUSING IN NASHVILLE AND DIERKS

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

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

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



MINE CREEK CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The Mine Creek Conservation District located at 101 South Washington St. in Nashville sells pasture chemicals and has the following in stock: 2-4-D, Grazon P+D, Cornerstone, Round Up, Remedy, Outrider, Polaris AC, MSMA, Class Act surfactant. We can also order any chemicals we don't keep in Stock.

All Chemical Sale Proceeds goes to promote the District's Conservation Programs.

For more information or to purchase chemicals call 870-845-4121 Ext. 3

Four States Classic

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Point of view

The No kings rally What kind of reaction did persons at the rally get?

YES, I AM STILL HERE peeking out my window on Main Street, and I was interested in the kind of reaction from passing drivers the 'No Kings' rally received here Saturday morning.

Goodness knows that the wind blasting from the east was hostile and frigid, especially after some of the mild days we had before that devastating cold snap that killed the peaches a week ago.

But the 15 or so persons who were out there on the sidewalk at the parking lot of the City-County Building surely had to expect some negative reaction to the audacity of their rally.

After all, we are in a very red county in a very red state as has been shown in recent elections.

These citizens at the rally had to be pretty brave. According to news reports there were 11 other 'No Kings' parades or rallies in Arkansas. I'm guessing they were mostly in larger towns.

Nationwide there were reportedly several thousand. There were even some protests in other nations.

The people were rallying for a variety of things but most of their protests were aimed at our President.

In the November elections we'll see if any of their anger shows up in the defeat of pro-Trump legislators in other states.

But back to the reaction of local passing drivers.

One of the rally participants told me that a driver yelled "Hail Trump" out his car window. Several vehicles honked --- I wouldn't know if they were 'fer or agin' the spirit of the rally.

I DO admire persons who will take the heat for standing up for their principles. It can be unpopular to swim upstream.

What would YOU do? If you had differences with the powers-that-be would you hold up a sign and endure remarks from passing motorists, or would you drive past and flip 'em off?

● ---- ● --- ●

ANIMAL CRACKERS. Drama under my carport. It was still dark Monday morning when I returned to my house after my usual walk. For some reason the sensor lights were on and bright. A medium black-and-white dog came running out while I was still in the driveway. It was probably just exploring and its motion set off the light, I said to myself.

When I reached my buggy I heard a cat hiss. Suddenly a small black cat ran out from under the aforementioned buggy. It was followed by a larger black-and-white dog which bolted from around the aforementioned buggy and was in pursuit. The panther and the dog both headed out into the dark.

I went inside to change my pants. How did they get wet? I hope the cat got away. I didn't hear sounds of mortal combat.

I've had a few encounters with animals during my 35 or so years of morning walks in the neighborhood. Skunks aplenty. Once a deer. Some other dogs, none of which were threatening. And once, an owl glided silently just over my head. I've heard coyotes but never seen any.

Of course I've had some sightings of Louise Fox (that's another story and I'm sure you wouldn't be interested).

That owl, incidentally comes and goes in the neighborhood in a cycle of every five or six years, and it's about time for it to come back. I'll know it when I hear the whooooooo.

● ---- ● --- ●

THE GOOD EARTH. I have no idea where they've been but I'm surprised this spring at the glowing re-appearance of azealas in my yard. Maybe they've been there the last few years, but I don't remember. I haven't been paying attention to the bushes for some time, but the 2026 azealas are brilliant white. I bought and planted them years and years ago -- before we even had nurseries here. I still remember the variety: Mrs. G.G. Gerbing. That is a memorable name, and I have no idea who she is, or was.

I have noticed fire ant mounds coming up around the cana plants.

● ---- ● --- ●

I GET EMAIL. Lots of it. In fact, Mr. Schirmer has asked me to take a pay cut because I spend so much time with emails.

I didn't ask for the emails.

Overnight I get maybe 180 emails from Costco, Omaha Steaks, AAA, Marriott Hotels and BlueCross and some Ukranian wimmen. Maybe our visiting ITech guy can do something to weed out those useless emails. Except for the ones from those Ukrainian wimmen that really, really, really want to meet me.

● ---- ● --- ●

MORE THINGS I LEARNED from opening an email: Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.

● ---- ● --- ●

WORD GAMES. I love oxymorons: When they asked if I was coming to the No Kings rally, I gave them a Definite Maybe.

● ---- ● --- ●

HE SAID: "You have enemies? Good. That means you've stood up for something, sometime in your life." Victor Hugo, French author and poet

● ---- ● --- ●

SHE SAID: "The truth does not change according to our ability to stomach it." Flannery O'Connor, American novelist

● ---- ● --- ●

SWEET DREAMS, Baby

Mine Creek
Revelations

By
Louie Graves

Love Thy Neighbor, and GET THE COVID VACCINE!

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fully immunized, remember to get the booster shot.

Presented in the public interest by the Nashville News-Leader

State panel approves \$12 million for alternative to ACT, SAT exams

By State Sen. Jimmy Hickey Jr.

The Arkansas Legislative Council recently voted to approve a contract worth up to \$12 million to offer the Classic Learning Test (CLT) in high schools across the state for the next four years.

The contract is between the Arkansas Department of Education and Maryland-based Classic Learning Initiatives LLC. The contract begins on July 1 and ends in June 2030, with an extension available through June 2033.

Like the ACT or SAT, the CLT is a standardized test used for college admissions in the United States to measure high school students' readiness for college. According to the CLT website, the test is "... designed to serve students from a variety of educational backgrounds...our assessments emphasize timeless academic skills and promote critical and logical thinking."

According to Classic Learning Initiatives, the Classic Learning Test provides a more comprehensive measure of academic formation, accomplishment, and potential and offers a better testing experience: "By including

reading passages from classic and historical texts, CLT exams offer a unique opportunity to engage students with the influential authors and ideas that have shaped history and culture."

Its reading and writing passages draw heavily from classic literature and major historical authors such as Homer, Plato, Aristotle, Dante, Chaucer, and John Wyckliffe; early modern writers such as Erasmus, Shakespeare, and Thomas Hobbes; and late moderns such as Jane Austen, Charles Darwin, Fyodor Dostoevsky, J.R.R. Tolkien, Langston Hughes, and Mark Twain.

The CLT suite of tests is also approved for annual testing requirements for home school students and those using Education Savings Account funds.

Sponsored by state Sen. Jim Dotson, who represents District 34 (which includes parts of cities of Bella Vista, Bentonville, Centerton and Hiwassee in Benton County), and state Rep. Keith Brooks, who represents House District 78 (which includes portions of Pulaski, Perry, and Saline Counties), Act 724 of 2025 mandated Arkansas public and charter high

schools to offer the CLT along with the ACT and SAT.

The cost will cover students' testing fees. The online forms of the Classic Learning Test and its ninth and 10th grade version cost \$34.50, while paper forms cost \$44.50.

The actual amount that Arkansas will pay Classic Learning Initiatives will depend on how many students take the Classic Learning Test instead of the ACT or SAT.

More than 300 higher education institutions nationwide accept the Classic Learning Test for admissions. U.S. service academies have also announced that they would accept the exam for the 2027 admissions cycle. Currently several Arkansas colleges and universities accept the test, including The University of Arkansas, The University of Central Arkansas, Harding University, John Brown University, the University of the Ozarks, Williams Baptist University, Ecclesia College, Crowley's Ridge College, and Arkansas Tech University.

The Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship recognizes the CLT, with a qualifying score of 58, which is roughly equivalent to a 24 score on the ACT.

Legislative Council meetings continue

By State Rep. Dolly Henley

The Arkansas Legislative Council (ALC) and its subcommittees are meeting at the Capitol, continuing their role of overseeing state agencies and reviewing key funding and policy decisions between legislative sessions.

State revenue collections remain strong. Gross General Revenues year-to-date total approximately \$5.36 billion—an increase of \$89 million, or 1.7%, compared to this time last year. Net General Revenue available for distribution has reached \$4.55 billion, up \$163.7 million, or 3.7%, from February 2025.

Among the items approved, ALC authorized the Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism to add three administrative positions following the

transition of Blanchard Springs Caverns and Recreation Area into a state park.

These roles will support daily operations, facility management, and visitor experience improvements.

Lawmakers also approved a \$12 million agreement to administer the Classic Learning Test in Arkansas high schools. This provides students with an additional testing option alongside the ACT and SAT, as required by recent legislation.

Additionally, members supported a \$4.25 million allocation from the Restricted Reserve Fund to the Arkansas State Police to purchase 102 new vehicles, helping update and maintain the agency's fleet.

Economic development was also a key priority, highlighted by

the approval of a \$90,000 contract to study Arkansas's role in the global lithium market—an industry driven by increasing demand for battery production.

Under the agreement, the contractor will deliver a detailed analysis and strategic roadmap outlining how Arkansas can strengthen its position in the lithium supply chain. The contractor will also provide monthly updates tracking global trends in the lithium market, helping state leaders stay informed and better understand emerging opportunities for economic growth.

As this work continues, lawmakers are preparing for the 2026 Fiscal Session, which begins April 8. You can watch committee meetings and House proceedings at arkansashouse.org.

Reading is vital for American students

By U.S. Rep. Bruce Westerman

We just wrapped up National Reading Month in March, and I'm grateful for this time set aside that underscores the importance of such a critical aspect of education.

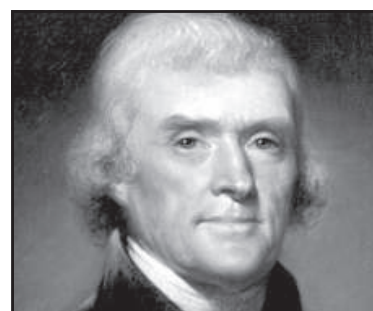
Ronald Reagan once said, "Reading is a key to past, present, and future — a path into virtually limitless treasures of knowledge and inspiration. Reading encourages wonder about the world, broadens awareness of others, and offers clues about the meaning of life."

Our late President is exactly right. Reading offers a way to expand the mind in a way that our digital devices are unable to. Holding a book in your hands, turning its pages, and reading its words of wisdom offers a moment in time for your mind to take a break, learn something new, and move forward with a broadened awareness.

As the co-chair of the Congressional Dyslexia Caucus, it is very important that we also shine a light on the most common learning disability that is directly tied

to reading: dyslexia. Within this caucus, I have the opportunity to work in Congress on behalf of educators, parents, and students with dyslexia to advocate for a more science-based approach to creating a modern understanding around the definition of dyslexia.

Reading connects our present to our past. It's a tool to expand our minds, increase our awareness of the world around us, and even allow us to visit hidden corners of the globe. The significance of reading can never be understated.



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

Thomas Jefferson, 1787
Free press, free people

Letters policy

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

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

Nashville News-Leader

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418 North Main, Nashville, AR 71852.

Church to hold sanctioned rodeo

Cross Point Cowboy Church will host a rodeo Friday and Saturday, April 10-11 at its covered arena on the church campus. The rodeo is CRRA/

ACRA/ARA/UPRA sanctioned. Events also include Jr. Barrels and Mutton Bustin. Stock contractor is Bar NH Rodeo Company.

Events will begin at 8 p.m. The church and arena are located west of Nashville on State Hwy. 371. The public is invited.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

Sandra Gandara (center) and Shaun Clark (right) of Weyerhaeuser discuss opportunities with the company during the Nashville High School Career Fair March 18 at Scrapper Gym. They were among representatives of about two dozen employers who participated in the event.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

Kyle Honeycutt and Jim Bob Lamb represent the Arkansas Department of Transportation at the Nashville High School Career Fair.



News-Leader photo/JOHN R. SCHIRMER

Area residents gather near the municipal building in Nashville for a "No Kings" rally Saturday morning, March 28. The event was among thousands held across the United States and worldwide to protest policies of the Trump administration.

Nashville's City Sales and Use Tax For February 2026

Deposits.....	\$128,565.78
State Service Charge	3,856.97
Interest Earned (Act 513 of 1983)	369.75
Vending Decals Sold	0.11
Total Distributed	\$125,078.67

SOURCE: City Finance Officer Kimberly Green

Coming April 8
Post-season honors for Scrapper and Scrapperette basketball and a look back at their seasons.
Nashville News-Leader

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Easter Sunrise Services
under pavilion ~ 7:00 a.m.
Message - Robby Sherman

Breakfast served following the service

Worship Service at 9:00 a.m.
EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ATTEND.

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Mineral Springs Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 4th from 1 - 3 p.m.

Bring the family out for food, games and lots of fun.
Mineral Springs City Park

Easter Egg Hunt

City of Nashville Job Opening

The City of Nashville will be accepting applications for the **Water Distribution Crew**. Applications will be accepted through Friday, April 10, 2026 at the office of the Public Works Director, 426 N. Main St., Nashville, AR 71852.

Brief descriptions of qualifications:

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

Brief description of duties:

- Be in good physical condition, as job requires physical labor in all types of weather
- Knowledge and Experience on a variety of equipment
- Have the knowledge to service and maintain equipment
- Any other duties the supervisor may assign

Personal qualifications:

- Have good hand/eye coordination
- Have a good clean appearance and teamwork attitude
- Be able to respond on a 24/7 emergency basis

Interested persons may obtain an application at the Nashville City Hall, 426 N. Main St., Nashville, AR 71852.

Candidates desiring to be considered for the above position should apply in person, no phone calls please. The City of Nashville reserves the right to reject any and all applications.

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THE NEWS-LEADER IN ROME. Lake Hamilton High School business teacher Emily Alexander Gaines (center of group, holding newspaper) displays a copy of her hometown newspaper the *Nashville News-Leader* on the grounds of the Colosseum in Rome during a visit to the Eternal City last week. Gaines, a former Nashville resident, took a group of Lake Hamilton students (right hand portion of picture after Gaines) on a spring break trip to Italy, where they were joined by students and a teacher from Miami (at left). Tour locations for the two groups included the Colosseum, the catacombs, the Pope's summer residence, Perugia and other historic sites.

Honor Roll named at NJHS

The Honor Roll for the third nine weeks at Nashville Junior High School has been announced by Principal Hannah Topor.

Students include the following:

Ninth grade
All A's
Guadalupe Martinez, Abigail Bailey, Owen Bauer, Zakyrius Beasley, Colton Brown, Jonathan Bustamante, Emily Byers, Luke Cool-ey, Bo Dean, Mianda Dukes, Addison Gammage, Aniyah Gilliam, Zania Green, Jadyn Johnson, Maddie Lovelis, Brayley Lowery, Ace McKinnon, Elijah Muresan, Jarely Perez, Emiline Petty, Andrew Reese, Yuliana Rojas, Jacob Salazar, McKynlee Scott, Christopher Singleton, Savannah Taylor, Kaegan Waters, Harlee Webb.

A's & B's
Giovani Aguilar, Rayniah Alvarez, Aron Barajas, Madden Brassfield, Khloe Brewer, Tyler Castleman, La'Tiana Cheatham, Weller Chesshir, Kaylie Couch, Landry Craven, Abishai Cruz, Braiden Friend, Ledger Green, Jacob Hale, Hudson Halter, Ethan Hamilton, Gemma Harberson, Noah Harris, Derek Hernandez, Royce Johnson, Daniel Jones, Ezra Loggins, Gabriel Lopez, Molly Marion, Daisy Marrufo, Raven McFadden, Dayana Morales, Brooklyn Morgan, Bay Nolte, Karson Pack, Cason Parker, Adrian

Perez, Corban Perez, Ivana Pineda, Aubie Reed, Cope-
lin Reeder, Tahya Riggins, Taylon Schooley, Addison Sullivan, Ma'Layah Trotter, Emory Wallis, Luke Wallis, Parker Webb, Rhett Young.

Eighth grade
All A's
Brynlee Bagley, Addison Banegas, Wyatt Chesshir, Carson Clifton, Parker Giddens, Connor Gordon, Dieucotie Green, Alexis Hernandez, Kallen Horn, Kale Hughes, Kimber Jones, Mac-ey Keeton, Gage Kinkade, Xzabrea Langston, Lucas Lowrey, Harmony Martin, Destiny Mercado, Caleb Mounts, Loraine Natividad, Jaxson Parker, Kaylee Pizarro, Carter Reeves, Eli Romero, Abigail Sartin, Channing Shackelford, Dawson Smith, Hunter Stone, Bella Topor, Cherish Tucker, Terra Vanderziel, Nicolas Vilar, Z'onna Williams.

A's & B's
Brianna Alexander, Katelynn Bailey, Selina Ber-
ruquin, Benjamin Betan-court, Chloe Bohn, Mol-
lie Boone, Heavenly Brett, Tarlaycia Chipps, Gunner Davis, Autumn Dillard, Davin Dowdy, Emma Gunter, Aaliyah Hamilton, Allison Hernandez, Tara Hill, Parker Jackson, Jayce Jones, Kaden Jones, Paxton Linville, Eden Lopez, Emily Mendoza, Kate Parker, Giovanni Pineda, Ayleen Pioquinto, Ken-
nedey Porter, Carly Ramos,

Chloe Russo, Annabelle Schooley, Westyn Schroad-
er, Hunter Sigman, Olivia Simmons, Braylee Smith, Kennedy Smith, Minka Stan-
ley, Alonzo Stroud, Brayan Thomas, Olivia Trimble, Imani Underwood, Ahmad Williams.

Seventh grade
All A's
Kaisen Allen, Nora Bauer, Hank Bell, Xiomara Bretado, Blakelee Britt, Raul Busta-
mante, Cooper Cogburn, Robb Hainen, Georgiana Hawthorne, Evelyn Lima, Brody Moody, Sienna Norton, Nhi Phan, Mia Portillo, Madalynn Propps, Knox Stinson, Yael Velazquez, Weston Wallace, Jagger White, Adyson Winton.

A's & B's
Jake Adams, Gavin App-
legate, Khloe Bahner, Addi-
son Bicek, Angel Bustaman-
te, Xavier Cardona, Aron Chandler, Quinn Coffee, Sugey Ferretiz, Miguel Gar-
rate, Brylie Garner, Lillia-
na Gonzalez, Lenyx Gren-
en, Kendall Hammontree, Adeyani Hernandez, Sean Hopson, Lakyn Hugg, Gene-
sis Alonso, Ivan Jiang, Emari Johnson, Maddie McDan-
iel, Jacaydn McLean, Jolie McLelland, Raiden Moore, Easton Nguyen, DaMiyah Pingee, Georgia Pinegar, Caleb Reagan, Mollie Revels, Victor Sanchez, Racie Scott, Tyler Toliver, Hudson Wor-
ley, Kamryn Wright, Olivia Wright.



ON THE MOUND. Sophomore Halton Howard pitches for the Scrappers Monday afternoon, March 30, at Lake Hamilton. The Scrappers held an early 2-0 lead before falling behind in the second inning. Howard was among several Scrapper pitchers who faced the Wolves. Lake Hamilton won the non-conference road game 7-4.

Take the News-Leader with you on your spring and summer travels. Maybe we'll bring back Leader Readers!

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SPORTS LEADERS

Players of the Week as selected by The Leader sports department

Spring athletes
High school sports have picked up speed after spring break. Athletes in baseball, softball, track and soccer are back on the field as their teams vie for positioning in upcoming regional and state tournaments. In Class 4A, regional baseball and softball will be played at Crossett, with the 4A state tournaments to be held at Nashville. State 4A track will be in Clarksville. Soccer, baseball and softball finals will be played at Hot Springs.

This weekly feature sponsored by **McDonald's of Nashville**
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FIND NEW ROADS

Holy Week 2026
What do we need to follow Jesus?
We need one another! Come worship!

Nightly services at 5:30 p.m. at
Nashville United Methodist Church
Holy Wednesday, April 1
Maundy Thursday, April 2 with Communion
Good Friday, April 3
Holy Saturday, April 4

Easter Sunrise Service, April 5 at
Bingen UMC at 6:45 a.m.
Pancake Breakfast following service
Easter Service at 9:00 a.m. at
Bingen United Methodist Church

Easter Service at
First United Methodist Church
at 10:50 a.m.
1403 W. Sunset Dr., Nashville



News-Leader photo/JOHN BALCH

CLEAN OUT OF LAKE NICHOLS MAKING PROGRESS. Work is currently underway at Lake Nichols, Nashville's oldest reservoir, to remove years of debris and settlement from the bottom of the lake without damaging the bottom which helps hold the water. The debris and water is being removed with special equipment and pumped into settling ponds with the water eventually making its way back into the reservoir.

'Hop On Over' to Nashville City Park Saturday to Easter Egg Hunt

The Nashville Parks & Recreation Department is inviting the public to "hop on over" for its annual Easter egg hunt on Saturday, April 4 at 10 a.m. The Easter Bunny will be there for pictures and there will be a special jeweled egg for special prizes. The age groups will include: 0-3 York Gary Field; 4-6 Lovelis Field; 7-9 FNB/Walmart Field; 10+ Tyson Field.

JAs to host 'Sweets Treats for a Sweet Cause' Bake Sale Friday

The Junior Auxiliary of Nashville will host its Easter bake sale on Friday, April 3, starting at 7 a.m. in the Diamond Bank parking lot. The sale is an event for the group's scholarship fundraiser and bake goods are being sought. The cost will be by donation only with all proceeds to "benefit scholarships for deserving students in our community."

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April Events

Cossatot River State Park & Natural Area

Spring has sprung! Get outdoors with the park interpreters for an educational program or guided hike.

Pack a lunch and make a day of it, allowing time to explore the interactive exhibits of the visitor center, take a short trail walk, or just be with nature along the river bank.

Friday, April 3
Bee Baths
1p.m. @ Visitor Center
Did you know our buzzy pollinators need baths too? Join a park interpreter to explore the life of a bee and create your very own bee bath to take home! All supplies provided.

Saturday, April 4
Mammals of Cossatot River
9-11 a.m. @ Sandbar Campground

Are you ready to discover the wild side of Cossatot River State Park? Stop by Sandbar Campground to investigate the diverse wildlife of the area with a park interpreter! This is a come and go station.

Saturday, April 4
Water Sleuths
2p.m. @ Cossatot Falls
Is the Cossatot River a healthy river? Learn how to examine the plants and animals in the river as indicators for water quality. Dive into basic chemistry and chemical water quality sampling with a park interpreter.

Sunday, April 5
Amphibian Crawl
10a.m. @ Cossatot Falls
Frogs, toads, salamanders, and newts are all types of amphibians we have at Cossatot River State Park! Join a park interpreter to find and identify as many as possible on a section of the River Corridor Trail. This is a 3-mile round trip hike rated easy to moderate.

Every Sunday
Critter Feeding
3p.m. @ Visitor Center
Stop by the visitor center to join a park interpreter in feeding our resident critters—snakes, frogs, turtles, and more!

Friday, April 10
A.M. Power Hike
8:30a.m. @ Harris Creek Trailhead
Work up a sweat with a park interpreter on the Harris Creek Trail! All hikers are welcome but this will be at



VOLUNTEER WITH US!

at Cossatot River State Park

Saturday, April 18
9-11 AM
@ Brushy Creek Recreation Area

GREATEST AMERICAN CLEANUP 2026

Join park interpreters to give back and create a lasting impact on this high-use section of the Cossatot River! This beautification project includes removing litter and debris from the shoreline and the day-use picnic areas. All supplies are provided for volunteers as well as a t-shirt. Please wear protective, but water friendly shoes and clothing. Volunteers of all ages welcome—those who are unable to descend to the shoreline can contribute on the nearby trail or campground areas. No registration required.

a swift pace. Bring plenty of water and a snack. This trail is moderately difficult, so please wear sturdy, closed toe shoes and weather appropriate clothing. This is a 3.5-mile loop hike rated moderate to strenuous.

Saturday, April 11
Wildflower ID Hike
11a.m. @ Cossatot Falls
What's blooming out on the trails? Join a park interpreter on a section of the River Corridor Trail to look for and identify wildflowers. We'll be hiking a mile southbound from Cossatot Falls, rated moderate, about 2-miles round trip.

Saturday, April 11
Tree ID Hike
3p.m. @ Harris Creek Trailhead

Black oak, waterleaf oak, American sycamore, and sweetgum are all common trees in the Cossatot River Corridor. Tree leaves, bark, and buds are all useful hints to tell us what kind of tree we are looking at. Join a park interpreter at Harris Creek Trailhead and you learn how to identify different tree species, no matter the time of year. This is about a 2-mile hike rated moderate.

Sunday, April 12
Taking Flight: Why Birds Migrate

1p.m. @ Visitor Center Playground
Join a park interpreter as we explore the journey of migrating birds and the many hazards that they face, wrapping up with a fun game!

Friday, April 17
Owl Prowl
8p.m. @ Cossatot Falls
"WOO" is out in the woods? Join a park interpreter near the Cossatot Falls campground to discuss these hunters of the night and call to owls to see if they respond. This walk is 1-mile round trip.

Sunday, April 19
Track ID Station
10a.m. @ Harris Creek Trailhead
Cossatot is home to many species of birds and mammals, but how do we know who has passed through? Stop by to learn about the differences in animal footprints, and how to become a track detective.

Friday, April 24
Night Eyes
8p.m. @ Cossatot Falls
Have you ever shone a flashlight into the woods and seen a pair of eyes staring back at you? It might be creepy, but there is a reason for the reflection! Join a park interpreter on a late night stroll around the Cossatot Falls to discover how our

furry friends get around in the dark.

Saturday, April 25
River Safari
10a.m. @ Sandbar Bridge
Explore the underwater world of the Cossatot River with a park interpreter! Snorkel in search of macroinvertebrates and learn how to assess water health based on our finds. All supplies provided. Dress water ready!

Saturday, April 25
Survival Skills
3p.m. @ Cossatot Falls
Do you know the rule of 3? Join a park interpreter and learn basic fire-starting skills, orienteering, and more!

Sunday, April 26
Micro Hike
10a.m. @ Waterleaf Trailhead

Have you ever imagined the world from the perspective of a bug? Join a park interpreter as we slow down and observe the smaller elements in the landscape—you never know what you might find! This is a 0.5-mile round trip hike rated easy to moderate.

For more information about these programs, call Cossatot River State Park-Natural Area: (870) 385-2201. Cossatot River State Park-Natural Area, 1980 Hwy 278 W, Wickes, AR 71973.

Still no leads in 2024 death of young father

By John Balch
News-Leader staff

Oct. 15 will mark the two-year anniversary of the unsolved shooting death of Corbin A'Sean Cooper, Sr., 22, and another year has passed with his mother looking for answers.

Cooper's body was recovered Oct. 15, 2024 alongside the road from the 1200 block of South Price Street in Nashville. Cooper had died from a gunshot wound.

Cooper's mother, Bonnie Winston of Idabel, Okla., said the Nashville Police Department has had no progress in finding her son's killer and she is again pleading for the public's help.

"It's heart-breaking, crushing," said Winston about her grief and need for closure, adding her son was the father of a three-year-old son who resides with her now.

The case is still active, but as far as Winston is concerned, "There is a killer at large in Nashville."

Cooper was last heard from by family members five days before his body was found. Winston filed the missing persons after he missed his daily calls to his mother.



Corbin Cooper Sr.

"I knew something was wrong," she recalled.

Cooper, who briefly attended Nashville High School before returning to Idabel to graduate in 2020, had recently arrived back in Nashville to seek gainful employment.

His father, Corey Cooper, currently resides in Nashville.

"Somebody out there knows something," Winston said.

A reward of \$1,000 has been offered by the family of Corbin Cooper for information leading to an arrest and conviction in the death of her son in Nashville.

Persons with any information regarding Cooper or his homicide are urged to call the NPD at (870) 845-3434.

Two Pike County inmates sentenced for bringing, smoking weed in jail

Two of the nine Pike County inmates charged in 2025 after marijuana was allegedly smuggled into and smoked in the jail following a day of trash detail have been sentenced.

Kevin Mitchell, 37, of Arkadelphia, and Austin Swanger, 38, of Norman, both pleaded guilty Monday to furnishing, possessing or using prohibited articles-delivering a prohibited article.

Both men were sentenced to 10 years in the Arkansas Department of Correction with five years suspended. Mitchell's sentence will run concurrently with a previous jail sentence.

The other inmates charged include: Jakob Reppo, 38, of Glenwood; Brandon Davis, 30, of Little Rock; Dutch Forga, 41, of Glenwood; Glen McCurdy, 45, of Caddo Gap; Michael Griffith, 38, of Caddo Gap; Montana Curry, 23, of Mount Ida; and Nathan Peek, 46, of Kirby.

According to affidavits filed on the cases, the Pike County jail inmate trash crew was on detail on Nov.

22, 2025 when a girlfriend of one of the inmates approached the crew and was "hugged up" to the boyfriend with some of the other inmates around her vehicle. The inmates were dispersed from the vehicle and later transported back to the detention center and their assigned pods.

The following day, the inmates were monitored in their pods and appeared to be in possession of marijuana, which was being separated and passed around. Some of the inmates were observed smoking the weed inside the jail.

A review of surveillance video "clearly shows Reppo" in possession of the substance, dividing it, rolling multiple joints, distributing portions to the other inmates and passing contraband under pod doors to inmates.

Inmate Swanger admitted that he brought the substance into the jail after finding it on the ground during work detail and concealing it in his mouth upon re-entry to the jail.

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After the storm:

- When venturing outside, stay away from downed power lines and be alert to the possibility that tree limbs or debris may hide an electrical hazard. Assume any dangling wires you encounter are energized and dangerous. Warn others to stay away and contact the electric utility.
- If you are driving and come upon a downed power line, stay in your vehicle, warn others to stay away and contact emergency personnel or electric utility. Also, when driving, be careful at intersections where traffic lights may be out. Stop at all railroad crossings and treat road intersections with traffic signals as a four-way stop before proceeding with caution.

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EASTERTIDE

Just as flowers bloom at this special time of year, may faith and love blossom in your heart as you celebrate the Easter season.

Glory to God in the highest!

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Nashville Parks & Recreation

Hop on over for our **EASTER Egg hunt**

Take a picture with the Easter Bunny! Find the jeweled egg & win a prize!

Join us on **April 4th at 10am** for some egg-citing fun!

Age Groups
0-3 : York Gary Field
4-6 : Lovell's Field
7-9 : FNB/Walmart Field
10 : Tyson Field




Operation Christmas Child Garage Sale

A LITTLE BIT OF EVERYTHING

The Family Building of First Baptist Church in Nashville was completely filled for the semi-annual Operation Christmas Child garage sale held March 27-28. The event was operated by a host of volunteers and well attended by buyers from all over, including Robert Holt of Murfreesboro, pictured here trying out a keyboard.

News-Leader photos/JOHN BALCH





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Do you have a hospital bill?
For a limited time,
Howard Memorial Hospital
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Get a 20% discount on any patient portion after insurance or private pay balances. Now through April 30, 2026

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

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This 60 acres near Old Washington and 2 miles from Grandview Wildlife Management Area is a **Hunter's Dream**. Lots of oak and pine timber and a beautiful creek running through the middle plus a pond. Access is through a locked gate with a gravel timber company road that dead ends into the property. The area around the property is leased and controlled which makes this place very private. **\$165,000.**

CALL 870-703-1628.



Easter Sunrise Service

Sponsored by Nashville Area Pastoral Fellowship

April 5th ~6:30 am



HE LIVES!

Nashville City Park Stage

We will be under roof on the stage!!

Easter Sunrise Message by:

Pastor Paul Herndon

Immanuel Baptist Church

Everyone's Welcome



RATTLER CLASSIC. The Murfreesboro Rattlers hosted and dominated a tournament over the break with the help of pitchers Isaac Kuykendall (at left) and Colton Tidwell.

12-0 Diamond Rattlers Continue to Roll

The Murfreesboro Rattlers (12-0, 4-0 in conference) have continued their winning ways in 2026, collecting three wins at last week's Rattler Classic held here over the spring break holiday.

The Rattlers defeated the Junction City Dragons by a score of 5-1 after taking a 5-0 lead into the seventh inning.

C.D. Morrow drove in a pair of runs for the Rattlers with two hits, along with an RBI for teammates Isaac Kuykendall (home run), Hunter Cox and Kale Burns (run scored). Kooper Caldwell scored twice and had a pair of stolen bases.

Cox would pitch most of the game for MHS, going 5.33 innings and giving up five hits and three walks with one strikeout.

Asher Howard could go .67 of an inning

for MHS with an earned run and a walk.

Caldwell would finish out the seventh, allowing one hit and collecting a pair of strikeouts.

The next day the Rattlers hosted Taylor High School, winning 6-5 after overcoming a 2-0 deficit in the bottom of the fourth inning by scoring four runs.

MHS would go up 6-2 after five innings, when Taylor would score twice in the sixth inning and once again in the seventh to make things interesting.

Morrow again led the team with three RBIs, while Cox added two. Both had a double to their credit at the plate.

Carter Gilmer would score a run and steal three bases for the Rattlers.

Kuykendall would start the game on the

mound for the Rattlers, going four innings allowing two unearned runs with a walk and a strikeout.

Caldwell would pitch the fifth inning allowing two runs (one earned) with a walk and a strikeout.

Gilmer finished the game over the last two innings by allowing an earned run and a walk to go along with four strikeouts.

On Saturday, the Rattlers hosted conference foe Ouachita, defeating them 16-6 over five innings.

Ouachita would jump out to a 3-0 lead after the first inning and would hold that lead until the bottom of the third when the Rattlers exploded for eight runs.

The Warriors would cut the lead to 8-6 in the top of the fourth, but the offensive

onslaught for MHS continued with seven runs in the bottom of the same inning.

Alex Bonner (double) and Kuykendall (two doubles) would both drive in three for the Rattlers, while Morrow and Gilmer (double) each had two RBIs.

Asher Howard would collect three hits, one RBI and score twice for MHS. Kale Burns stole a base and had a pair of hits while scoring twice and driving in a run.

Howard started the game for the Rattlers, giving up three runs on three walks and a pair of hits before the Rattlers recorded an out.

Colton Tidwell would come to stem the tide, going five innings while allowing five hits and three earned runs with three strikeouts.

Attend Church This Sunday!

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 Wednesday - 6 p.m.
 Thursday - 8 a.m.
 1st Friday - 6:30 p.m.
 Saturday (Esp.) - 6:30 p.m.
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New Life in Jesus Christ Church
 913 South Main St. • Nashville, AR
 Sunday Morning Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
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 Wednesday Evening Worship 5:30 p.m.
 Pastors: Lankford & Mary Alice Moore

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Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

367

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

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The Shunammite's Son

HAVING HEARD FROM GEHAZI THAT THE SHUNAMMITE WOMAN'S DEAD SON HAS NOT BEEN REVIVED, ELISHA HASTENS ON TO THE WOMAN'S HOUSE, NOW...

...WHEN THEY ARRIVE AT THE HOUSE...

...ELISHA LETS NO ONE FOLLOW HIM...

...IT IS EVIDENT THAT THE CHILD STILL LIES DEAD...

...AND THE PROPHET MOUNTS THE STEPS TO THE ROOM ON THE GARDEN WALL...

...NOW HE ENTERS THE DARKENED ROOM BY HIMSELF TO FACE THIS SKIM SPECTRE OF DEATH!

Next Week

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 Morning worship 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.
 Evening worship 6:00 p.m.

Rev. Kevin Sartin

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Pastor: Pam Estes
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 Sun. Evening 5:00 p.m.
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First Christian Church
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Sunday Bible School - 9:45 a.m.
 Morning Worship - 10:45 a.m.
 Wednesday Bible Study 6:00 p.m.
 Minister: Jim Pinson

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Sunday Bible Class: 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.
 Wednesday Service: 6:00 p.m.

Arkansas 4-H Giving Day raises \$45K for scholarships

The Arkansas 4-H Foundation has \$45,000 more to fund scholarships and supply the needs of the Arkansas 4-H youth development program, thanks to donations during the sixth annual March 17 Giving Day.

"We are grateful for the generosity of the more than 300 donors and matching partners who invested about \$45,000 for Arkansas youth in just a single day," said John Thomas, managing director of the Arkansas 4-H Foundation. "That's not just a number. That's opportunity. That's confidence. That's leadership in the making."

Donors from 25 of Arkansas' 75 counties took part in Giving Day. Thomas said that Calhoun County led the state in participation, with a

rate of 4.85 donors per 1,000 residents. Clark County was second at 2.94 donors per 1,000 residents. Lafayette County was third at 2.54 donors per 1,000 residents.

Arkansas 4-H is the largest youth organization in the state, with over 131,000 youth members and a reach of over 250,000 Arkansas youth.

It offers a variety of hands-on learning opportunities and allows youth to explore different topics such as art, agriculture, civic engagement, health, outdoor skills, science and more. 4-H programs are free and available in all 75 Arkansas counties.

Through the Arkansas 4-H Foundation, donors invest \$150,000 annually in students through college scholarships, event sponsorships and program hosting.



News-Leader photo/JOHN BALCH

BRIDGE WORK IN DIERKS. The new bridge spanning Holly Creek on Reservoir Road just outside of Dierks is nearing completion, according to Howard County Judge Brent Pinkerton, who added the new structure will be longer than the previous bridge and will include improved measures to prevent erosion.

State park to present 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland'

Experience the 19th century children's novel "Alice's Adventure in Wonderland" at Historic Washington State Park on Saturday, April 11 from 1 p.m. — 3 p.m. This fun (and slightly wacky) tea party is inspired by the 1865 book, "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland." Children can attend the Mad Hatter's Tea Party, play croquet with the Queen of Hearts, run in a caucus race and more. Don't be late like the White Rabbit. Space is limited, so call the park to register at 870-983-2684.

This event is for children ages 6-10 years old and those attending must be accompanied by an adult. There is a potential for clothing to get a bit messy during the event so please dress accordingly.

Reservations are required for this event. The cost to attend is \$20 person. This price includes tea party fare, a surrey ride if weather permits, take-homes, and several activities.

Contact the park visitor center at 870-983-2684 to register.

Newhope VFD hosting egg hunt this Saturday

The Newhope Volunteer Fire Department will host its annual Easter egg Hunt on Saturday, April 4, at 2 p.m.

The event will be held at the fire station with all proceeds going to the department.

Farmers, consumers may be riding egg price waves in the coming months

By Mary Hightower
University of Arkansas
System Division
of Agriculture

Egg prices are heading upward from their February dip, but consumers should get used to a price rollercoaster, said Jada Thompson, poultry agricultural economist for the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture.

In February, prices declined to their lowest levels since 2023.

"Since then, they're back up, likely due to Easter demand," Thompson said on Tuesday.

"The story with egg prices now is in the uncertainty," Thompson said. "We know there is seasonal demand, but with Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza rolling around and biological lags in replenishment, farmers really don't have a lot of control when it comes to planning and egg placements."

"They and consumers just have to ride the waves,

and those waves have been bad these past few years," she said.

The Economic Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture said in its March outlook that table-egg production in January 2026 totaled 656.7 million dozen, up 2.2 percent from January 2025. The increase was the result of a 1.8 percent higher average layer inventory and a 0.4 percent higher lay rate.

However, HPAI claimed 2.8 million commercial egg layers in January 2026, and "while this is down month to month, it is still a year-over-year increase of 2.9 percent," ERS said in its report. "In the month of February, an additional 9.5 million commercial table-egg layers were lost to HPAI, primarily in Pennsylvania, but also in Wisconsin and North Carolina."

ERS said it revised its table egg production forecasts downward for both the first and second quarters of 2026.



ON THE REBOUND. Egg prices nationwide are rebounding after a dip in February.

"Fewer eggs tighten supply and can drive prices up," Thompson said. "The change in those prices will depend on how many HPAI cases we get throughout the year. Nobody likes it, but we'll have to wait and see the supply and demand working in real time."

To Whom It May Concern,
My name is Jacquelyn Davis, I am a personal care provider and if you are looking for someone who is dependable, trustworthy and caring to care for your loved one, give me a call at 870-557-4792. We will discuss your needs, and I do have references.
Sincerely,
Jacquelyn J. Davis, 870-557-4792

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Happy Easter
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"He is not here; for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay." Matthew 28:6
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Morning Worship 10:15 A.M.

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Nashville Elementary School Honor Roll

4th Grade

All A: Easton Adams, Presley Bennett, Madeline Britt, Aamir Christopher, Lola Dean, Winter Finley, Edward Flores, Manuel Garate, Gunner Gills, Mason Gordon, Kenadi Harberson, Malachi Hickey, Esyince Hopkins, Anson Howard, Ruger Johnson, Drake Jones, Isabella Kessler, McKenna Lacie, Sofia Lopez-Mercado, Jaden McGinnis, Jonathon Medina-Frias, Julianne Mishler, Adalyn Moore, Kaden Morris, Behrett Pinegar, Talon Romero, Ava Rucker, Jayce Rumpfelt, Gracie Singleton, Rylee Smith, Kolton Springer, Levi Stout, Kora Westfall, and Mylie Winton.

All A&B:

Deja Allen, Emerson Askew, Caiden Bethel, Adamari Bustamante, Kaelyn Chandler, Brayson Cupples, Raul Damian, Linnemy Delarosa-Caldron, Tuan Kiet Dinh, Lia Gracia, Isabelle Grant, Dewayne Green Jr, Olivia Gregory, Gael Hernandez, Robert Mason Hignight, Maci Hobbs, Jon Howard, Kirby Jackson, Corbyn Jordan, Reed Kilgore, Jagger King, Gunner Kinkade, Harper Leggett, Jackie Matthews, Andre Newton, Bently Osborn, Alexander Palacios, Natalea Paulino, Darcey Reed, Valeria Ruiz Cabrera, Irving Saucedo Ramirez, Karsoyn Schroader, Ledger Scott, Tessa Smelser, Axel Thompson, Aice Townsend Barker, Dax Troutt, Paige Vaught, Jett Watson, Kaylie Welch, Remington Whisenhunt, Lily Witherspoon, and Wyatt Young

5th Grade

All A: Axel Berruquin, Andrew Bradley, Maddox Brasel, Benjamin Brooks, Oliva Craig, Mallorie Dowdy, Mya Evans, Maddie Ewing, Daniela Gracia, Carlos Hernandez, Jaidah Hopson, Noe Leon Jr, Leah Linhoff, Delta Lockwood, Kallen Martin, Monroe Mason, Jaxon May, Kessie McJunkins, Kerick Miller Jr, Kenen Ornelas, Abbie Perez, Bowen Pinegar, Kerby Rowland, Karaline Scrivner, Kruz Scrivner, Elliott Stanley, Laini Webb, and Brennan Woodruff.

All A&B:

Korbin Bahner, Adrian Barajas, Leonardo Barragan, Ace Briggs, Victor Carrillo, Grayson Carver, Ny' Ashia Castro, Macie Chandler, Paisley Chesshir, Alex Clark, Aubree Clifton, Henri Cobb, Gavyn Copper, Sofia Cortez, Charlie Cox, Carter

Crump, Brycen Dixon, Caleb Fizer, Joseph Floyd, Brayden Grissom, Anna Hernandez, Ezequiel Hernandez, Hugo Hernandez, Blake Hill, Jaylee Hughes, Braelyn Jeanes, Braison Lewis, Itzel Luna, Qualyyn Luster Jr, Elias Mendez, Wesley Montgomery, J. Tate Moore, Dallas Pack, Benjamin Parker, Mason Parker, Tylan Parker, Dominic Poindexter, Jeramie Pugh, Khyre Rourk, Ella Russo, Manuel Salazar, Camie Scott, K. Rydan Scott, Talon Stanley, Samuel Stinson, Miya Trimble, Kevin Valdivia, Allison Valente Resendiz, Harmoni Vanderziel, Deontre Walker, Clark Westfall, Katelynn Womack, and Holden Worley.

6th Grade

All A: Marisela Aguilera, Richard Bohn, Sicily Bufkin, Lemetric Cheatham, Colton Couch, Kendalynn Curry, Zyheir Daniel, Malichi Fletcher, Kaven Harberson, Rhett Henderson, K. Grace Hibberd, Elijah Hopkins, Judas Jarmon, Mason Jiang, Jana Jones, Jaylee Jones, Paris Jones, R. Cohen Jordan, Myla Lewis, Donnell Lofton, Genesis Magueyal, Jax McAdams, Maggie McElyea, Aiden McKinney, Claire Myers, Leonardo Ornelas, Kalyee Pena Najera, Josue Perez, Kutner Reeder, Abigail Rios, Alaayah Robinson, Jose Sanchez, Cadence Scoggins, Clair Stanley, Chazzmine Thornton, Eden Wallis, and Kash Webb.

All A&B:

Denise Aguilar, Ethan Arnold, Jiana Atkins, Bryce Benson, Aiden Brown, Nikorian Burns, Kip Cogburn, Arely Cruz, Camila Cruz, Braxton Dixon, Karter Fulks, Emerie Griffin, Malik Hawthorne, Eden Hernandez, Mia Hernandez, Nicole Hernandez, Samuel Hernandez Jr, Sarah Hernandez, Hailey Hicks, Ja'Leeya Hopkins, Raylee Jamison, Hope Jarman, Isabelle Jones, Maddox Keeton, Emily Mooneyhan, Addalynn Morris, Rynley Morrow, McKenzie Null, Adrian Ortiz, Olivia Reese, Allison Reich, Avery Rodgers, Brianna Sims, Jeremiah Snell, Jeramiah Sorrells, Jaci Stanley, Deacon Sullivan, Collin Taylor, Raielynn Taylor, Ja'Bryant Trotter, Trent Tucker, Kheyleigh Wakefield, Kyleigh Wakefield, DeOnte Weson, Peyton Wilson, Braden Worthen, and Cashlynn Young.

Howard County's Sales and Use Tax Distribution for Feb. 2026

RECEIPTS	HOWARD CO.
Deposit	\$557,743.05
State service charge.....	16,732.29
Interest earned	1,604.04
Vending decals	0.47
Amount distributed	\$542,615.27



HOWARD COUNTY DISTRIBUTION

Dierks City Treasurer #1	\$14,136.90
Dierks City Treasurer #2.....	11,309.52
Mineral Springs City Treasurer #1	16,745.12
Mineral Springs City Treasurer #2	13,396.10
Nashville City Treasurer #1	64,094.46
Nashville City Treasurer #2	16,023.62
Tollette City Treasurer #1.....	713.79
Tollette City Treasurer #2.....	2,284.13
Howard County (Jail).....	49,328.66
Cossatot Community College UofA.....	49,328.66
Howard County Road	69,638.10
Howard County Landfill	29,844.90
Howard County General fund.....	24,870.75
Howard Memorial Hospital	9,948.30
Economic Development.....	9,948.30
Total Distributed	\$542,615.27

SOURCE: Howard County Deputy Treasurer Taylor Stone

M'boro to test fire hydrants each Monday until complete

The Murfreesboro Fire Department and Murfreesboro Water Department will be working together to improve city services by testing and repairing fire hydrants.

Tests will be conducted on Mondays after 7 p.m. until completed in an attempt to minimize the impact on residents. Residents can expect lower water pressure and some discoloration of the water as a result. For more information, contact Murfreesboro City Hall at 870-285-3732.

Hempstead County holiday schedule

The Hempstead County Courthouse will be closed Friday, April 3, to observe Good Friday. and will re-open Monday, April 6.

The Hempstead County Shop will also be closed Monday, April 6, in observance of Good Friday and will re-open Tuesday, April 7. Hempstead County's trash routes for Monday, April 6, and Tuesday, April 7, will be collected on Tuesday, April 7. Trash needs to be out by 7 a.m.

City of Murfreesboro holiday schedule

The City of Murfreesboro will be closed this Friday, March 3 in observance of Good Friday.

Trash collection change will see Friday's normal route being conducted on Thursday, March 2.

The Pike County Courthouse and associated offices will also be closed this Friday, but will not impact sanitation.

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We are hiding eggs with prizes... We love decorating eggs for Easter. We use paints, dyes and stickers. Hmmm...maybe we shouldn't keep all of the eggs in one basket? ...inside of them for an Easter egg hunt. Kids: color stuff in!

Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com Annimills LLC © 2017 V14-14

Easter Is A Time For...

Find and circle all of these words that tell what people do with eggs:
 fry eat dye hatch pickle
 deliver scramble decorate refrigerate
 roll hunt hide toss paint

1. _____ to celebrate
 2. going to services at _____
 3. joy in the spring green of _____
 4. starting, new _____
 5. wearing new _____
 6. ringing _____
 7. dying and decorating _____
 8. singing Easter _____
 9. Easter egg _____
 10. baking hot cross _____
 11. Easter bunny bringing _____
 12. lighting _____
 13. gathering Easter _____
 14. visiting friends and _____
 15. marching in Easter _____

What Is The Biggest Egg In The World?

Do you know what animal lays the biggest egg in the world today? Follow the color key and color in the egg to find out:

B = Blue
 G = Green
 Y = Yellow
 P = Purple or Pink

Where did I leave it? It's time to deliver the Easter eggs. Help the Easter Bunny find his way to the basket of eggs!

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Electrolux FRIGIDAIRE BRAND SOURCE

Pike County District Court

March 17, 2026

BF=Bond Forfeited

Pike County

Burks, Jerry Ray, 51, Norman, guilty of driving with suspended license, fined \$325; guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$315; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$205; guilty of failure to appear, fined \$205

Easter, Jayden Tremain, 21, Shreveport, La., \$135 BF, speeding; \$205 BF, failure to appear

Freeman, Olivia Claire, 30, Amity, \$140 BF, failure to register tags/expired; \$140 BF, no driver's license; \$220 BF, failure to appear

Magdaleno, Maria D., 50, Amity, speeding, under advisement for 30 days to dismiss

Marschall, Nicholas Andrew, 33, Amity, \$45 BF, no seat belt; \$220 BF, failure to appear

City of Murfreesboro

Hignight, Terri M., 49, Murfreesboro, guilty of unlawful dog attack, fined \$655

Hupp, Brandon C., 39, Nashville, guilty of failure to pay, \$1,890 balance; committed to jail

City of Glenwood

Wilder, Benda N., 40, Amity, guilty of no proof of liability insurance, fined \$125

Bench Trials

Pike County

Dismuke, Michelle Renee, 49, Conway, \$140 BF, speeding

City of Murfreesboro

Allen, Brandon E., 32, Murfreesboro, guilty of DWI, fined \$1,085, credited for time served, license suspended and must complete DWI educational course; guilty of no driver's license, fined \$145

City of Glenwood

Matsuyama, Hiromi, 88, Glenwood, \$670 BF, passing stopped school bus

Walker, John Spencer, 27, Benton, \$170 BF, speeding



Photo Courtesy of DMESC

RURAL SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR. Dierks Superintendent Grover Hill (at left) has been named the 2026 De Queen Mena Education Services Cooperative's Superintendent of the Year for the Arkansas Rural Education Association. The award was presented by Benny Weston in recognition of Hill's outstanding leadership and dedication to Dierks School District

Stavely and Associates



#26002857 - Brick home located in the Heart of Nashville, offers over 2100 sq ft of living space, 3 bedrooms and 2 1/2 baths. Open floor plan, living room with wood burning stove, updated eat-in kitchen w/granite countertops, gas stove, dishwasher and refrigerator convey, separate dining room, oversized pantry, updated bathrooms and laundry room. Home is nicely landscaped, fully fenced yard, patio with pergola, garden and offers nice shop building. Corner lot on quite cul-de-sac, close the schools and city park. **ADVERTISED PRICE \$324,500.**

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

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- Kristin Stavely: Executive Broker: 870-845-9068
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NEWS-LEADER CLASSIFIEDS

BUSINESS SERVICES

MINI STORAGE IN MURFREESBORO. 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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PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HOWARD COUNTY, ARKANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: LORETTA L. CORBIN 31 PR-26-23
NOTICE OF PROBATE-TESTATE

Last known address of decedent: 911 Ash St, Nashville, Howard County, Arkansas
Date of death: February 1, 2026

An instrument dated April 10, 2006, was on February 25, 2026, admitted to probate as the last Will of the above named decedent, and the undersigned has been appointed Executor thereunder. A contest of the probate of the Will can be effected only by filing a petition within the time provided by law.

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

This notice first published the April 1, 2026.

Katie Wesche, Executrix, by
Aaron R. Brasel, ABN 2009138
Post Office Box 813
Nashville AR 71852
(870) 845-4100 – Telephone
(AB: 41, 42)

Featured LISTING!

101S. Jones St., Nashville



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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Carol Murray, Principal Broker
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Kristi "Noelle" Couch, 870-557-7193
Allana O'Neal, 870-557-7162

PUBLIC NOTICE

DOCUMENT 00030
NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS addressed to Mayor Larry Dunaway, City of Nashville, AR, 426 North Main Street, Nashville, AR 71852, will be received until 11:00AM (Local Time) on Thursday, April 9, 2026 for furnishing labor, equipment, materials, supplies, and supervision necessary to rehabilitate an existing elevated water storage tank (500,000-Gallon) by removing and replacing the interior and exterior paint system, performing miscellaneous repairs, and installing a mixing system. Bids will be opened and read aloud at such time at Nashville City Hall located at 426 North Main Street, Nashville, AR.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS may be examined without charge at the office of the Engineer, 1163 Main Street, Suite 104, Vilonia, AR 72173, or at Nashville City Hall. Bidding documents may be purchased from Engineer at a cost of \$50.00 by calling (501) 504-2455 or by email to tfoster@ce-associates.biz. No refunds will be made. Electronic bidding documents are available at no cost.

A CERTIFIED OR CASHIER'S CHECK, or an acceptable bid bond in the amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total bid shall accompany each bid as a guaranty that, if awarded the contract, the bidder will promptly enter into a contract with the City of Gassville, Arkansas and furnish bonds on the forms provided.

THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER OR BIDDERS will be required to furnish a Performance and Payment Bond, each in the amount of the contract, written by a responsible surety company authorized to do business in the State of Arkansas that is satisfactory to the Owner.

BIDDERS ARE expected to inspect the site of work and to inform themselves of all local conditions. The time of completion shall be Ninety (90) Working Days excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays.

BIDDERS ARE ADVISED that Arkansas State Contractor Licensing Law applies to this project. Subcontractors are also required to be licensed according to Arkansas State Law. Evidence of licensure shall be provided to the Owner prior to signing the contract.

NO BID may be withdrawn after the scheduled closing time for receipt of bids for at least Thirty (30) calendar days.

IN CASE of ambiguity or lack of clearness stating the price in the bids, the City of Nashville, Arkansas reserves the right to consider the most advantageous construction thereof, or to reject the bid.

THE CITY OF NASHVILLE, ARKANSAS reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any or all informalities, and to award the contract to the bidder or bidders who, in the opinion of the Owner, offers the proposal to the best interest of same.

CONTRACTORS are cautioned that qualified bids will be subject to rejection.

CONTRACTORS are specifically advised that any person, firm, or other party to whom it is proposed to award a subcontract under this contract must be acceptable to the Owner.

PAYMENT of this publication is the responsibility of the City of Nashville, AR in the amount of \$222.30.

Nashville, Arkansas
Larry Dunaway, Mayor
(CN: 40, 41)

swarkansasnews.com



3 or 4 Bedroom, 3.5 Bath home on corner lot in the heart of Nashville.

Large bonus room can be used for bedroom, office, apartment or game room. Kitchen is very spacious with plenty of cabinets and counter space. Home offers formal living area and a large family area with wood burning fireplace. Central heat & A/C. Two car attached garage. Property offers very nice storage building with covered porch. Vinyl fenced back yard and lawn sprinkler system. Range and refrigerator convey with sale of home. New roof in 2024.

Property is located at 524 W. Sypert Street, Nashville

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Robert Crocker 870-285-5779
Melinda Bennett 870-451-2226

PUBLIC NOTICE

SCHOOL CHOICE NOTICE for the UPCOMING 26/27SY

This is a public announcement. Public School Choice in Arkansas allows students to attend a public school in a district other than the one in which they reside. Applications for students in the following counties: Arkansas, Little River, Montgomery, Polk, and Sevier, must be postmarked, emailed, or hand-delivered between January 1st, 2026 and June 1st, 2026, to qualify for provisions under the Arkansas Public School Choice Act 2015.

Pursuant to standards adopted by a non-resident school board, a non-resident district may reserve the right to accept and reject applicants based on the capacity of programs, class, grade level, or school building. Likewise, a non-resident district's standards may provide for the rejection of an applicant based upon the submission of false or misleading information to the above-listed request for information when that information directly impacts the legal qualifications of an applicant to transfer pursuant to the School Choice Act. However, a non-resident district's standards shall not include an applicant's previous academic achievement, athletic or other extra-curricular ability, handicapping conditions, English proficiency level, or previous disciplinary proceedings, except that an expulsion from another district may be included pursuant to Ark. Code 6-18-510. Priority will be given to applicants with siblings attending the district. The non-resident district shall accept credits toward graduation that were awarded by another district and award a diploma to a non-resident applicant if the applicant meets the non-resident district's graduation requirements. The Superintendent shall notify the parent and the student's resident district, in writing, no later than the fifteenth (15th) calendar day following the receipt of an application, of the decision to accept or reject the application. Transfers shall be granted on a non-discriminatory basis. Students who have been accepted and enrolled in previous years do not have to reapply, as approved transfers remain valid for as long as the student attends that public school.

Superintendents of BOTH school districts must be notified by the parent of their school choice request.

Students may now transfer *intradistrict* through the school choice process.

(DMESC: 41, 42)

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County Line & Yancey Volunteer Fire Departments

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44 Years of
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BBQ & Auction

Tuesday, April 7, 2026 • 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

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Location: Mennonite School

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After 7:30 p.m. door prizes will be awarded and extra meat, pies, bread and other items will be auctioned.

Meals will be donations only. All donations are tax deductible.

Come if you can... We do every time the alarm rings!